



May 22, 2020

Statement of Opposition

RE: Proposed Elimination of Community Based Adult Services (CBAS) in California

I am writing as a caregiver to a 100-year-old mother, as a long term care public health nurse, and as the CEO of Family Bridges, in Oakland, an organization with two CBAS centers serving over 450 chronically ill seniors and persons with disabilities.

I am appalled that the Governor's May budget revise proposes elimination of Community Based Adult Services, (otherwise known as adult day healthcare) for the following reasons:

- The governor, in his orders for Shelter in Place, identified adult day healthcare as 'essential services'. Eliminating this essential service would be counterproductive to say the least. During the pandemic, we have worked closely with CDA, CDPH and HHS to continue to serve this most vulnerable population through telehealth, virtual education, food delivery, food bag distribution, and care coordination to keep them not only safe from Covid, but to help maintain their health status to prevent premature institutionalization.
- The proposal to save \$100 million by eliminating this program, is extremely short sighted. In fact, the elimination will create a further and even larger deficit whereby the 30,000 participants without CBAS will shift the costs exponentially to emergency rooms, hospitalizations, and skilled nursing facilities.
- When the previous administration eliminated Adult Day Health care in 2009-2011, our industry was forced to litigate against DHCS (Darling vs Douglas) and we emerged victorious. Legal precedence should guide the governor not to repeat this situation.

<https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/system/files/file-attachments/DarlingvDouglas-20Settlement-20Agreement.pdf>

Family Bridges' two CBAS centers serve 450 chronically ill seniors and persons with disabilities, three to five days a week. These services are the most cost effective, community-based alternatives to preventing ED visits, acute hospitalization stays, and skilled nursing facility admission.

More critically, the program addresses social isolation, food insecurity, homelessness and all other social economic challenges that contribute to quality of life and humanity.

Let us not repeat history. I implore you to remove the proposal to eliminate CBAS from the governors' budget revision. 35,000 chronically ill seniors and persons with disabilities and their caregivers do not deserve their lifeline to be taken away. Not during pandemic, not ever.

Corinne Jan, RN, PHN

Chief Executive Officer