



Protecting Services for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities **Without Raising Taxes**

Seniors and adults with disabilities are a vital part of San Francisco – over their lives, they've contributed to the City we know and love. But, for years, **funding for programs and services hasn't kept pace with the growth of these populations**. Now, 24% of San Franciscans are people with disabilities or aged 60 and over; by 2030, that number will grow to 30%.

With many seniors and people with disabilities living on fixed incomes, San Francisco's rising cost of living makes it even harder to get by. According to a UCLA Center for Healthy Policy study, 57% of single senior households and 39% of two-person senior households in San Francisco don't make enough to cover the costs of housing, food, medicine, and other necessities.

Ensuring Ongoing Support for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities

The Dignity Fund would **guarantee funding for community-based programs and services for seniors and adults with disabilities over 20 years**. First, it would create a baseline of \$38 million in the City budget for these types of services. Then, the City would set aside money from its General Fund to increase funding by \$6 million next year and \$3 million additional each year for 10 years. After that, the additional annual amount would be determined by changes in the City's revenues **with no new taxes!**

Who will benefit?

- San Franciscans aged 60 and older
- Adults of all ages with disabilities
- Isolated LGBT older adults
- Veterans
- Caregivers
- Older adults living with HIV/AIDS
- Older adults living with dementia
- Those with other significant chronic conditions



The Dignity Fund is being established to help all San Franciscans who are older or living with a disability. This includes: those in greatest need, the upper poor, and those with middle incomes also in need of services and support to help them to remain living at home and in the community.

Helping our Neighbors Age Well and Live with Dignity at Home

The Dignity Fund will help **pay for programs and services that can help our neighbors who are older or who have a disability to live and age well at home**. This is better for our communities and more cost-effective than institutionalized care. These services would include home-and community-based care and support, food and nutrition programs, consumer and caregiver education, community and service centers, self-advocacy, legal services, health promotion and wellness services, outreach, housing support services, and much more.

Accountability

To make sure that the Dignity Fund is spent wisely, a **four-year planning cycle** would be established that is open and transparent. This would require a regular evaluation of the services and programs that the Fund supports. Also, an **11-member Oversight and Advisory Committee** would be created to monitor and participate in decision-making for the Dignity Fund.

HOW YOU CAN HELP NOW



- Learn more about the Dignity Fund at :
 - www.sfdignityfund.org
 - www.facebook.com/DignityFund.
- Become an endorser.
- Volunteer.
- Help to raise money.
- “Like” us on Facebook -- and spread the word on other forms of social media.
- Sign up to receive regular updates about the campaign leading up to a successful “Yes” vote on November 8th.

About the Dignity Fund Coalition

The Dignity Fund Coalition is a broad group of San Francisco not-for-profit agencies, community organizations and advocates who have come together to address the growing need for services and support for all seniors and adults with disabilities to live with dignity, independence and choice in their homes and communities.

The Coalition includes over 50 agencies and individuals: AIDS Legal Referral Panel; Alice B Toklas Democratic Club; Alzheimer’s Association; Asian Pacific Islander Council; Asian Pacific Islander Democratic Club; Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach; Bethany Center; Bayview Hunters Point Multi-purpose Senior Services; California Alliance for Retired Americans; Canon Kip Senior Center/ Episcopal Services; Catholic Charities; Centro Latino de San Francisco; Chinese American Democratic Club; Coalition of Agencies Serving the Elderly; Community Living Campaign; Curry Senior Center; Democratic Women in Action; Episcopal Senior Communities; Faith in Action Bay Area; Family Caregiver Alliance; Family Service Agency/Felton Institute; Filipino Community Center; Harvey Milk Democratic Club; HIV & Aging Work Group; HIV Long Term Survivors; Homebridge; Human Service Network; Independent Living Resource Center; Institute on Aging; Japantown Task Force; Jewish Family and Children’s Services; Kimochi, Inc; LGBT Task Force; Lighthouse for the Blind & Visually Impaired; Little Brothers Friend of the Elderly; Meals on Wheels San Francisco; Northern California Presbyterian Homes and Services; Older Women’s League-SF; On Lok, Inc.; Openhouse; Pilipino Senior Resource Center; Project Openhand; Richmond Senior Center; SF Democratic County Central Committee; San Francisco Village; SEIU Local 1021; Self-Help for the Elderly; Senior & Disability Action; Shanti Project; South of Market Community Action Network; Steppingstone; Swords to Plowshares; The ARC-SF; The Living Room; Veterans Equity Center; Westbay Filipino Center; YMCA of San Francisco (partial list).

www.sfdignityfund.org