



Special Edition June 2009



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Alzheimer's: Pro-Active Government Actions & Cuts That Could Put Families at Risk!

If you are interested in attending the Summit you can register at www.caregiver.org.

The other less positive government reality is that the State of California has very limited resources, so the funding to programs that serve families dealing with the challenges and dilemmas of dementia are on the chopping block. Senators and Assembly Members have slated to eliminate all of the Caregiver Resource Centers (Family Caregiver Alliance in the Bay Area), the Adult Day Health Centers, Pace Programs and one of the services we at Eldercare Services have used for diagnosis of Dementias, the Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers of California (we use the ARCCs located at UCSF and the VA in Martinez).

The "diagnostic centers", ARCCs, conduct vitally important research. If they are eliminated now, it will not only affect those currently receiving care, but those to come in the future. Without valid research, prevention and treatment of these diseases will not be a reality in the near future. Our spouses or other family members could be devastated by this disease – it is a disease that affects the entire family and can last from 10-20 years.

These proposed cuts are short sighted, unacceptable and unconscionable. California families cannot be left without support in providing care to the very frail elderly.

Understandably some reduction may be necessary. However, we cannot let them eliminate these essential programs. These programs have served elders and their families with care that allows individuals to stay at home and prevents even more costly nursing home placements. **Please contact your legislator on the web at www.legislature.ca.gov and ask that they continue to fund budget item 444-111-0001.**

Your advocacy is much appreciated!

We are living in challenging times. For those dealing with Alzheimer's disease in the Bay Area, there are two significant events happening - one positive and one negative.

The positive, for the past 6 months I have been working on the "Expert Alzheimer's Dementia Panel" at the request of Mayor Gavin Newsom. We have looked at all of the current services, the present and future needs of families, as well as costs and have determined our recommendation for the city of San Francisco for the next 10 years. What a gift to see pro-active government at its best.

As a result of our work, there will be an "Alzheimer's Dementia Summit" at San Francisco City Hall on Wednesday, July 8, 2009 from 8:30 AM to 4:15 PM. During the morning we will release our findings, based on proven program models, and the recommendations of this body of expert professionals. The afternoon will have several workshops for families and professionals. Representative agencies that participated in this endeavor will be available with information and resources all day in the rotunda of City Hall – Eldercare Services again at the forefront of advocacy for clients and their families!



Have a question about elder care?

"Ask the Expert" on our new and informative website at EldercareAnswers.com

SAVE THE DATE!
JULY 8, 2009



8:30 AM to 4:15 PM
San Francisco City Hall

Registration is free
Please visit www.caregiver.org
or call (415) 434-3388 ext. 411



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Eldercare Services has offices in Marin, Oakland, San Francisco and Walnut Creek, CA.
Visit us on the web at <http://www.EldercareAnswers.com> for more information.

Support Groups

When concerns for aging family members are part of every day life, or when they interfere with work, your health or other relationships, you need to join a support group.

Caring for An Aging Family Member

2nd Thursday of every month from 7 to 8:30 PM
1808 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA 94595

1st Tuesday of every month from 6 to 7:30 PM
605 A Cheney St., San Francisco, CA 94131

Cost for Support Groups and Classes: None

Support Group Registration: Not required

For more information regarding classes and support groups, please call (925) 937-2018, (415) 469-8300 or email us at info@EldercareAnswers.com

Community Classes

Walnut Creek

Caring for an Aging Family Member
Friday, July 17, 2009 from 9 AM to 3PM

Hands on Caring
Friday, July 24, 2009 from 9:30 AM to Noon

Dementia– In the Thick of It
Friday, August 21, 2009 from 9 to 11:30 AM

Families Dealing with Dementia
Friday, September 18, 2009 from 9 AM to Noon

Dementia– Middle of the Road
Tuesday, October 13, 2009 from 6 to 8:30 PM

Class Registration: Please call at least 3 days ahead