PREPARING CALIFORNIA’S ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES PROGRAMS FOR FEDERAL INITIATIVES

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GOALS OF THE SESSION

Define Elder Justice in Relationship to Emerging Demographic Trends

Review Federal Policy, Legislation, and Budget Initiatives that Impact Local Government

Evaluate the Current Status of APS in California Within this Federal Context

Discuss Recommendations for Improving Local and Statewide Preparedness for Federal Elder Justice Initiatives
The Age Wave Is Hitting Shore
TRENDS IN CALIFORNIA

California’s Aging Population
2010 to 2060, selected years

PROJECTED NUMBER OF RESIDENTS, AGE 65 AND OLDER (IN MILLIONS)

- 85+
- 75 to 84
- 65 to 74

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>65 to 74</th>
<th>75 to 84</th>
<th>85+</th>
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Notes: Data for 2010 to 2060 are projections. Segments may not add to total due to rounding.

Source: California Department of Finance, Age in P 0 aging: State and County Population Projections by Major Age Groups, 2010-2060 (January 2013), www.dof.ca.gov
ALZHEIMER’S PREVALENCE IN 2050

8 Million People Over Age 85 with Alzheimer’s Disease

13.2 Million People Total with Alzheimer’s Disease

Archives of Neurology, 2003
TYPES OF ABUSE

- Physical
- Psychological
- Financial
- Abandonment
- Self-Neglect
- Neglect
- Isolation
APS Financial Abuse Cases in California by Year, 2009-2013

The state has seen a 41% increase in yearly financial abuse cases since 2009

Notes: Includes financial abuse cases perpetrated by others. Excludes unfounded reports.
IMPACT OF ELDER ABUSE

5 Million Victims a Year

Triples the Risk of Premature Death

Triples the Risk of Hospitalization

Quadruples the Risk of Nursing Home Admittance

WHAT IS ELDER JUSTICE?

Strategies that are used to:

• Prevent
• Identify
• Remedy
• Prosecute

Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse
Elder Justice Act

- Signed into law as part of the Affordable Care Act.

- Provides funding and support to Adult Protective Services. Funding has yet to be allocated.

- Establishes a National Resource Center on elder abuse.

- Created a federal Elder Justice Coordinating Council.
Elder Justice Coordinating Council

Identifying and proposing solutions to Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation

Staffed by Federal-Level Department Heads

Met Twice in 2014
Recommendations from the Council

- Develop a national APS system
- Support the investigation and prosecution of elder abuse cases
- Enhance services to elder abuse victims
- Develop an elder justice research agenda
- Develop a public awareness campaign
- Multidisciplinary training on elder abuse
- Combat financial exploitation in collaboration with the industry
- Improve tools for assessing capability and vulnerability to financial exploitation
NATIONAL ADULT MALTREATMENT REPORTING SYSTEM

**Funding**
- ACA, Prevention and Public Health Funding

**Goal**
- Plan, Design, Develop a Pilot Test of a National System

**First Year**
- Requirements Gathering from States

**Second Year**
  - Design, build, and pilot a system with 9 States
Federal Funding

- Elder Abuse: $19 million
- DV: $649 million
- Child Abuse: $6 billion
2012 AOA ELDER ABUSE GRANTS

- Focus on Prevention and Intervention
- 3 Year Grant Cycle
- 1 Million Dollar Grants
- First Use of ACA Funding for Elder Abuse
ELDER JUSTICE ROADMAP PROJECT

Priorities – Awareness, Brain Health, Caregiving, Economics, Resources

Action Items – Develop national APS Definitions and Standards such as Caseloads, Collaborations, Training, and Data Collection.
WHY FOCUS ON ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES?

The Bricks and Mortar of the Elder Justice System
WHAT DO APS WORKERS DO?

Mission
Keep Elders and Adults with Disabilities Safe and in the Least Restrictive Environment
APS ACTIVITIES

- Investigate Complex Situations
- Provide Crisis Response
- Assist Clients on a Voluntary Basis
- Prevent Unnecessary Hospitalizations
- Provide Services 24 Hours a Day
- Collaborate with Law Enforcement
- Support Families
- Assist Community Based Organizations
- Counsel Victims of Abuse
- Advocate
STRUCTURE OF APS IN CALIFORNIA

State
- CDSS
- Adult Protection Unit

County
Adult Services Dept. or Division

Operations
- Adult Services Committee
- PSOC

Training
- Contract with CDSS
- Regional Model
FUNDING FOR APS - 2011 REALIGNMENT

Support Services Account

Protective Services Sub-Account APS + CPS

Sales Tax Vehicle License Fee
STRENGTHS OF THE PROGRAM IN CALIFORNIA

1. Comprehensive and Inclusive Regulation
2. Local Control Brings About Innovation
3. Increased Funding Via Realignment
4. New APS Director Level Position within CDSS
CHALLENGES TO THE APS PROGRAM IN CALIFORNIA

Lacking Policies and Procedures
No Statewide Database
Limited State Leadership
High Variation Between Counties - Staffing, Resources, Casework Practices, Job Demands
WHAT DOES THE VARIATION LOOK LIKE?

32% of APS Workers Carry out Duties for a Separate Program

Triaging Practices are Not Standardized

Access to Emergency Funding and Resources is Inconsistent
California’s APS Program Matters

CA has the highest number of reports of abuse - 15% of all reports in the country.

CA and Texas have the highest number of confirmed reports.
RECOMMENDATION – TRAINING FOR APS STAFF

- Expand training to improve consistency of APS services
- Provide comprehensive “Core” training to new APS Workers
- Offer Advanced Training to seasoned workers
- Increase Funding
RECOMMENDATION - APS STAFFING

- Caseload Study
- Establish Local Best Practices as Model
- Share Creative Funding Mechanisms
- Explore use of Support Social Workers
RECOMMENDATION
DATA COLLECTION AND SHARING

Revised SOC242 is an Opportunity

Workgroup to Explore Establishment of a Statewide Database

Pilot County Data Sharing through current systems

County Collaboration is Key
RECOMMENDATION
STATE LEADERSHIP

• Engage the new “APS Director” within CDSS
• Participate in National Projects
• Seek Out and Respond to Grant Opportunities
• Cultivate Stakeholder Partnerships
CALIFORNIA ELDER JUSTICE COALITION

Become a Member!

elderjusticecal.org