

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AND AGING SERVICES (DAS) COMMISSION

MINUTES July 2, 2025

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME/ President Spears

President Janet Y. Spears called our hybrid meeting to order in City Hall room 416 and virtually and stated that the DAS Commission acknowledged they are using the unceded homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples of the San Francisco Peninsula.

The (DAS) Commission Secretary called the roll:

Present: Commissioners Martha Knutzen, President Janet Y. Spears, Vice President Nelson Lum, Barbara Sklar and Sascha Bittner

Excused Absence: Linda Parker Pennington

Communications:

Commission Secretary Ravi Durbeej provided instructions for any members of the public that would like to submit a public comment to the DAS Commission.

Approval of Minutes:

No public comment.

A motion to approve the June 4, 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes from
The motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT/ Kelly Dearman

DAS Director Kelly Dearman wished everyone a happy Disability Awareness month. The “Big Beautiful Bill” has passed and there could be a vote as early as today and as it is currently written 11 million people could be stripped of their Medicare. Many new requirements such as work and other restrictions. Huge effects for people in rural areas. The state budget was signed by Gov Newsome and good news for us is that the asset limit is now set at a better rate, Homesafe is not ending, and monthly premiums will not go up to \$100 but to \$30.

On the local budget, this process has been brutal. It has been a long few months for many of us and thanks to our staff and budget team for working tirelessly to help. It is now past the Budgets and Appropriate Commission and now back for final approval. We did not have to lay anyone off but with rising costs, we will be feeding less people over the next few years. The staff at DAS are amazing people for doing all this work.

There was a hearing on conservatorship last week, a lot of work and collaboration has been put in, but we are working with the clients we serve and it is a very difficult process where people are not seeing the results they want right away. There is a new pilot program starting where beds will be reserved for this.

Many events this month, the 33rd anniversary of the American's Disability Act, July 17th is the grand opening of the Disability Cultural Center. Open House in the Office of Disability on July 22nd. Plus, many more to celebrate and mark this occasion.

Commissioner Bittner commended Director Dearman because she knows how hard these circumstances are and hopefully members of the house will not vote this bill.

Commissioner Knutzen thanked Dearman for her leadership with her staff and thanked her for all the advocacy info that DAS has shared.

President Spears asked about the federal budget and how will the cuts to Medicare affect San Francisco residents and Dearman responded that we are not sure what will happen but in the coming months we will have a better understanding. They also clarified the final budget steps which would be finalized in August.

DAS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH July 2025 Christine Ng who is an IHSS Social Worker Supervisor

- Director Dearman congratulated Christine and spoke on how amazing she is for her team and the balance she exemplifies in her role.
- Christine thanked her awesome staff and thanked them again for their support in her continued education.

ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT/ Presented by President Allen Cooper

President Cooper spoke on the TACC meeting and housing needs for seniors throughout the state. At the Advisory Council meeting spoke on Jill Neilsen's presentation on the different conservatorships available. Jill spoke on the 3 different programs in Conservatorship. Her presentation was very concise and showed that there is a lack of beds and state funding and limited access for these programs.

We've been expanding our site visit programs and trying to expand this service. We are trying to have all members visit 2 sites per year.

CASE REPORT/ presented this month by Fiona Hinze

Presenter Hinze did not present.

Item 9 is GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT.

Member of the public spoke on funding that was cut to a service of the Hoarding Behavior Program. This program helps people retain their housing as hoarding can violate leases.

Item 10 OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

Item 11 NEW BUSINESS

ITEMS A AND B ARE INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS THAT DOES NOT
REQUIRES A VOTE BY THE COMMISSION

- A. Community Living Fund Six-Month Report (July – December 2024) and Community Living Fund Annual Plan (FY2025-26) – INFORMATION ONLY (Presented by Zhiqing Li)

Commissioner Jung commented and thanked Li for promoting access for services and liked that there is now an outreach person to facilitate these services.

President Spears asked about the projected increase of funding and what services will this be? Li responded they will expand community support which includes assisted living facilities.

Commissioner Knutzen asked about the outreach coordinator and if its part of their job to work with clients who are declining these services and Li replied that yes, the full time outreach coordinator is dedicated to client outreach and enrollment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

B. FY25-26 California Department of Aging (CDA) Area Plan Baseline Budget –
INFORMATION ONLY (presented by Genevieve Herreria)

Commissioner Knutzen asked if the one-time funds would come from the city and presenter Herreria responded that no, these are funds not spent during FY25 and will be redistributed to the counties.

President Spears said that she is trying to connect the dots saying earlier ED Dearman said the food programs would stay flat, you are reporting the funds will be decreased but hopefully put back, are we saying that with this decrease there will be other funds to bring us back even in funding because food prices will be increasing? ED Dearman replied yes, you did connect the dots correctly.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

ITEMS C THROUGH H ARE ACTION ITEMS THAT REQUIRES A VOTE BY
THE COMMISSION

- C. Requesting authorization to enter into new grant agreements with On Lok Day Services for the provision of Health Promotion Programs (Older Americans Act Title III D - Disease Prevention And Health Promotion Program For Older Adults & Health Promotion Program Older Adults And Adults With Disabilities); during the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029; in the amount of \$2,711,040 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed of \$2,982,144. (Tiffany Kearney will present the item).

Presenter Kearney is requesting authorization to enter into new grant agreements with On Lok Day Services for the provision of Health Promotion Programs (Older Americans Act Title III D - Disease Prevention And Health Promotion Program For Older Adults & Health Promotion Program Older Adults And Adults With Disabilities); during the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029; in the amount of \$2,711,040 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed of \$2,982,144.

President Spears asked how this proposed money will be funded even though the Older American's Act has been slashed. Mike Zaug spoke that this funding and the Older American's Act is back in play and Director Dearman elaborated as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Jung

The motion was unanimously approved

- D. Requesting authorization to enter into new grant agreements with multiple providers for the provision of Nutrition Services and Culturally Responsive Supplemental Grocery Program for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities; for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029; in the amount of \$11,910,464 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed of \$13,101,509. (Tiffany Kearney will present the item).

Presenter Kearney is requesting authorization to enter into new grant agreements with multiple providers for the provision of Nutrition Services and Culturally Responsive Supplemental Grocery Program for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities; for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029; in the amount of \$11,910,464 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed of \$13,101,509

Vice President Lum asked what does each meal per person cost and it's just under \$12.

Commissioner Sklar asked which populations will be served as she's wondering if some ethnic populations are being left out. Presenter replied that this packet only has kosher and regular meals and is an attachment to last month's packet.

President Spears asked if the Jewish families is only a specific region or city wide, presenter replied it is specific zip codes.

President Spears also asked for a document where all the money and services is going. Commissioner Knutzen also wanted to see what services are being cut. Presenter said she can provide those details.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Sklar

The motion was unanimously approved

- E. Requesting authorization to enter into a new grant with INSTITUTE ON AGING for the provision of Suicide Prevention and Grief Support Services; during the period of July 1,

2025 through June 30, 2029; in the amount of \$2,053,548 plus a 10% contingency for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,258,903. (Erica Maybaum will present the item).

Presenter Maybaum is requesting authorization to enter into a new grant with INSTITUTE ON AGING for the provision of Suicide Prevention and Grief Support Services; during the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029; in the amount of \$2,053,548 plus a 10% contingency for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,258,903.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Bittner

The motion was unanimously approved

- F. Requesting authorization to enter into new grant with Bayview Hunter's Point Multipurpose Senior Services for the provision of Culturally Responsive Nutrition Support and Outreach for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities; for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029; in the amount of \$497,688 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed of \$547,457. (Tiffany Kearney will present the item).

Presenter Kearney is requesting authorization to enter into new grant with Bayview Hunter's Point Multipurpose Senior Services for the provision of Culturally Responsive Nutrition Support and Outreach for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities; for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029; in the amount of \$497,688 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed of \$547,457.

Commissioner Jung asked if this and contract for Item 11D are similar or in conjunction, presenter Kearney replied that they are no different as they are going to different sets of persons.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Sklar

The motion was unanimously approved

- G. Requesting authorization to enter a new grant with Leah's Pantry for the provision of providing Citywide Nutrition Education for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Program for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029, in the amount of \$687,884 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$756,672. (Tiffany Kearney will present this item).

Presenter Kearney is requesting authorization to enter a new grant with Leah's Pantry for the provision of providing Citywide Nutrition Education for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Program for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029, in the amount of \$687,884 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$756,672.

Commissioner Jung asked to connect the dots to who is working on this and presenter replied that many community partners are working in conjunction to provide this outreach.

Commissioner Lum asked if DAS has a template in disseminating information to this service providers and presenter replied that DAS does not, but we use the language from the national service and then vetted by DAS registered dietitians.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A motion to approve from Commissioner Knutzen

The motion was unanimously approved

- H. Requesting authorization to enter a new grant with Felton Institute for the provision of providing Long-Term Care Ombudsman Services Program for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029, in the amount of \$2,988,600 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$3,287,460. (Erica Maybaum will present this item).

Presenter Maybaum is requesting authorization to enter a new grant with Felton Institute for the provision of providing Long-Term Care Ombudsman Services Program for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029, in the amount of \$2,988,600 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$3,287,460.

Commissioner Jung asked about outreach to residents that are often isolated and have cognitivist issues and how are they advised of these programs? Presenter replied that the providers reach out quarterly and they are putting out posters in senior centers for visibility and an online presence.

Commissioner Jung also asked about the needs of people that do not speak English and presenter replied that there are volunteers and outreach officers there for translation.

Commissioner Knutzen

PUBLIC COMMENT

A motion to approve from Commission Knutzen

The motion was unanimously approved

Announcements

Next month is summer recess so we will not convene.

Direct Dearman said Sat July 26th City Hall will be lit up in blue and white with a purple dome to commemorate 35th Anniversary of the Americans Disability Act.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at by President Spears at 11:15am