



CALIFORNIA REGIONAL COALITIONS Webinar Summary

April 6, 2017
9:30 am – 10:30 am

We apologize for the technical problems associated with the April webinar meeting. We are taking steps to prevent this from happening again. Because we had to move to a regular conference call, we were unable to take attendance. Please take a few minutes to review the participant list and email [Mariya](#) if you participated but are not included.

Materials for this webinar can be found [here](#).

Password: RCLTSS2017 (case sensitive)

I. Status of Federal Changes and Proposals on Medicare/ Medicaid

[Audio Recording](#) Start Time: 50:15

[Amber Christ](#), Senior Staff Attorney, Justice in Aging

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the American Health Care Act (AHCA) would eliminate coverage for roughly 24 million Americans. The legislation cuts \$839 billion from Medicaid and is particularly harmful to older adults, who could be charged as much as five times more than younger individuals. After failing to get enough votes on the House Floor, the AHCA is now moving through the reconciliation process.

The bill was amended heading into the two-week recess. This amendment would provide additional money to states to help pay for high-cost utilizers, however analysts believe the amount set aside isn't enough to accomplish much.

A new wave of discussions, primarily driven by the Freedom Caucus, focus on further stripping protections that are included in the Affordable Care Act (ACA). This includes the elimination of central health benefits and community rating provisions, which could potentially erode pre-existing protections that are in place.

Regardless of what happens to the AHCA, these issues will continue to emerge in the Legislative and Administrative processes – and we're already starting to see some of that. On the Legislative side, we've seen free-standing legislation to institute an age tax and give states the option to eliminate non-emergency transportation. On the Administrative side, Medicaid directors are being encouraged to use waiver authority to change how programs are operating and we're getting indication that Secretary Price will re-open and review Medicare Managed Care regulations and Home-and Community-Based rules.

II. Update on LTSS Issues in the 2017-18 CA Budget Debate

[Sue North](#), California Collaborative for Long Term Services & Supports

Sue North provided some highlights from the state budget debate currently in process in the Budget Subcommittees of each house in Sacramento. Clearly the Medicaid debate at the federal level is integrally mixed into the Medi-Cal budget debate. DHCS provided a four-page letter to the Governor while he was recently in Washington estimating that the prior version of the proposed AHCA would cause at least a \$6 bi loss to California growing to \$18 bi in a decade.

The SSI/SSP grant levels are another on-going funding issue in that the deep cuts to grants in 2010 still have not been restored. This year there is an effort to just add the \$5-10 increase to the monthly grant to get back to 2009 levels.

The proposed \$600 mi funding shift in the IHSS budget proposal from the Governor has not been embraced in budget hearings. The Assembly has instead adopted language to create a loan between the counties and the state and repayment would not begin until after local tax revenues grow in excess of where their spending obligations are. This issue most likely will

remain fluid until June when the budget is finalized. We have a commitment from Karen Kessler who represents the county IHSS public authorities to join our Regional Coalition webinar on May to provide more in-depth information.

In addition to these very large programs the Collaborative members have created an agreed upon "ask" list which was transmitted in a January letter to the Budget Committee Chairs asking for increases in AAA funding for meals on wheels and other services, MSSP supplementation for various "catch up" activities, and a general appeal for provider rate increases in Medi-Cal.

Finally there are two other remaining budget issues relating to proposed cuts of two activities where new funding was previously secured but not begun yet. The first is a \$42 mi commitment last budget cycle for local supported housing services to be able to finance supported housing for homeless people who are awaiting SSI eligibility approval. The other item is the simple "fix" of the parity for state funding of three independent living centers under the Department of Rehabilitation.

We will continue to monitor all of these issues and report back as decisions begin being made throughout the state budget process.

III. Reports/ Update from Regional Coalitions – Postponed Until May 4, 2017

IV. Announcements from The SCAN Foundation

[Kali Peterson](#), Program Officer, The SCAN Foundation

Part A+B Grantees

Q5 Reports are due April 15. Please review your budgets and let Kali know if a budget revision is needed.

For Southern California Regional Coalitions, please include planning outreach to LTSS Champions and selected messages in Part A 1.5; we will return to this at the July meeting. Outcomes from these meetings can be reported in the Q6 report (due 7-15-17). Spring/ Summer E-Newsletter Updated are due April 12.

Part A Only

Please review your budgets and let Kali know if a budget revision is needed.

For Southern California Regional Coalitions, please include planned outreach to LTSS Champions and selected messages in Part A 1.5; we will return to this at the July meeting. Because there is not a report due, Kali will follow-up in Mid-April via Email. Outcomes from these meetings can be reported in the Q6 report (due 7-15-17). Spring/Summer E-Newsletter Updates due April 12.

Participants (21)

Coalition	Representative(s)
Aging and Disability Coalition of Lake and Mendocino Counties	Corrina Avila Kathy Johnson Tanner Silva-Parker
Aging Services Collaborative of Santa Clara County	
Bay Area Senior Health Policy Coalition	Katherine Kelly
Adult and Aging Network on the SFLTCCC	Jennifer Griffin Ed Medel
Central Valley LTSS Coalition	Donald Fischer
Community Living Implementation Council of Nevada County	
Contra Costa Advisory Council on Aging	
Diversability Action Network (Chico)	
Independent Living Workgroup of Kern County	Harvey Clowers Jan Lemucchi
Inland Empire LTSS Coalition	
Los Angeles Aging Advocacy Coalition	

Monterey Bay Aging and Disability Resource Coalition	
San Mateo County New Beginning Coalition	Marilyn Baker-Venturini
Orange County Aging Services Collaborative	Christine Chow Cynthia Okialda
Placer County Aging and Disability Resource Coalition	
San Diego Long Term Care Integration Project	
San Francisco Long Term Care Coordinating Council	
The Senior Coalition of Stanislaus County	Erlinda Bourcier Maria Profeta
Senior Services Coalition of Alameda County	
Ventura County Hospital to Home Alliance	
Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance	Sheila Allen Louise Bettner Pam Miller Fran Smith
The SCAN Foundation	Kali Peterson
GACI	Sue North Laurel Mildred