

## Press Kit

### Rally – STOP the Elimination of Adult Day Health Care – 10.20.11

Governor Brown's proposed 2011 -2012 budget completely eliminates the Medi-Cal Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) program. Over the last two years, Governor Schwarzenegger also proposed elimination of the ADHC program and both years the Legislature wisely rejected the idea as unacceptable because of the severe cost shift to the state's taxpayers and its cost in human suffering.

In the early 80's, San Francisco, well-known for its pioneering efforts, established the first county-wide alliance of Adult Day Health Care services in the nation.

#### San Francisco Adult Day Health Care

- Serves 1,355 patients annually
- 46% of patients live alone and at a higher risk of rapid health deterioration and falls
- More than 20 languages are spoken or translated
- Small businesses providing nearly 300 jobs and nearly \$10 million revenue in the City's economy

**Elimination of the ADHC Medi-Cal benefit does not solve the problem, creates a bigger problem.**

**In a survey conducted in July 2011;**

- 263 patients will need to be placed in a nursing facility within 30 days (19.4%)
- An additional 277 patients will need to be placed within three months (20.4%)
- In San Francisco, Medi-Cal nursing home beds are extremely limited or not available. This means chronically ill elderly will occupy high cost hospital beds, often after an emergency room visit, because there is no safe place to discharge them. (*Average daily hospital costs range from \$6,942<sup>1</sup> to \$9,600<sup>2</sup> as compared to \$76 - \$100 daily ADHC costs*)
- Emergency department visits will increase by 589 within 30 days of closures (43.5%), adding to the cost of taxpayer funded health care and filling crowded hospital ERs with medically complex patients who are among the most vulnerable.
- Within 90 days that number increases to another 516 admissions to ER for a total of 1,105 ER admissions (81.5%).
- Six most common reasons for admission to the ER: Falls; Medication mismanagement; Unstable blood sugar; Complications from heart disease; Psychiatric crisis; Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder.
- 34% of working caregivers surveyed responded that they would need to quit full time jobs to take care of their loved one. An additional 40.5% would have to reduce hours to part-time and 25% report having no choice but nursing home placement - if they can find an available and affordable one.

#### **Links to Additional Resources:**

**California Association of Adult Day Services (CAADS)** [www.caads.org](http://www.caads.org)

**California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)** has established an ADHC Transition website <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/ADHC/ADHC.aspx>

**Disability Rights California** filed for a preliminary injunction to stop elimination of Medi-Cal funding for ADHC services, unless the State provides adequate and appropriate replacement services, believing this action would endanger the health of thousands of elderly Californians with disabilities who need these services.

<http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/advocacy/Darling-v-Douglas/index.html>

<sup>1</sup> *Hospital stays cost more in Northern California than Southern California, March 06, 2011, Duke Helfand, Los Angeles Times; <http://articles.latimes.com/2011/mar/06/business/la-fi-hospital-cost-20110306/2>*

<sup>2</sup> *The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) application for participation in the Community-based Care Transitions Program (CCTP). [https://www.cms.gov/DemoProjectsEvalRpts/downloads/CCTP\\_Solicitation.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/DemoProjectsEvalRpts/downloads/CCTP_Solicitation.pdf)*

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