

California is walking away from its commitment to people living with Alzheimer's disease

- The 2009-2010 budget eliminated all funding for the Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Centers, 70% of funding for Caregiver Resource Centers, and 50% of funding for California Alzheimer's Disease Centers.
- Now the Governor has proposed shutting down all 327 Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) programs and eliminating all services to 87% of IHSS recipients.

The elimination of ADHC and reduction of IHSS will not reduce Medi-Cal expenditures—it will increase Medi-Cal costs in current and future budget years.

- ADHC participants are being actively managed for multiple medical conditions and will not be turned away from emergency rooms or be denied hospitalization or nursing home admission – all more costly to Medi-Cal than ADHC.
- ADHC has a multi-disciplinary team that monitors and manages participant health conditions as they arise to minimize the need for acute care intervention.
- Alzheimer's disease and related dementias are one of the three most common diagnoses among ADHC participants. People with Alzheimer's have at least two or three and often as many as five other serious chronic conditions.
- IHSS ensures *safety at home* of a person who is at risk for not being able to *safely* complete certain tasks like taking their medications, preparing a meal and bathing.

ADHC is not duplicative of or replaced by In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS).

- IHSS services provide vital personal care and support services during part of the time the person is at home.
- Workers are not trained to monitor and manage health conditions in a way done at an ADHC.

The Governor's proposal to cut IHSS services – by using a Functional Index ranking developed for another purpose – has already been enjoined by the U.S. District Court.

- The Court found that using the Functional Index ranking would cause people to “lose something irreplaceable – the ability to remain safely in their homes.” The judge stated that substantial harm, damage, and injury would result, causing “human suffering.”
- The judge also stated that plaintiffs were likely to show that the cuts to IHSS services violate federal law: both the *Americans with Disabilities Act* and the *Medicaid Act*.

Services provided by ADHC, IHSS and other community programs have brought California to a point where less than 6% of people with Alzheimer's live in a nursing home.

- Twenty years ago, virtually everyone with an Alzheimer's diagnosis went to a nursing home.
- The cost to the Medi-Cal program for an individual with Alzheimer's disease is 2.5 times greater than the cost for an individual without dementia – most of this difference is accounted for by nursing home expenditures where the **cost difference is 3 times greater** for someone with Alzheimer's.
- The Governor's proposal is fiscally short-sighted and will reverse this trend at an increased cost to Medi-Cal.

Compounding a budget crisis while causing a human one is no solution at all.

The 588,000 California families living with Alzheimer's disease urge you to reject these cuts to ADHC and IHSS.