

May 4, 2018

Honorable Holly Mitchell
Chair, Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Richard Pan
Chair, Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #3
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5114
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Save the California Community Transitions Program

Dear Chair Mitchell and Chair Pan:

We urge you to save the California Community Transitions (CCT) program, which plays a fundamental role in helping seniors and people with disabilities transition back into the community from long-term care and institutional settings. Unfortunately, the funding for this critical program is phasing out at the federal level, and the state has not proposed its continuation beyond the end of federal funding. Specifically, we are asking the state to continue annual funding for the CCT at \$19.1 million in ongoing General Fund (GF) dollars, to reflect both the state contributions and the discontinued federal funds when those end. This upfront investment of \$19.1 million is estimated to result in a total savings of approximately \$28 million (approximately \$14 million GF).

Since 2008, the CCT program has been successful in transitioning over 3,500 individuals from institutional settings to the community. CCT transition teams work with individuals to develop a safe transition plan that identifies and connects them with the housing and community supports necessary for a successful transition, including help with activities of daily living and other supports like meal delivery. In addition, CCT is able to pay for home modifications and for items to set up the home including basic furniture – there is no other similar state program or service for this population.

These transitions result in significant savings, averaging \$60,000 total funds per participant per year. CCT participants are also less likely to be

readmitted to institutions in the future and report a higher quality of life. Therefore, not only is the CCT program cost effective, but it is in-line with the state's efforts to uphold the US Supreme Court's Olmstead decision that provides individuals the right to live in the least restrictive setting in accordance with their needs and preferences.

For these reasons, we ask you to save this valuable program with a \$19.1 million investment.

Sincerely,

Aging Services Collaborative of Santa Clara County
California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform (CANHR)
California Commission on Aging
California Foundation for Independent Living Centers
California Health Advocates
California Hospital Association
California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance
California Supported Living Network
Californians for Disability Rights Inc.
Center for Disability and Health Policy
Central Coast Center for Independent Living
Choice in Aging
Dayle McIntosh Center
Disability Action Center
Disability Rights California
Disability Services & Legal Center
Disabled Resources Center, Inc.
East Bay Innovations
Family Caregiver Alliance
FREED Center for Independent Living
Health Projects Center
Home & Health Care Management
Healthy Aging Association
Independent Living Center of Kern County
Independent Living Resource Center
Independent Living Resources of Solano & Contra Costa Counties
Justice in Aging
LIFE ElderCare
LifeSTEPS

Marin Center for Independent Living
Meals on Wheels California
Meals on Wheels San Diego County
MSSP Site Association
On Lok
Partners in Care Foundation
Placer Independent Resource Services
San Francisco Department of Aging and Adult Services
Senior Services Coalition of Alameda County
Silicon Valley Independent Living Center
State Council on Developmental Disabilities

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Scott Ogus, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
Committee