

State of California HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly makes appointments to Master Plan for Aging Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Dr. Ghaly Announces Public Campaign, urging Californians to Engage

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: August 15, 2019

CONTACT: Scott Murray | (916) 654-3304

SACRAMENTO – California Health and Human Services (CHHS) Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly today announced the establishment of a Master Plan for Aging Stakeholder Advisory Committee. In January, as part of his first State of the State Address, Governor Gavin Newsom called for a creation of a Master Plan for Aging. Also, the Governor issued an [Executive Order](#) tasking CHHS to convene a Cabinet Workgroup for Aging and a Stakeholder Advisory Committee to develop and issue a Master Plan by October 1, 2020.

“This is our time to come together to build an age-friendly California”, said Dr. Ghaly. “Government cannot do this alone — I challenge all Californians to join us in building a California Dream that is inclusive of our older and disabled neighbors.”

“The Golden State is getting grayer and we need to be ready for the major population changes headed our way,” stated Governor Newsom in announcing the Master Plan for Aging. “An aging population will introduce new opportunities for economic and community growth but also drive increased health and long-term care costs. We need a plan that brings everyone to the table – local communities, labor, private sector and philanthropy – to help us understand what’s coming and guide us toward taking better care of older Californians.”

The Stakeholder Advisory Committee will work across sectors to develop a roadmap that envisions a future where all Californians, regardless of race, economic status or level of support, can grow old safely, with dignity and independence. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee will advise the Cabinet Workgroup on Aging in the development of the Master Plan.

This diverse group of stakeholders with varying expertise and experiences will help to develop components of the Master Plan, including best practices and data metrics, to guide the work of state government, local communities, private organizations and philanthropy to build environments that promote an age friendly California.

Last week, Governor Newsom and Former First Lady of California, Maria Shriver, announced the [Alzheimer's Prevention and Preparedness Task Force](#). The Task Force will develop recommendations for how local communities, private organizations, businesses, government, and families can prevent and prepare for the rise in the number of cases of Alzheimer's Disease, while navigating a path forward to combat this disease in a time of historic demographic change. Together, these two efforts help shape our work in building an age-friendly California.

Dr. Ghaly appointed the following individuals to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee:

Maya Altman

Health Plan of San Mateo

Jan Arbuckle

City of Grass Valley

Jose Arevalo, MD

Sutter Health

Kathryn Barger

County of Los Angeles

Kristina Bas-Hamilton

United Domestic Workers

Donna Benton, PhD

USC Family Caregiver Support Center

Catherine Blakemore

Disability Rights California

Cheryl Brown

California Commission on Aging

Laura Carstensen, PhD

Stanford University Center on Longevity

Janny Castillo

St. Mary's Center

Bruce Chernof, MD

The SCAN Foundation

Berenice Nunez Constant

AltaMed Health Services

Jennie Chin Hansen

Former CEO of the American Geriatrics Society

Le Ondra Clark Harvey, PhD

California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies

Craig Cornett

California Association of Health Facilities

Susan DeMarois

Alzheimer's Association

Peter Hansel

CalPACE

Clay Kempf

Seniors Council of Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties

Mercedes Kerr

Belmont Village Senior Living

Darrick Lam

ACC Senior Services

David Lindeman, PhD

Shelley Lyford

Center for Information Technology
Research in the Interest of Society

Gary and Mary West Foundation

Marty Lynch
LifeLong Medical Care

Jeannee Parker Martin
LeadingAge California

Christina Mills
California Foundation for Independent
Living Centers

Kevin Prindiville
Justice in Aging

Jodi Reid
California Alliance for Retired Americans

Rigo Saborio
St. Barnabas Senior Services

Judy Thomas, JD
Coalition for Compassionate Care

Fernando Torres-Gil, PhD
University of California, Los Angeles

Debbie Toth
Choice in Aging

Nina Weiler-Harwell, PhD
AARP California

Brandi Wolf
Service Employees International Union

Today, Dr. Ghaly also announced the launch of a public engagement campaign, Together We ENGAGE. Dr. Ghaly is calling on all Californians to share their ideas and suggestions on how we can collectively build an age-friendly California.

“Engaging Californians in a conversation about how we build an age-friendly California is critically important to the development of the Master Plan,” said Dr. Ghaly. “I urge Californians to submit a pledge to engage with us and share their ideas.”

Complete the Pledge for Action, [here](#).

For more information on the Master Plan for Aging, click [here](#).

###