CA Elder Justice Coordinating Council
Facilitated by the Department of Aging, Department of Social Services, and Department of Justice

Background:
On January 6th, 2021 the Governor released the state’s Master Plan for Aging (MPA), which outlines over 100 action ready initiatives for implementation in 2021-2022. Elder justice is a core priority within the MPA and five of these initiatives directly address the protection of older adults from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Initiative #93 of the MPA specifically calls for the creation of a California Elder Justice Coordinating Council (“Coordinating Council”) to “increase coordination and develop recommendations to prevent and address elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, and fraud, including consideration of COVID-19 risks.” California Health & Human Services Agency. In partnership with the Department of Justice, intends to convene this Coordinating Council, comprised of leaders from governmental and advocacy agencies and organizations across the state.

Purpose:
The purpose of the Coordinating Council is to increase coordination and develop recommendations to prevent and address the abuse, neglect, exploitation of older adults and adults with disabilities.

Membership:
- The Coordinating Council will reflect a broad array of State agencies and organizations with resources and expertise related to elder justice initiatives.
- Each State, County, and Federal department with a role in elder justice issues will designate their own representatives. State government membership will include representatives from:
  - California Health and Human Services Agency:
    - California Department of Aging (CDA)
    - California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
    - California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
    - Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
    - California Department of State Hospitals (DSH)
• Department of Developmental Services (DDS)
  ➢ California Department of Justice (DOJ)
  ➢ California Department of Insurance (CDI)
  ➢ California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)
  ➢ California Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency (BHCS)
  ➢ Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA)

➢ County and Federal membership will include:
  ▪ County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA)
  ▪ Administration for Community Living (ACL), Region IX

• An open and transparent application for at least fifteen stakeholder members from regional and local government, advocacy, and community-based entities will occur prior to the first meeting of the Coordinating Council.

Operations:

• The Coordinating Council will be facilitated by CDA, CDSS, and DOJ with the support of other state government partners serving older adults and related elder justice issues.

• The Coordinating Council will meet quarterly, beginning in fall 2021. Workgroups will meet on an as-needed basis.

• Meeting agendas will be shared in advance of each meeting. Workgroup members are encouraged to suggest agenda items.

• Meetings will take place virtually. American Sign Language interpreting and Closed Captioning will be provided.

• Meeting will be open to the public and time will be reserved for public comment.

• Meetings will aim to adhere to principles of inclusion, collaboration, and effectiveness.

• A person-centered, data-driven, and equity-lens approach is encouraged as reflected in CHHS Agency’s Guiding Principles.

Contact:

Please email Engage@aging.ca.gov with questions or comments related to the Elder & Disability Justice Coordinating Council.