Reversing the CalFresh SSI/SSP Cash-Out Policy

The Healthcare Action Team (HAT) and the CA4SSI coalition is happy to share good news with all of you. Assembly Bill 1811 will put an end to the injustice that SSI recipients have to endure. In June of 2019, California will finally reverse the CalFresh eligibility policy known as “cash-out” under which Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/State Supplemental Payment (SSP) recipients are ineligible for CalFresh.

In addition, AB 1811 creates the SSI/SSP Cash-In Supplemental Nutrition Benefit (SNB) Program and the SSI/SSP Cash-In Transitional Nutrition Benefit (TNB) Program, and augments the grant amount for the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI). Current CalFresh households negatively affected by the policy change may be eligible for SNB and TNB Program benefits.

We would like to thank all of the members that have been actively participating in our advocacy to improve SSI/SSP. HAT has been part of the CA4SSI coalition, which has been leading our efforts to encourage our legislative bodies in Sacramento to bring positive changes to our communities. We are starting to see significant changes that will improve the quality of life of Californians who are recipients of the SSI/SSP grant and are struggling to afford food.

On left: SDA members and staff attended Disability Capitol Action Day with members of La Colectiva, ILRCSF, IHSS Public Authority, Hand in Hand, Jobs with Justice. We met with our representatives to talk about important legislation and enjoyed the rally and resource fair. Join us next year!

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Check out our website! www.sdaction.org   Find us on Facebook!   info@sdaction.org
SDA Happenings

SDA Annual Celebration
Friday, October 5th
5:30 - 8 pm
New Venue! 1446 Market Street

This year’s event will be hosted by Houston Robertson, the hilarious 80-year-old Octobabe!

Raffle prizes include a Monterey getaway, $200 cash, and more. As always, we’ll have a silent auction, delicious food and wine, and plenty of time to mingle and celebrate our community.
To buy tickets and to sponsor, go to bit.ly/SDACelebration2018

Limited number of discount tickets available for SDA members

Friday Flick with SDA
'Last Men Standing'

"Last Men Standing," the first feature-length documentary from The San Francisco Chronicle, was selected for entry into a series of prestigious film festivals in the U.S. and Canada. The film follows eight Bay Area men who had the remarkable luck to survive AIDS, and the brutal misfortune to live on.

https://projects.sfchronicle.com/2016/living-with-aids/documentary/

Join us for a movie screening and discussion with
Jesús Guillén, founder and director, HIV LONG TERM SURVIVORS GROUP
Friday August 24th
1 PM
SDA Office 1360 Mission St. #400
Please RSVP to Sarah, (415) 546-1333 ext. 307 or sarah@sdaction.org

Senior and Disability Action General Meeting
Thursday September 13th
10 AM-Noon

Unitarian Universalist Church
1187 Franklin Street/Geary
Lunch after meeting $2

Note: We will have NO general meeting in August.
Seeking Peer Advocates for SDA!

The Consumer Rights Program is part of Senior and Disability Action. We provide one on one support to consumers facing diverse issues such as problems with In-Home Supportive Service needs, healthcare coverage problems, housing issues, transportation related complaints, and more. Consumers call and/or come into the office to receive advocacy and referrals from our Peer Advocates Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm. We are continuing to seek new Peer Advocates to join our program. If you or someone you know is interested in helping others, good at listening, has a great deal of empathy, and is a senior and/or a person with a disability, this might be the right position for you. Training is required and ongoing support is provided. This is a volunteer unpaid position. For details contact Ali at 415-546-1333.

YES on CA Proposition 10 and SF Proposition 1

San Francisco seniors and people with disabilities are fighting eviction and displacement at the ballot. After passing Proposition F, a measure that guarantees legal representation to anyone in San Francisco facing an eviction, SDA continues its fight by supporting two housing measures on the November ballot. On the San Francisco level, Proposition 1, known as “Our City, Our Home,” would create a $300 million fund to provide rental subsidies, build low-income housing, eliminate the shelter waitlist, and invest in our mental health and community health services.

The funding for Proposition 1 would come from a nominal amount of revenue from the largest San Francisco businesses (only the largest!) earning over $50 million a year and transform the streets of San Francisco and the lives of those forced to live on them. Supporters— including SDA, the Coalition on Homelessness, and many others— gathered 28,000 signatures to put it on the ballot. Good work!

On the state level, the California Democratic Party voted overwhelmingly to endorse Proposition 10, the statewide Affordable Housing Act, which would repeal the anti-rent control Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act and return power to regulate rents to local communities. The endorsement of the California Democratic Party calls for “allowing local communities to create strong tenant and affordability protections against displacement, speculation, rent increases, and evictions without interference from state law.”

SDA will be very involved in both Proposition 1 and Proposition 10 campaigns and there will be many opportunities to get involved! The Housing Collaborative meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 1 PM. That is a great way to get connected to the campaign. Please contact Tony or Theresa at SDA if you are interested in getting involved as we march ever onward!
In February 2018, CA State Senator Scott Weiner introduced a bill to expand conservatorship, a legal process which forfeits the civil rights of “gravely disabled” people by appointing a conservator to make decisions about their medical care, housing, and finances. This often means sending someone to a locked psychiatric institution against their will.

The state of California has a history of denying disabled people the right to make decisions about our bodies and lives. Until 1979, it was legal to forcibly sterilize people with disabilities, and from 2006 to 2010, the state illegally sterilized prisoners without informed consent.

SB 1045 was proposed as a solution to chronic homelessness. However, we know that homelessness is caused by insufficient housing, not too many civil rights. **SB 1045 does nothing to increase low-income housing, homeless shelters, or health clinics. It does not guarantee that conservatees will be given adequate food, housing, or medical care after their rights are taken away. This bill is designed to keep disabled homeless people out of sight, not to treat their medical conditions or to alleviate poverty.**

“There is no point to more aggressive intervention if there is no place to house and treat the people who need help. Nothing in this bill expands services or creates more housing, or medical or mental health care, which is what the real problem is.”

—Disability Rights CA

http://rabble.ca/toolkit/rabblepedia/
All people deserve to choose where they want to live, what kind of medical care they want to receive, and how to treat their conditions. We know that when care is supportive, available, and free, people use it. Similarly, we know that the waiting list for a shelter bed in SF has 1000 people on it, and the waiting list for low-income senior and disabled housing is five years long. People aren’t refusing housing because of mental health disabilities or substance use—people are desperate for housing that is in short supply.

"This bill rests on the assumption that mental illness may cause resistance to care when in fact the lack of housing, services or medical care is responsible for the absence of care, or the intrusive conditions placed on receiving care result in individuals living on the streets in order to retain some level of self-determination." —Disability Rights CA

“We haven’t tried the housing-first alternative. There’s a right to housing in New York. You can conserve as many people as you want, but if you don’t have housing for them where are they going to go?” —Daniel Meyer, Public Defender

“What you see on the streets is the result of over $40 million in direct service cuts in San Francisco’s behavioral health programs between 2007 and 2012.” —Jennifer Friedenbach, Coalition on Homelessness

Rachael Romero, San Francisco Poster Brigade, 1977

To get involved with the work to oppose the bill, contact Raia at (415) 546-1333, ext. 308 or raia@sdaction.org, or visit our office at 1360 Mission Street, Suite 400.
Upcoming University and Survival School Classes:

Thursday August 9, 16, 23, 30: Pedestrian Safety and Accessibility SDU at Clementina Towers, 330 Clementina Street, 1-4pm

Thursday September 6, 13, 20, 27: Senior and Disability Survival School at Eastern Park Apartments, 711 Eddy Street, 1-4pm

October/November (dates TBD): Homecare and Healthcare SDU, Alcantara Court Apartments, 670 Valencia Street

October/November (dates TBD): Senior and Disability Survival School at Canon Kip, 705 Natoma Street

Senior and Disability University is a leadership training program by and for seniors and people with disabilities in San Francisco. Classes cover community organizing skills, leadership, and empowerment. Our goal is to develop confidence in the skills we already have to create change in our city.

Senior and Disability Survival School empowers members of our community to access vital resources and benefits in San Francisco. Each week, we bring in experts on the services that we need to live well in the community.

Week 1: Transportation (MUNI, Paratransit, pedestrian safety)
Week 2: Community Health (IHSS, Healthcare Action Team, independent living)
Week 3: Public Health Benefits (Medi-Cal, Medicare, Social Security)
Week 4: Housing (Tenants’ rights, low-income housing, accessible home repairs)

All classes are free. Spanish, Chinese, or Russian interpretation is available upon request. We always bring snacks!

To sign up for an upcoming class, contact Raia at (415) 546-1333, ext. 308, raia@sdaction.org, or come to our office at 1360 Mission Street, Suite 400.
# Community Calendar: Aug/Sept 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>TIME &amp; PLACE</th>
<th>MORE INFO?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon-Fri</td>
<td>Computer Open Lab and Beginning Computer Classes</td>
<td>Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:00 PM 1360 Mission Street Suite 400 <strong>Classes Tues/Weds. 9:30-2</strong></td>
<td>Pi Ra 415-546-2096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday August 2</td>
<td>IHSS Task Force Meeting</td>
<td>10:30 AM 1360 Mission St. #400</td>
<td>Jessica Lehman 415-546-1333 x301</td>
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<td>September 6</td>
<td>SDA Board Meeting</td>
<td>4:00-6:00 PM 1360 Mission St. #400</td>
<td>Jessica Lehman 415-546-1333 x301</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday September 13</td>
<td>SDA General Meeting</td>
<td>10:00 AM 1187 Franklin Street</td>
<td>SDA 415-546-1333</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday August 9 and</td>
<td>CARA meeting</td>
<td>1 PM 1187 Franklin Street</td>
<td>Jodi Reid 550-0828</td>
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<td>September 13</td>
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<td>Tuesday August 14</td>
<td>HealthCare Action Team (HAT)</td>
<td>11 AM ILRC 825 Howard</td>
<td>Ligia Montano 415-546-1333 x302</td>
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<td>September 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday August 15</td>
<td>SDA Housing Collaborative</td>
<td>1-3 PM 1360 Mission Street, #400</td>
<td>Tony Robles 415-546-1333 x305</td>
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<td>September 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday August 17</td>
<td>Mayor’s Disability Council</td>
<td>1-4 PM City Hall Room 400</td>
<td>Mayor’s Office on Disability 415-554-6789</td>
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<td>September 21</td>
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**Senior and Disability Action Board of Directors**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Betty Traynor</th>
<th>Nader R. Shabahangi</th>
<th>Karen Fishkin</th>
<th>Kathy Lipscomb</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>Corresponding Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beverly Taylor</td>
<td>Walter Devaughn</td>
<td>Ursula McGuire</td>
<td>Lolita Kintinar</td>
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<td>Juslyn Manalo</td>
<td>Maria Guillen</td>
<td>Michael Lyon</td>
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San Francisco Senior and Disability Action
1360 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103
Phone: 415-546-1333
Fax: 415-546-1344
www.sdaction.org

Senior and Disability Action News and Views

SDA is looking for a like-minded organization to share space with us in our office at 1360 Mission Street. We have up to 3 private office rooms available to rent. Each office is just over 100 square feet. The office rental includes access to our conference room, kitchen and computer lab, as well as use of the water cooler, copier and utilities. Must be willing to carry out our scent free policy for staff and visitors to the office. Please contact Sarah at (415) 546-1333 ext 307 or sarah@sdaction.org if you would like more information or would like to see the space available.

Become a Member of Senior and Disability Action!!
Dues are $20/year OR according to your means. Pay more or less as you are able.
Name: ______________________________ Renewal □
Address: ____________________________ City: ___________ Zip: __________
Phone: ____________________________ □Cell □Home □Work
Phone: ____________________________ □Cell □Home □Work
Email: ____________________________
Interests: □Housing □Healthcare □Long-term care & supports
□Community education □Computer training □Pedestrian safety & transit □Other:
____________________________________________________

How would you like to receive newsletters & postcards? □Email □Postal mail

Please send dues to: SDA, 1360 Mission St. #400, San Francisco CA 94103