Understanding the Legislative Process

APS Leaders Institute Virtual Workshop

These are exciting times for APS programs nationally and California is no exception. Join experts from the CA Commission on Aging, CA Department of Social Services and County Welfare Directors Association for an interactive workshop and booster session that demystifies the state legislative and budget processes and clarifies what “advocacy” can look like for APS Managers. Working with current issues, participants will practice preparing brief testimonials and letters of support/opposition.

**Description**

These are exciting times for APS programs nationally and California is no exception. Join experts from the CA Commission on Aging, CA Department of Social Services and County Welfare Directors Association for an interactive workshop and booster session that demystifies the state legislative and budget processes and clarifies what “advocacy” can look like for APS Managers. Working with current issues, participants will practice preparing brief testimonials and letters of support/opposition.

**Dates and Times**

**WORKSHOP:**
- **DATE:** March 17, 2021
- **TIME:** 9:00AM-11:00AM
- **Platform:** ZOOM

**BOOSTER:**
- **DATE:** March 30, 2021
- **TIME:** 10:00AM-11:30AM
- **Platform:** ZOOM

**Intended Audience**

This workshop is intended for APS Managers

**Learning Objectives**

**Goal:** Training APS managers to be effective “advocates” for legislative changes that will drive program improvements.

**Learning Objectives:**
1. Describe the basic components of the state legislative and budget processes.
2. Identify your role in these processes and how to get involved to help craft policy.
3. Discuss how you demonstrate the need by using data, surveys, stories, etc.
4. Practice developing brief testimonials and letters of support/opposition on relevant proposals.

**Presenters**

**Diana Boyer, M.P.A,** Director of Policy for Child Welfare and Older Adult Services, County Welfare Directors Association of California

Diana joined CWDA in 2005 as a Senior Policy Analyst and was promoted to Director of Policy for Child Welfare and Older Adult Services in January 2019. She specializes in the program areas of In-Home Supportive Services, Adult Protective Services, Child Welfare, and Foster Care. Previously, Diana served as a program planner/specialist for Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services, and as legislative analyst and director of governmental relations for Santa Clara County Social Services Agency.

**Kim Rutledge, M.S.W,** Adult Protective Services Liaison, California Department of Social Services

Kim was appointed Program Liaison for Adult Protective Services (APS) at the California Department of Social Services in 2019 where her duties include enhancing statewide policies and procedures to promote consistent statewide APS practices, and strengthening and expanding services to meet the needs of vulnerable older and dependent age adults. She is the CDSS ex officio representative to the State Independent Living Council, and represents the department on the CalSWEC Advisory Board as well as in the Silence = Violence Network, a stakeholder workgroup created to bring advocates together to increase public awareness around elder and dependent adult abuse. Before coming to APS, Kim served as the Chief of the Policy and Quality Assurance Branch within the CDSS Adult Programs Division for three and a half years, overseeing policies impacting the In-Home Supportive Services program and the Deaf Access Program.

**Carol Sewell, M.A,** Legislative Director, California Commission on Aging

Carol is a past chair of the California Elder Justice Coalition (CEJC) and Legislative Director for the California Commission on Aging (CCoA). She is also on the Gerontology faculty at CSU Sacramento. As the CCoA’s legislative advocate for over 14 years, she has helped to secure increased funds for low-income senior housing, developed legislation requiring mental health practitioners to recognize and report suspected elder abuse, and worked to increase funding for APS training and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman. In partnership with CEJC and CWDA, she helped to establish the State’s first Adult Protective Services (APS) liaison position at CDSS. Prior to her work with the Commission on Aging, Ms. Sewell worked for over ten years as a legislative aide in the State Assembly and as a policy analyst for Governor Gray Davis.

**Agenda**

**March 17 WORKSHOP**
- 9:00 – 9:10am – Welcome, Housekeeping and Introductions
- 9:10 – 9:30am – Basic Overview of Legislative Process
- 9:30 – 9:50am – Basic Overview of State Budget Process
- 9:50 – 10:20am – What is “advocacy”?; Q&A
- 10:20 – 10:50am – Breakout Group Activity – Developing Testimonials
- 10:50 – 11:00am – Booster Preview, Closing & Evaluation

**March 30 BOOSTER**
- 10:00 – 10:05am – Welcome, Housekeeping
- 10:05 – 10:15am – Review/Reflection from Workshop
- 10:15 – 11:15am – Moving an advocacy plan forward
- 11:15 – 11:30am – Closing, Evaluation