

Association of California Caregiver Resource Centers

Dear Family Caregivers and Advocates,

Thank you so much for signing our <u>petition</u> to express your support for increased funding for family caregivers through the California Caregiver Resource Center. We greatly appreciate your support and advocacy.

Unfortunately, the Association of California Caregiver Resource Centers' \$20 million <u>budget request</u> did not make it into the California State budget this year. Our services will continue to be funded at their current level under the Department of Aging, so please continue to reach out to <u>us</u> for support and services.

Some items that were funded that we can celebrate include:

- \$59.3M to the California Department of Aging to support
 modernizing the Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act, which can
 be used in consultation with the Area Agencies on Aging, to allocate
 pilot programs supporting Community Based Services Programs,
 Family and Caregiver Supports, Senior Volunteer Development,
 and/or Aging in Place.
- \$61.4M for adult day health centers, licensed adult day programs, and Programs of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) sites to improve the health, safety, and wellbeing of vulnerable at-risk older adults and people with disabilities through safe access to in-center congregate services. Grants shall be awarded for the purposes of preventing COVID-19 infection, preparing for public health emergencies, and improving workforce recruitment and retention.
- \$1M in one-time funds for <u>CalLongTermCareCompare.org</u>, a website that provides free, reliable, data and consumer information about long-term care provider options.
- 12.5M in competitive grants for a pilot program for qualified nonprofit organizations to hire registered nurses and community health care workers to provide health education, navigation,

- coaching, and care to residents of senior citizen housing developments in the Counties of Contra Costa, Fresno, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, Shasta, and Sonoma.
- \$10M to Choice in Aging for construction costs at the aging in place campus.
- \$10M to the Department of Public Health on a one-time basis to support the Alzheimer's Disease Program California Healthy Brain Initiative.
- 34.4M ongoing to establish a permanent back-up provider system for IHSS recipients to avoid disruptions to caregiving due to an immediate need or emergency and to provide a \$2 wage differential for backup providers.
- \$55M one-time General Fund for operating subsidy reserves for existing adult and senior residential care facilities as part of the Community Care Expansion program.
- \$1.1 billion one-time for retention payments to hospital, skilled nursing facility, and other specified workers.
- \$4.5M Age Friendly Community Planning Grants
- \$5 M for a Long-Term Services and Supports Feasibility Study: funding for the California Department of Aging to conduct a long-term services and supports feasibility and actuarial study to assess financing and services options for the aging population and people with disabilities.
- 340.2M (\$164.6 million General Fund) in 2022-23 increasing to up to an estimated \$1.4 billion (\$773.8 million General Fund) in 2026-27 for skilled nursing facility financing reform. The Budget includes an average 4-percent rate increase and establishes a new Workforce & Quality Incentive Program focused on achieving quality. In addition, the Budget includes a one-year extension of the 10-percent COVID-19 rate increase and includes additional rate increases subject to facilities meeting specified workforce standards such as a collective bargaining agreement or labor-management committee.

While the Caregiver Resource Centers did not receive additional funding for services and supports for family caregivers in this budget, we are committed to serving expanding numbers of family caregivers with evidence-based and evidence-informed services and will continue to build on practices that serve diverse communities throughout the state. If you are interested in getting

involved in more caregiving advocacy efforts, we invite you to visit the California Caregiver Resource Center Advocacy page:

https://www.caregivercalifornia.org/advocacy/. To stay up to date on our latest efforts and how you can help, sign up for our newsletter while you are there.

In addition, you are invited to join the new California Coalition on Family Caregiving (CaCFC), a broad reaching coalition of caregivers and organizations who will amplify the voices of family caregivers at the state capitol, and in local communities, as we work towards a vision of greater caregiver support. If you are interested in learning more, or joining a virtual meeting, please email Jenna Shankman (jshankman@caregiver.org) with the subject line: Caregiver Coalition.

Many thanks for your support of California's family caregivers.

Sincerely,

Mary Sheridan

Mary Sheridan
Executive Director