



CAADS

California Association for Adult Day Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Dismantling of Aging Services in Los Angeles Region Causes Panic Among Medically Frail Seniors and Disabled Adults

Health Care and Service Providers Call on City, County and State Leaders to Save Seniors From Homelessness and Helplessness

What:

More than 100 Los Angeles-area aging service providers will gather this Thursday to decry the dismantling of programs for seniors. They will call on elected leaders to acknowledge the elimination of critical services for the region's most medically needy, many of whom suffer from Alzheimer's, diminished mental capacity and multiple chronic conditions. Advocates for the aging implore local and state officials to actively engage in the creation of a plan to save low-income seniors and disabled adults from continued loss of services that keep them stable and in their homes.

Why:

When seniors and disabled adults have access to community-based health and social services, their medical conditions are managed so they can stay in their homes and out of expensive institutional care. When community-based services are cut, family members are forced to quit their jobs or go bankrupt to provide care for aging and disabled loved-ones. The threat of this happening across the LA region is eminent.

On December 1, the Adult Day Health Care program will be obliterated as a Medi-Cal benefit. The state claims it will move Adult Day Health Care patients to managed care. But its transition plan for the 22,000 seniors and disabled adults in Los Angeles County who will lose access to the community-based care that has kept them well enough to stay in their homes, has led to widespread panic and anxiety among patients and families. The loss of the ADHC group model of cost-effective care will remove the only choice for out-of-home integrated services. This forum will explore what this means for the county services budget, families, patients and employers.

When/Where:

Thursday, September 15, 2011

9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

The Braille Institute at 741 North Vermont Avenue

Who:

Among the Speakers are:

Assembly Member Mike Eng, D-Monterey Park, Assembly Health Committee

Steven P. Wallace, PhD, Associate Director, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research

Also participating in the forum will be representatives from:

Los Angeles Aging Advocacy Coalition, Los Angeles City Department of Aging, Community Clinic Assn. of LA County, Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital, St. Barnabas Senior Services, Graceful Senescence ADHC of Los Angeles, California Association for Adult Day Services, National Senior Citizens Law Center, USC Roybal Institute on Aging, LA County Commission for Older Adults, AARP, Alzheimer's Association, Congress of California Seniors., The SCAN Foundation, Health Net, Partners in Care Foundation, AltaMed, Leeza's Place

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More information on the elimination of Adult Day Health Care Services can be found at

www.caads.org.