



Karol Swartzlander, Executive Director
Gavin Newsom, Governor

CCoA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes Draft

Thursday, August 14, 2025

David Lindeman, Chair

Committee Members

Present: Vice Chair Dana Toppel, Erika Castile, Alex Davis, Janet Frank, Brendalynn Goodall, Ben Jauregui

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Establish a Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Erika Castile, Alex Davis, Janet Frank, Brendalynn Goodall, Ben Jauregui, David Lindeman, Dana Toppel

Commissioners Absent: Janet Frank, Brendalynn Goodall

Staff Present: Karol Swartzlander, Patrick Smith

A quorum was established.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approve July 31, 2025, CCoA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes JULY 31, 2025, MINUTES APPROVED.

4. Presentation: Eldera / CCoA Partnership

Dana Griffin, Co-Founder and CEO, Eldera.ai, provided an in-depth overview of the Eldera program. Eldera is an AI-powered mentorship platform launched in March 2020 that aims to transform human longevity into a global opportunity by pairing experienced older adults (60+) with young people (roughly ages 5–17) for virtual, weekly sessions. The central goal is to leverage the wisdom of older adults to benefit youth while giving elders renewed purpose and social connection.

Eldera employs a thoughtful AI "Chaperone" to match mentors and mentees based on detailed profiles and to monitor interactions for safety—recording all sessions and flagging issues for review. Mentors undergo background checks and identity verification; video sessions happen on a secure platform with protocols to ensure a safe, respectful environment. Mentors also benefit from orientation, training, ongoing community support, and social features like virtual happy hours and book clubs. As of early 2025, there were nearly 3,000 active mentor–mentee pairs.



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Griffin reported a surge in applications from families and now has a 2,000-person waitlist. She is seeking a partnership with CCoA to boost older adult interest and enrollment as mentors through outreach and education about the program. Commissioners will continue to review materials and consider approving a partnership at the August 28, 2025, Executive Committee meeting.

5. Chair/Executive Director Updates

Due to time constraints, Swartzlander provided a written update to the Executive Committee following the meeting.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Commissioner Comments

None.

8. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 am.