



Karol Swartzlander, Executive Director  
Gavin Newsom, Governor

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday and Wednesday, March 11 and 12, 2025**

**Part I: CCoA General Meeting, Tuesday, March 11, 2024, 12:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.**

Location: 2880 Gateway Oaks Drive, Conference Room 395, Sacramento, CA 95833

**1. Welcome**

**2. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair David Lindeman called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 12:35 pm.

**3. Presentation: Updates from the California Department of Aging (CDA)**

**Susan DeMarois**, Director, CDA

**Sarah Steenhausen**, Deputy Director of Policy, Research, and Equity, CDA

Director DeMarois provided an update on the implementation of Proposition One (focused on behavioral health), noting that the demographics have changed since the passage of the proposition, and specifically identifying efforts of the California Health and Human Services Agency, California Department of Health Care Access and Information, California Department of Public Health and counties. CDA has retained Aurora Health to analyze Proposition One and identify opportunities for older adults. ATI Advisory will help with technical assistance, and Chapman Consulting will develop a toolkit for stakeholders and local partners to advocate for older adults, to be released in late April.

DeMarois thanked CCoA for sponsoring SB 1249, a culmination of reforms that started with the CA 2030 initiative. The work will focus on the following subject areas: Area Agency on Aging (AAA) designations and de-designations, intrastate funding formula, and statewide services, e.g., nutritional assistance/caregiver supports/enhanced information and supports.

Deputy Director Steenhausen reviewed the Master Plan on Aging (MPA) annual report, including details of recent activities and the value of foundation partners. CDA is focused on four key issues: navigating the system to secure services, ensuring access to services, availability of workforce, and methods for financing long-term care services and supports.

Steenhausen discussed the 2025-2026 MPA initiatives and noted that the state has received

certification as an age-friendly employer. The Labor and Workforce Development Agency has initiated a study of older workers in the California economy, potential problems, and promising practices.

4. **Roll Call and Establish a Quorum**

Roll call was combined with a vote on minutes. See #4 below.

5. **Approve the CCoA General Meeting Minutes from January 21, 2025**

**Commissioners present and approving minutes:** Adelman, Castile, Davis, Frank, Goodall, Jensen, Lindeman, Martin, Lyford, Martin, Schmeding, Tate

**Commissioners virtual and approving minutes:** Campos, Cislowski, Jauregui, Qazi

**Commissioners absent:** Meador, Perry

**Staff present:** Karol Swartzlander, Leza Coleman, Marijke Melman, Patrick Smith, Peter Anderson, Marcella Villanueva

**A quorum was established, and the minutes were approved.**

6. **Chair's Comments**

Chair Lindeman reported on testimony he provided at a recent joint legislative audit hearing focusing on the fire emergencies in Los Angeles. He also thanked Commissioners and staff for meeting with legislators regarding CCoA's policy and funding priorities.

7. **Comments from the Public on Issues not on this Agenda – Discussion**

New Commissioners were welcomed. The value of CCoA's outreach and education functions were emphasized in light of potential federal funding reductions.

8. **Governor's Office Update**

**Kim McCoy Wade**, Senior Advisor for Aging, Disability, and Alzheimer's, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom

Senior Advisor McCoy Wade highlighted the Public Policy Institute of California's new population charts identifying the future needs of older Californians, including health care, services, housing, and workforce opportunities. She discussed the economy, federal changes, and the fires in Los Angeles.

Wade highlighted the priorities of the Governor's administration in both the short and midterm: protect Californians, protect democracy, and build a CA for All. She noted the priorities on which

she is focused: CDA's effort to establish a public portal; housing opportunities/a stand-alone housing agency; shallow rental subsidies, rehabilitation and building; the Department of Health Care Services' efforts to transition people out of nursing homes; work opportunities at multiple departments.

**9. Presentation: Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee Updates and Priorities**

**Elizabeth "Liz" Fuller**, Chief Consultant, Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee

**Liz Fuller** noted that Dr. Bains remains the chair of Aging and Long-Term Care. Her priorities as Chair include additional funding for the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) partnerships and funds to implement the No Wrong Door program. Fuller explained that at the beginning of this two-year legislative cycle, each legislator was limited to 35 bills over the two-year session. As a result, there are fewer bills focused on aging this session. Dr. Bains has introduced two bills: (1) AB 1068 amending city and county evacuation plans to account for spaces appropriate for older adults to live in the short term, including providing sufficient support/power/services. (2) AB 1069 asks CDA to produce a report about a centralized mutual aid system for those living in congregate care using emergency response systems. Bills from the last session were discussed, including legislation to review the activities and service delivery of AAAs through SB 1249 (Roth), which modernizes California's aging services network.

**10. Presentation: Community Care Expansion and Housing and Disability Advocacy Program**

**Overview**

**Hanna Azemati**, Deputy Director, Housing & Homelessness Division, California Department of Social Services

Hanna Azemati provided an overview and background regarding the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) and Community Care Expansion (CCE) Program, and the grantees that provide housing-related services, case management, and financial assistance to end or prevent homelessness. She noted the unique challenges of serving this population, of which 49% of people receiving services have a disability, and 20% are 55 years of age or older. Azemati provided an overview of the history of HDAP and CCE, services provided, methods of service delivery, growth of the programs, reductions due to reduced resources, and the challenges the programs face in funding. Continued funding is critical to the continuation of both HDAP and the CCE.

Azemati shared the successes of both programs in securing permanent housing. Both address the unique challenges for unhoused older adults and people with disabilities, including a lack of affordable housing with care and supportive services, difficulty navigating bureaucratic systems to attain appropriate housing, and reliance on fixed incomes, which are often insufficient for covering

the cost of housing without additional support from Social Security Income (SSI)/State Supplementary Payment (SSP).

Azemati summarized HDAP growth and the reduction in services resulting from current-year and future-year funding reductions.

Azemati outlined the CCE program's tasks of acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation of adult and senior care facilities for those at risk of or experiencing homelessness. CCE is expected to create or preserve at least 7,000 beds/units for SSI/SSP and Cash Assistance for Immigrants (CAPI) applicants and recipients. Some of the projects serve individuals with behavioral health needs, including serious mental illness.

#### 11. CCoA Legislative Visit Primer

##### A. Bill Review

###### 1. SB 470 Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing

Coleman explained that SB 470 would remove a "sunset date" and is supported by the Commission.

##### B. Review March 12 Meeting Schedule

Coleman provided a summary of the activities for the March 12 and legislators' office visits. She explained the selection of budget items HDAP and CCE, and the need to focus on housing--a priority of the CCoA and the MPA.

##### C. Review Tool Kit

Upon request, Colman agreed to create a one-page summary of each funding request for use at the legislative visits.

#### 11. Staff Report

##### A. Timeline/Work Plan

##### B. Communications

##### C. Cheryl Brown Gerontology Scholarship

##### D. University of San Francisco Fellow proposal

##### E. State Advisory Committees update

##### F. Travel Expense Claims (TECs) for this meeting

##### G. 2025 General Meetings and Event Schedule

1. GM May 22, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (tentative) in Los Angeles

2. GM in concert with C4A Conference, November 5-7, at Hyatt Regency Anaheim
  - a. CCoA Forum: Healthy living communities

Swartzlander discussed the timeline for the work plan, provided an update on the Cheryl Brown Gerontology Scholarship timeline, and the San Francisco Fellow internship coming up this summer.

## 12. Commissioner Comments

### A. State Stakeholder Advisory Committee Reports received

1. **California Aging and Disability Research Partnership [CADRP]** (David Lindeman)  
CADRP meetings were deferred this quarter to allow CDA staff to prepare an annual program agenda. CADRP members provided several webinars and presentations that summarized the findings of the CDA-sponsored LGBTQIA Report on Resilience.
2. **Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Advisory Committee** (Faisal Qazi)
  - a. The last meeting was chaired by Ms. Blakemore and attended by Susan DeMarios, CDA Director.
  - b. The focus was the implementation of the Mental Health Services Act. It remains unclear how various measures within this act may apply to Dementia patients or their families.
  - c. Some members raised significant concerns about the after-effects of the LA Fires on individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and related disorders.
  - d. Leadership transition and membership needs and qualifications were discussed.
  - e. The "Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience" model from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), about older adults who live alone with dementia, is still under the National Institutes of Health approval process. Budget cuts could affect this proposal.
3. **California Behavioral Health Planning Council**  
CCoA does not yet have an appointed representative. Smith presented the CCoA Housing Report to the Council on January 16, 2025, but did not stay for the full meeting.
4. External Stakeholder Advisory Committees
  - a. **Older Adults who Live Alone with Dementia**  
Commissioner Qazi reported that they are examining the potential of the "Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience" model from UCSF.



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**13. Review Action Items**

**14. Public Comments**

A spokesperson from El Dorado County requested additional information concerning potential federal cuts to educate local citizens and Members of Congress regarding potential reductions.

**15. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 4:35.

**Part 2: Wednesday, March 12, 2025**

**Meet at California Secretary of State Multipurpose Room 8:45 a.m.**

Location: California Secretary of State, Multipurpose Room, 1500 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

**Legislative Visits 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Location: Various Offices, Capitol Annex Swing Space, 1021 O St, Sacramento, CA 95814

Commissioners met with Legislators and Legislative Staff to discuss CCoA legislative proposals and policy priorities.

**CCoA Legislative Lunch 11:45 am to 1:00 p.m.**

Location: California Secretary of State, Multipurpose Room, 1500 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

**Debrief 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Location: California Secretary of State, Multipurpose Room, 1500 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814