

FALL 2018

LeadingAge California
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VOTERS ISSUE

**BONUS
VOTERS GUIDE**

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The *engage* magazine Editorial Board encourages submission of original articles for consideration.

Subscription to *engage* magazine is paid through LeadingAge California membership dues.

ISSN 2159-3515 (online)

Editor-in-Chief: Eric Dowdy
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Advertising

Engage Magazine reaches more than 5,000 readers in the senior living field. For information on how to advertise email ctittle@leadingageca.org.

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Voting Matters

“We in America do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate.” – Thomas Jefferson

This issue of *Engage Magazine* focuses on what is often disparagingly referred to as our “civic duty,” but at its core, voting is an act of expressing who we are and how we want to live as a free and independent society. While clashes over belief systems are common, the most recent national dialogue has been particularly destructive and divisive. As partisans become further entrenched, many feel like the important work of the country is often ignored or addressed at the expense of our long-held political norms. Despite the current climate, it is important to not become disillusioned and continue to vote.

To provide perspective on this topic, Robin Douglas, our managing editor, sat down with LeadingAge California residents across the ideological spectrum to find out what motivates their activism and drives their keeps their interest in current events. Dr. Bruce Chernof of The SCAN Foundation authors a column in this issue of the importance of getting to work on a Master Plan for Aging after this election. California should lead this effort and it is important to get our elected officials to commit to planning for our aging population.

Also, in this quarter’s Dear Brenda column, Brenda Klütz examines the regulatory requirements to ensure residents can exercise their right to vote. Finally, member Sandra Haskins of Gold Country Retirement & Health Communities contributed her thoughts on how to successfully host your legislator in your community.

We hope you enjoy this issue. And, as always, we like to hear your feedback and thoughts for future articles. Please contact me at any time at edowdy@leadingageca.org. Now, go out and vote!

Eric Dowdy
Editor-in-Chief

A NOTE FROM THE
editor



Eric Dowdy

Editor-in-Chief

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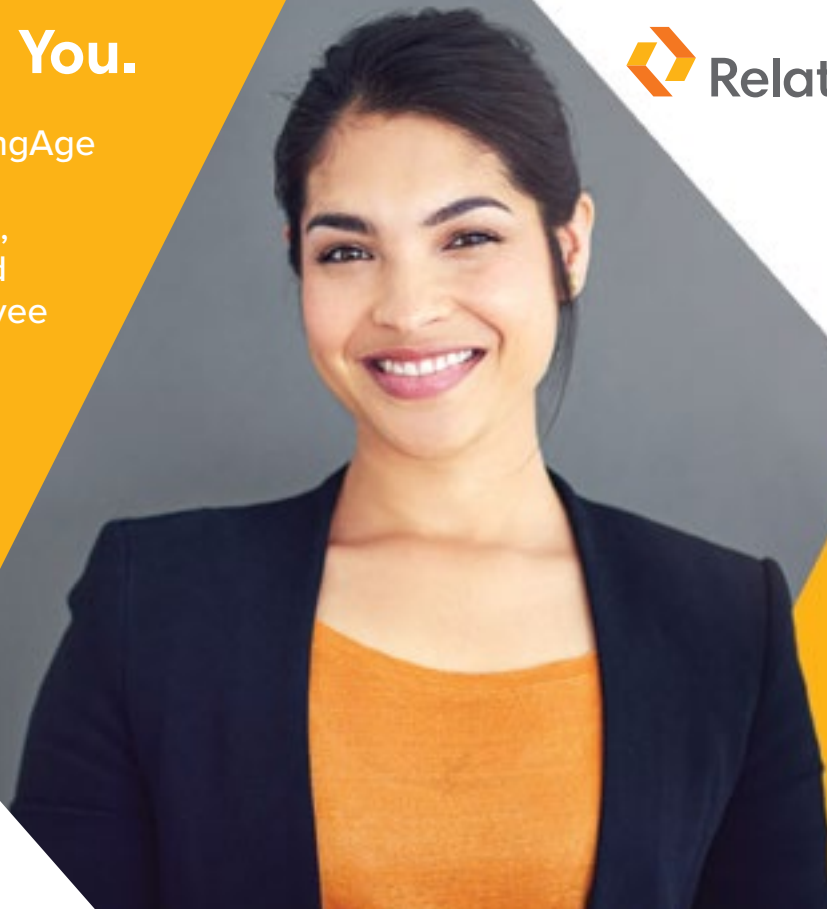
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Get Out the Vote!

Voting conjures up disparate feelings. On one hand, it brings out “politics” and many of us were told to never discuss politics. On the other hand, it empowers us to make a difference, to vote for an individual who supports the same issues. Growing up, not voting was not an option. It was a civic duty and responsibility. And, talking about politics was not taboo – understanding who the candidates were, what policies they might represent, and how their votes might impact our lives were important parts of dinner time conversations.

For LeadingAge California, who is in office is a daily discussion – will they or won't they support LeadingAge California initiatives, and in turn impact our members and residents. Individual senators and individual assembly members make a difference in voting in Sacramento. While there are ‘party-line’ issues, LeadingAge California staff work diligently to educate all senators and assembly members to understand the housing, care and service needs of older adults, growing demographics and needs, and related issues affecting our members. Likewise, we are hopeful that the gubernatorial candidates have listened to us, and will favorably support future legislation important to you.

Please encourage all your residents and staff to vote on Election Day – November 6, 2018.

On another note, we are excited to share our Public Awareness and Activation Campaign logo!



Our social media site will go live in December and other paid media in early 2019, so watch for emails and posting on our online discussion groups for information. To date, we've raised nearly \$1 million of our \$2 million goal. Thank you to the many members who have contributed! If you've not contributed, consider making a pledge to the campaign. Your gift will make a difference to your residents, your family, and your friends as we raise awareness about aging in the state and related care and workforce needs.

– **Jeannee P. Martin**
President & CEO



Have YOU Heard?

Eskaton's Telephone Reassurance volunteer program was featured in the [Sacramento Business Journal](#) in an article titled, "Eskaton Lifts the Spirits of Lonely Seniors One Phone Call at a Time."

Canterbury Woods welcomed Elvyar Abare as their new [Executive Director](#).

Bethany Center Senior Housing celebrated their 50th anniversary. The celebrations also mark the completion of a two-year rehabilitation and modernization project of Bethany Center and Ruth's Table, a gallery and community arts space.

St. John's Village in Woodland announced Heidi Wheeler, LVN, NHA, and Administrator of Stollwood Convalescent Hospital, was recognized by Congressman John Garamendi as one of California's 3rd District 2018 [Women of the Year](#).

Nine Eskaton Village Placerville residents were treated to rides in vintage planes courtesy of [Heritage Flyers Foundation](#). Good Day Sacramento Channel 31 was there to cover it!

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A Civic Duty:

Older Adults on Voting and the Power of the Individual to Spark Change

There's no denying the power of the senior voter. Older adults are widely known as the most prolific and engaged voting bloc in the United States. While Millennials are now poised to eclipse Boomers as the largest eligible group of voters, we wait with bated breath to see whether this translates to numbers at the polls for the midterm and 2020 elections. We talked with three highly engaged residents at LeadingAge California member communities around the state to talk about what keeps them motivated to stay involved and on top of the issues, what sparked their own political awareness and why it's so important for you to get out and vote.

Pilgrim Place

A life of activism doesn't stop at retirement for the residents of Pilgrim Place, a Southern California retirement community where work in humanitarian and religious causes is a lifelong calling. "We have writers, professors, pastors, clergy," says resident Charlene Tschirhart, gesturing around the dining room. "If you went around to every table, you could find out what they've done." In fact, Charlene says, "There are so many people doing so many things, sometimes it's easy to get too busy."

Charlene, along with residents Pat Hynds, Beryl Moore, Sally Simmel and Maura Corley shared some of their early experiences that shaped their paths to activism.

"Seeing the other end of U.S. foreign policy is something that really influenced – certainly me, but probably all of us," says Pat, who was a lay missionary with a Catholic organization called Maryknoll, doing journalism in Nicaragua and Peru.

Maura worked for the American Friends Committee, a social justice organization, in Central America. She credits the Sanctuary Movement of the 1980s as her initiation into refugee issues and the plight of undocumented immigrants in America.

Beryl studied at the American University of Beirut, visiting refugee camps in Palestine during the late 1950s. Both educators, she and her husband Stan spent 35 years in Chile working on rural development projects and bilingual education.

Maura and Charlene are former nuns with roots in 1960s political and social activism who still have strong ties to their religious communities. Sally worked on immigration issues, war activism, apartheid – "whatever was coming along we needed to do," she said. And over the years, that has included everything from postcard writing for the ACLU, trips to D.C. for Congressional visits, to advocating for female immigrants seeking asylum, detained at an ICE facility just over an hour away from their community.

All five came of age in the 1950s and 60s, against the backdrop of the Vietnam War and massive upheaval. "During the war and during apartheid, we would go to Washington and would talk to congressmen and everything. The church conducted sessions on how to deal with the police, and what to do if there's a chance of being imprisoned," said Sally.

Maura starts out, "I went to the Democratic Convention..." "Tell her your story! Tell it, tell it," says Sally.

"I went to the Democratic Convention in my full nun outfit – 1968," Maura continues. "I was listening to all the speeches, and all of a sudden the police came on horseback and we just ran." Teargas in her eyes, Maura thought, "What if my Superior sees me running down street on television?"

Now, working together from Pilgrim Place, this group of bilingual women visits the women's section of Adelanto Detention Facility about once a week, in the nearby town of Adelanto, just outside Hesperia, Calif. They help the women write letters and connect them with legal assistance. Sometimes they are just a friendly face in the courtroom during hearings. Even though, says Pat, "We're not allowed to look at them, wave at them or acknowledge them in any way. But they know you're there, and the group agrees it's important to have a presence."

"They come from all over," continues Pat. "Mexico, Central America...African countries like Cameroon and Eritrea." One woman came to the United States from Mexico with her parents when she was three years old. Although her children are U.S. citizens, says Pat, she never became documented, was detained, sent to Adelanto, and deported to Mexico – where she had not been since she was three.

"They're going back to a country they don't know," Pat continues. "Their life has been here. Or, the life they left was so horrendous they've been threatened with violence, gangs or spousal abuse. They finally make it here and then they basically end up in jail."

The process for seeking asylum can be a long and difficult one, but the group is persistent despite long wait times during visits and a system that often feels stacked against them. "Making inroads to this project can be frustrating," says Charlene. "You want to do something so badly and sometimes there's nothing you can do to help."

It's possible to burn out on such intense work, says Pat. It's easy to get overwhelmed. Sometimes you have to go on vacation, and have some time to yourself. "You look at the news and there's 221 things going on and they're all crucial...sometimes you have to take a step back."

As they're canvassing neighborhoods, encouraging people to get engaged, they are realistic about the factors stacked against them. In nearby Pomona, where

the population is 85 percent Latino, reasons behind not being able to vote are often murky. Voter registration drives at the local Art Walk are often met with brush-offs from groups of young people out on Friday nights. But it goes beyond voter apathy, they say. Redistricting, voter repression and voter ID laws in some states are all major factors to consider with voter turnout, the group says. "In some places they're making elders, or people who are so old they don't have birth certificates, do the whole voter ID thing," says Pat. "That's a challenge in some rural areas where people were home birthed or if the hospital isn't there anymore."

And while current movements like #MeToo and Black Lives Matter are positive, they are cyclical. "We've been there before," Pat says. "We had the Brown Power Movement and the Women's Movement. But then we get complacent, and we end up where we are today."

Still, it's the only system we've got, the group agrees. It's important to preserve it, even though cynicism can creep in. "That's why I find one or two of those things that motivates me, and say I'm gonna work on these two things," says Pat. "Some of the others...I just have to let that go."

As the Adelanto project continues to expand, practical goals around documentation, future partnerships and the goal of setting up a fund to help with sponsors and legal assistance are on the horizon for the coming year. So while the projects keep coming, says Pat, "In my old age, it's nice to live in a place where there are other people around me who share the values I share, for the most part. I think there is an incredible number of people doing wonderful things at this time in our lives. Basically, it's an amazing group of people."



YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE

If you're just not feeling inspired this year or even having trouble just getting through your voter registration guide, these three residents from our member communities have some stories and advice to share that may help change your perspective.

EILEEN BARNES, WESLEY MANOR

Eileen, how did you become interested in politics?

I've worked on several political campaigns. I had a friend who had a PR firm and periodically she'd call me in to help with a campaign – she did a lot of fundraising events for the local sheriff, people running for public office on local and national levels, etc., and I got really into it! Then, after I retired, I wanted to find something to do so I joined the League of Women Voters.

Was there a defining event in your own life that spurred your political awareness and engagement?

Not really, I've just always had an interest in politics – seeing what's good and what's bad about our system, and seeing that change happen. In the League, one thing we do that's really thrilling, is about once a month we go to the ceremony where people are being sworn in as new citizens, and we're there to help register them to vote. It's just so moving. These people are so thrilled to be there and to see that gratitude is infectious.

Low voter turnout in the U.S. is a huge issue - what do you think is behind it?

My opinion is that life is good for most people. We have the highest standard of living in the world. But people get complacent. They've got what they want and they have access to a lot of things that three-quarters of the world doesn't have, and they become passive and they don't vote or study the issues. And then until something hits them personally or in their pocketbook, you're not going to get their attention.

What are some of the issues going on that concern you the most?

The first thing would be voter suppression. Which is attempts by certain groups to make it harder and harder for people of color, especially, to vote. Requiring voter ID and perpetuating this idea of voter fraud, when it's like, one percent. The other thing would be voter participation. And then voter registration – especially young people.

Have you ever encountered any issues or difficulties with the voting process yourself?

No, no. Because I'm white! My thing is yelling at my grandkids - "Did you vote yet?"

What kind of advice would you have for anyone who feels like voting doesn't matter?

Being educated is the biggest gift you can give yourself when it comes to voting. Really know the issues and the reasoning behind them. And act accordingly. Vote accordingly. You never know when and how it's going to affect you. Protect what this country is. You've gained a lot by being born here. Why do you think people risk everything to get here? Value it, cherish it and protect it. And the best way to protect it is to vote.

**FRANCISCO RODRIGUEZ, ESKATON
LINCOLN MANOR**

Francisco, how did your activism get started? Were there any major influences in your life?

My grandparents came to the United States from the Dominican Republic, and when they lived there, the country had been ruled by three brutal military dictatorships in a row. Their lives were in real danger, and they had to leave. Because of everything they went through to come to America, I never took voting for granted. Here you don't get shot if you want to vote. Here you have the right to vote. In the Dominican Republic it wasn't like that, at least not for them.

What's concerning you the most right now?

Affordable housing and healthcare. I'm very concerned about the draconian budget cuts that are specifically aimed towards senior housing, affordable housing and

healthcare for those most in need of it. Most seniors have to make a choice between medicine, rent or food. Without affordable housing, where would my senior neighbors live?

Why is it important to get involved and stay engaged?

Leadership and change comes from everywhere. You can be a housekeeper and affect change. You can be a senior, you can be in a walker, someone who uses a cane, someone with different neuroabilities and still affect change. If we can allow people to see how they are a valuable part of the process, they will recognize their own sense of power and worth.

AUDREY AGEE, ST. PAUL'S TOWERS

Audrey, was your family politically engaged growing up, and were you encouraged to vote?

Yes, my mom and dad were Democrats, and when I married my husband, he was a Republican, so I had to learn how to switch parties and how to become a Conservative.

What prompted you to switch parties?

Because then I was getting wiser and smarter enough to realize the difference. My dad was a union man, so naturally, we always voted Democrat because of the union. But my husband was a very Conservative Republican and it was easy for me to make the switch.

Do you see any patterns or parallels happening today between past and present politics?

What I do see, which is unfortunate, is I do not see any compromise where there used to be compromise in Congress. The '60s was what destroyed our country. As far as lack of respect for the government, everybody doing their own thing and looking out for "me" – doing what was more important for the party rather than the country and it changed the whole atmosphere.

Does your own faith have an impact on how you vote?

Oh yes! It's a huge part of my life. I've got my own inner peace and my relationship with God, and my church and family. So, I'm very content.

What do you think it would take to get eligible voters excited about participating?

That's a tough question. A lot of people are so cynical these days and that's not good. Because if more people think that way, we're not getting the voter turnout we need, and that's what makes the difference. I'm just so glad we live in a country where we can vote. Whether we like the candidates or not, we're still in a free country where we can vote without being intimidated. I'm just glad the good old USA is still together!





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Keiro: Advancing – and Celebrating – Quality of Senior Life

by Hiromi Aoyama, Communications Analyst, Keiro

It's been a busy autumn for the nonprofit Keiro. On a bright September Sunday, more than 1,000 attendees flocked to Los Angeles' Little Tokyo for a festival celebrating older adults. In October, some 350 conference attendees learned about the latest in aging, including from keynoter Dr. Carla Perissinotto, the UC San Francisco geriatrician who's pioneered work on social isolation.

Founded in 1961, Keiro is a mission-driven, nonprofit organization engaged in improving the quality of life for older adults and their caregivers in the Japanese American and Japanese community in Southern California. Keiro delivers a wide range of resources to address the challenges and barriers that aging presents within this niche population in a culturally sensitive manner.

The Japanese-American and Japanese-speaking community has grown to 70,000 older adults and 57,000 caregivers spread throughout Keiro's service area, which encompasses Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura counties. Keiro's programs and community partnerships are providing services and research that will continue to expand the capacity for older adults to age well and age wherever they call home.

Keiro also partners with companies and organizations that can expand its services and ability to reach seniors and caregivers, and participates in research and innovative work where it can contribute to advancing progress in resolving the challenges of aging.

Most recently, Keiro entered into a partnership with the AARP Foundation around a project that creates phone networks to engage those who are socially isolated. Selected as one of only three organizations in California for this program, Keiro will begin working with the Foundation and the Motion Picture and Television Fund in early 2019 to build out the network.

Below is a sampling of other Keiro programs and major initiatives:

Iyashi Care: This culturally sensitive palliative care program, presented in partnership with Providence Health & Services, is the first of its kind in the United States providing support to Japanese-American and Japanese older adults with advanced illnesses and debilitating and/or life-limiting symptoms. A team of doctors, social workers, nurses and administrators works together with the family members as well as the patient's other doctors to give an extra layer of support to provide the best possible quality of life. The program goal is to improve the quality of life for these older adults by enabling them to continue living in their community, while decreasing hospital admissions.

Wellness Classes: Keiro partners with dozens of community centers, churches, temples, and groups serving Japanese-American and Japanese older adults to provide comprehensive programming to meet the needs of their aging members. Classes range from health topics, senior scams, and safe driving to technology.

Caregiver Conference: Held annually, this free conference provides valuable resources and tools for current and future caregivers who support older adults to age well at home through a series of seminars, a resource fair, professional consultations, health screenings and more.

Keiro-no-Hi Festival: This inaugural festival, held in September in partnership with the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center, provided a special day to celebrate older adults. The festival was held around the time of "Keiro no Hi" or Respect for the Aged Day, a Japanese national holiday that honors and celebrates older adults. The event attracted 1,000 people to come out and enjoy a day of food, entertainment, and more. Senior performing groups took to the stage while complimentary transportation was also provided from four locations in Los Angeles and Orange counties, with the understanding that lack of transportation is often a barrier to community engagement.

Keiro Conference - Aging into Tomorrow: This event, held in October 2018, brought nationally recognized speakers from various fields related to aging to share with the community on what aging means as well as current trends. Topics ranged from the latest research on social isolation, how to declutter one's house to smart-home technologies, the Mediterranean diet, mind-body exercise, and dementia.

More information available: Keiro.org



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Dear Brenda

Brenda Klütz has 30 years of experience in California state service; with over eight years of working in the Legislature as a consultant on Aging and Long-Term Care issues and 15 years with the Department of Health Services serving as the Assistant Deputy Director and Deputy Director. Currently, she provides LeadingAge California members technical support on issues related to reimbursement, licensing, and regulation interpretation.

Both federal certification and state licensing requirements for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs); as well as state licensing requirements for residential care facilities for the elderly (RCFEs) emphasis person-centered care. Resident preference, resident choice – what is important to each individual resident.

Getting to know residents is a gradual process – learning their interests, aversions and needs – what makes their life fulfilling. While the Minimum Data Set [MDS] provides information to assess the importance of reading, keeping up with the news, joining in group (or other) activities, religious services, etc., there is no formal collection of information about the importance of voting or other political engagement for residents.

Many communities actively encourage civic engagement and aid residents who wish to participate and exercise their right to vote. How important is it for a resident to vote, or have the opportunity to listen to debates, or read materials related to certain issues? How does your community support residents who wish to vote?

In California, approximately 19 million citizens are registered to vote, out of the 25.1 million eligible to register. Older adults are much more likely to register and vote than other age groups. Of all age groups, older adults are more likely to view voting as a duty, and a citizen’s civic responsibility.

Age Group	Registered to Vote ¹		Not Registered
	Likely Voters	Infrequent Voted	
18-34	18%	46%	42%
35-54	34%	32%	40%
55 and older	48%	22%	18%

From a regulatory standpoint, federal and state law emphasizes that SNFs and RCFEs are required to promote resident rights, specifies that residents continue to enjoy all their civil and legal rights, and RCFEs are to encourage and assist residents with exercising their rights as citizens. Only RCFE requirements specifically mention that it is the facility’s responsibility to aid in helping residents exercise their right to vote.

¹ Public Policy Institute of California [PPIC], based on 8 statewide surveys conducted by PPIC from 09/2017 to 07/2018. Access full summary report here: <http://www.ppic.org/publication/californias-likely-voters>

A summary chart of federal and state requirements related to exercising the right to vote can be found at leadingageca.org/engage-magazine.

Resources

Why Too Many Older Adults Face Voting Obstacles, *Next Avenue*, November 3, 2016, <https://www.nextavenue.org/why-too-many-older-adults-face-obstacles-voting>

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Please contact Brenda Klutz if you have any questions or seek additional information: BKlutz@leadingageca.org or (916) 469-3377.

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HOSTING YOUR LEGISLATOR

By Sandra Haskins, NHA, MPA, Gold Country Retirement and Health Communities

Very early in the life of a senior services provider one becomes aware that the industry is steeped in politics. If you had a wise mentor they will introduce, and stress to you, the importance to being politically involved on behalf of your profession. If you had wise mentors they will force you to get involved early on. Even toss you in to advocating before you feel you are ready. This is especially true if you lead a regulated community and accept state or federal funding, like skilled nursing who is paid by Medicare and Medicaid. Add the fact that our profession is emotionally charged, and it should become apparent you must become your own best advocate.

When you have had a strong mentor/teacher that included you in this activity, you are better prepared to advocate for your staff and residents. They can help you understand how to navigate the politics of our industry.

The first thing your mentor can show you, is that while it can be scary to represent our story to our legislators – who better to do it than you. I was lucky to have a mentor that pushed me, perhaps kicking and screaming, into advocacy. She was a seasoned Administrator with years of passionate association leadership; and she showed me, while a bit scary, it needs to be part of our job to advocate.

Where to start? Here's what a great mentor taught:

Don't be nervous, these are people (just like us) representing us.

Even if you end up representing our industry to a representative out of your area, we are advocating for residents and staff all over our area.

Making friends with their staff is the key.

Bonding with these right hand folks is the best way to get your message to your legislator. Try to meet up with these folks in a variety of community events – let them see you everywhere. Chamber events, service clubs, community events; interact with them where ever you can find them. You want them to see you involved. You might be thinking to yourself, 'who has time to do these events? We are too busy in our communities! I can't leave!' It's imperative that you see advocacy as part of your role. Make the time to get involved; no one else is going to do it for you!

Invite legislative staff – and their legislator – to every special event or occasion, you can, at you community.

Veterans Day celebrations, National Night Out, 100th birthday celebrations, Health Expos, events you host from the surrounding community...get them on campus! The more you rub elbows with them in the community, the more likely they are to accept your invitation. The better the legislator and/or their staff knows you, the

more likely they will be supportive to our message, and when bad press hits our industry. The more you invite them to, the more likely you are to get them on your property. Legislators are hugely busy when in their district office; don't get discouraged if it's mostly their staff who attends – they carry the message on your behalf and often have time to listen.

“Help, my legislator is coming! What do I do now?”

Just relax and show off what you do best. Ask their staff member to direct you as to their goal. Do they want to do a town hall? Do they just want a tour? Do they want to talk to residents or staff? Plan on a short visit - 20 minutes – but have a plan if they stay longer and seem happy to stay. Review your tour route, have some residents and staff ready to engage. Have light refreshments ready – but don't be surprised if all they want is a glass of water. They cannot accept gifts; however, if you have something homemade from your residents you can send them away with that. Be respectful of their time and have one or two key takeaways. Try to make these positive; save the deep discussions for their staff who can distill the message

into key bites and advise. Take casual pictures of the legislator visiting, remember to get photo consent forms if they take photos with residents, and be prepared to share your picture(s) with their staff via text or email.

Enjoy the visit! Your best takeaway is to be proud of what you do, proud of the team you lead and proud of the residents you serve.



Sandra Haskins has been a nursing home administrator and Executive Director for over 30 years in both the for-profit and the non-profit world. She has been part of legislative advocating in both LeadingAge and California Association of Health Facilities.

She proudly leads Gold Country Retirement and Health Communities in Placerville, Calif.

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2018 NOVEMBER VOTERS GUIDE

Proposition 1 – Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018 – SUPPORT

Authorizes \$4 billion in general obligation bonds for housing-related programs, loans, grants and projects and housing loans for veterans. **Proponents:** *LeadingAge California* and [numerous others](#), including: Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, California for Disabled American Veterans Habitat for Humanity California, Congress of California Seniors, Housing California, California Housing Consortium, Kaiser Permanente, business interests, Sierra Club California, and local government.

Opponents: Gary Wesley

Proposition 2 – No Place Like Home Act of 2018 – SUPPORT

Authorizes the state to use revenue from Proposition 63 (2004) – a 1 percent tax on income above \$1 million for mental health services – on \$2 billion in revenue bonds for homelessness prevention housing for persons in need of mental health services.

Proponents: *LeadingAge California* and numerous others, including: California Housing Consortium, Housing California, Habitat for Humanity California, LifeSTEPS, Corporation for Supportive Housing, National Association of Social Workers, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Opponents: NAMI Contra Costa

Proposition 3 – Water Supply and Water Quality Act of 2018 – NO POSITION

Authorizes \$8.877 billion in state general obligation bonds for various infrastructure projects. **Proponents:** Senator Dianne Feinstein, Republican Candidate for Governor John Cox, conservation groups, agricultural organizations, environmental justice organizations, local water agencies, labor unions among others. **Opponents:** League of Women Voters, San Francisco Chronicle, Sierra Club, Friends of the River, Speaker Anthony Rendon, Save the American River Association, Southern California Watershed Alliance, among others Polling: 58% Support; 25% Oppose (+/-4.8, PPIC 9/18/18)

Proposition 4 – Children’s Hospital Bond Act of 2018 – NO POSITION

Authorizes \$1.5 billion in bonds for the construction, expansion, renovation, and equipping of children’s hospitals in California. Awards would be allocated: 72 percent (\$1.08 billion) to eight nonprofit hospitals providing comprehensive services to high volumes of children eligible for governmental programs and children with special health needs eligible for California Children’s Services; 18 percent (\$270 million) to five University of California general acute hospitals, including the University of California, Davis Children’s Hospital; Mattel Children’s Hospital at University of California, Los Angeles; University Children’s Hospital at University of California, Irvine; University of California, San Francisco Children’s Hospital; and University of California, San Diego Children’s Hospital; and 10 percent (\$150 million) to public and private hospitals that provide pediatric services to children eligible for California Children’s Services. **Proponents:** California Children’s Hospital Association, California Teachers Association **among others.** **Opponents:** League of Women Voters **Opponent:** Gary Wesley

Proposition 5 - People’s Initiative to Protect Proposition 13 Savings – NO POSITION

Amends Proposition 13 (1978) to allow homebuyers who are age 55 or older or severely disabled to transfer their tax assessments, with a possible adjustment, from their

prior home to their new home, no matter (a) the new home’s market value; (b) the new home’s location in the state; or (c) the buyer’s number of moves. **Proponents:** California Association of Realtors; **Opponents:** Numerous, including California Alliance for Retired Americans, California Association of Nonprofits, Housing California, Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California, teachers and labor unions.

Proposition 6 – Voter Approval for Increases in Gas and Care Tax – NO POSITION

Requires that all gas taxes go before the electorate and be approved by majority vote before they can be implemented. If passed, it would eliminate \$5 billion per year from the state budget for road and bridge improvements. **Proponents:** Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. **Opponents:** Numerous, including the Congress of California Seniors, California Alliance for Retired Americans, Independent Living Partnership, Los Angeles Aging & Advocacy Coalition, firefighters, educators, environmental groups, social justice organizations, business interests, and local government, among others. Polling: 39% Support; 52.0% Oppose (+/- 4.8, PPIC 9/18/18)

Proposition 7 – Repeal of the Daylight Savings Time Act – NO POSITION

Supports allowing the California State Legislature to establish permanent daylight saving time (DST) in California by a two-thirds vote if federal law is changed to allow for permanent DST. **Proponents:** California Democratic Party. **Opponents:** Senator Hannah Beth Jackson

Proposition 8 – Fair Pricing for Dialysis Act – NO POSITION

Supports requiring dialysis clinics to issue refunds to patients or patients' payers for revenue above 115 percent of the average cost of dialysis treatment in California plus healthcare improvement costs, such as staff training and patient counseling. **Proponents:** SEIU-United Healthcare Workers West, California State Council of Service Employees among others. **Opponents:** California Dialysis Council, DaVita, Fresenius Medical Care North America and U.S. Renal Care.

Proposition 9 – Three States Initiative – REMOVED FROM BALLOT BY CA SUPREME COURT

Would split the current state into three states by petitioning Congress to make the division into California, Northern California and Southern California. The California Supreme Court is currently hearing the case and, if cleared, Proposition 9 could appear on the ballot in 2020. **Proponents:** Tim Draper


Proposition 10 – Affordable Housing Act – OPPOSE

Would repeal the 1995 Costa-Hawkins Act and allow local governments to adopt rent control on any type of rental housing. **Proponents:** AIDS Healthcare Foundation, ACCE Action, California Teachers Association, California Nurses Association, among others. **Opponents:** *LeadingAge California*, TELACU, BRIDGE Housing, California Housing Consortium, Civil Justice Association of California, NAACP, State Building and Trades Council of California, among numerous others. Read *LeadingAge California's* statement on Proposition 10 [here](#). Polling: 36% Support, 48% Oppose (+/-4.8, PPIC 9/18/18)

Proposition 11 – Emergency Ambulance Employee Safety and Preparedness Act – NO POSITION

Law entitling hourly employees to breaks without being on-call would not apply to private-sector ambulance employees. A “YES” vote allows private ambulance companies to continue their current practice of having emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics stay on-duty during their meal and rest breaks in order to respond to 911 calls. Private ambulance companies would attempt to reschedule meal and rest breaks that are interrupted by a 911 call. **Proponents:** American Medical Response (AMR) **Opponents:** American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME), California Democratic Party, California Labor Federation, California Teachers Association, among others.

Proposition 12 – Prevention of Cruelty to Farm Animals Act – NO POSITION

Establishes minimum requirements for confining certain farm animals. Prohibits sales of meat and egg products from animals confined in noncomplying manner. Fiscal Impact: Potential decrease in state income tax revenues from farm businesses, likely not more than several million dollars annually. State costs up to \$10 million annually to enforce the measure. **Proponents:** The Humane Society, ASPCA, California Democratic Party, United Farm Workers, Open Philanthropy Action Fund, Deborah Stone, Humane Society of the United States 
Opponents: Humane Farming Action Fund



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Will You?

A Master Plan for Aging Is What Californians Want and Need

By Dr. Bruce A. Chernof, President and Chief Executive Officer, The SCAN Foundation

In the highly partisan political climate we find ourselves in today, it feels rare for anyone to agree on anything, and even rarer for voters to have consensus on priority issues.

But the rapid expansion of California's older adult population and the associated challenges is one topic that everyone agrees needs the attention of our policymakers across the state.

By 2030, Californians age 65 and older will increase to more than 9 million; that's 20 times the growth rate of those younger than 65! And Californians age 85 and older will increase to 1.2 million — a 56 percent increase. Unfortunately, the state is woefully unprepared to provide the

health care, long-term care, and supportive services needed by these older adults, and their families and caregivers.

Although the aging baby boomer population is one reason for the state's increase of older adults, this is about more than one generation. California's population will remain increasingly older for decades to come; associated with that should be a sense of urgency and myriad opportunities to make California a place where all of its residents can age with dignity, choice, and independence.

Voters understand what's at stake, perhaps because so many have already been thrust into a caregiver

role for aging parents. Too often, families have to make difficult decisions — balancing careers and seeing their finances stretched in support of aging loved ones.

Recent polling conducted on behalf of the [We Stand With Seniors](#) campaign, co-sponsored by [West Health](#) and [The SCAN Foundation](#) (TSF), indicated that California voters are painfully aware of the consequences of the state's expanding senior population.

The polling data indicates the deep concerns Californians have when it comes to aging:

- 64 percent say the state is not doing enough for older adults now;
- 73 percent say they are concerned about their ability to pay for long-term care; and
- 86 percent feel that California must provide more caregiver services for older adults and their families.

Also, news flash: An outstanding majority (nine out of 10 voters) believe it is important for California to have a master plan to invest in services that allow older adults to age in place.

As the polling indicates, Californians overwhelmingly support the next governor developing a statewide master plan for aging, and so do we. Master plans are vital for important core topics spanning decades, administrations, and political parties. They enable us to articulate a clear vision and comprehensive approach to solving problems. Other states have master plans for aging, which greatly improved their services for older adults and their families. As the fifth largest economy in the world, California should be leading on this critical issue, rather than falling behind.

At TSF, we believe there are at least [five elements](#) that must be present for a master plan to work, otherwise it risks becoming a report that sits on a shelf with no action to accompany it:

1. **Decisive leadership:** The governor and state legislator are committed to a master plan for aging.
2. **Rational:** Priorities within a plan are ranked and supported by data.
3. **Comprehensive:** The plan is thorough, covering issues related to financing, the workforce, long-term services and supports, housing, and transportation.

4. **Stakeholder involvement:** A plan includes input from consumers, providers, and other stakeholders, in addition to elected and appointed policymakers.

5. **Accountability:** Timelines for reporting are clear, and outcomes are measurable.

To their credit, both Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom and businessman John Cox have pledged to address this issue should they become governor in November by developing a master plan for aging. Both [submitted videos](#) speaking to their commitment at our annual California Summit for Long-Term Services and Supports in September.

We celebrate this historic commitment, but the needs of an aging California demand that we do not get too comfortable. Master plans take time to develop, and there will be numerous issues competing for the new governor's attention. We must keep the momentum going, fully aware that momentum hasn't always been there.

If we are to move older adults to the top of the agenda, keep them there, and create a master plan for aging to address challenges, we on the frontlines need to work with all stakeholders so we can convey the full impact of this issue.

Through collaboration, we can ensure the state is prepared for the predictable and preventable crisis looming overhead. By developing a comprehensive master plan for aging, California's older adults, their families, and caregivers will be able to receive the health care and supportive services they need so they can age with dignity.

Bruce Chernof, MD, FACP, currently serves as the President & Chief Executive Officer of The SCAN Foundation, whose mission is to advance a coordinated and easily navigated system of high-quality services for older adults that preserve dignity and independence. The SCAN Foundation is one of the largest foundations in the United States focused entirely on improving the quality of health and life for seniors.



SCENE



1 Bethany Center Senior Housing celebrated their 50th anniversary and grand opening of the new Ruth's Table in October. Pictured (L-R): Debra M. Varner, President, Bethany Center Foundation, Jessica McCracken, Vice President, Programming and Development and Jerry Brown, Executive Director.

2 Christian Church Homes (CCH) held their Annual Gala in September. Pictured (L-R): CCH President and CEO Don Stump and Director of Marketing Iris Murillo.

3 Albert Einstein Residence Center in Sacramento hosted a Delta Region Meeting in September. (Gallagher Lewis-sponsored) speaker Linda Pierce presented on Sexual Harassment and Risk Management.

4 EMERGE Session II was held in September at Casa Dorinda in Santa Barbara.

5 Santa Clara Methodist Retirement Foundation (SCMRF) held a "Community Salute" event on October 5th. Pictured (L-R): Karen Routt, Magnolia Prime and Priscilla Haynes, SCMRF Executive Director.





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

















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AGE OF THE NEW POLLING PLACE:

How Your Organization Can Help California Modernize Its Elections and Improve Ballot Access in 2020

by Emily Andrews, Attorney, Olson, Hagel & Fishburn

Did you know that in 2018, every single registered voter in the counties of Madera, Napa, Nevada, Sacramento and San Mateo will be sent a ballot by mail, regardless of whether they are a registered “vote-by-mail” voter? With the November election around the corner, you might be thinking about ways that your organization can become more civically involved without jeopardizing your tax status or wading into murky political territory. The process for voting is changing in California, and your organization can be part of this important change by signing up to serve as a Vote Center or vote by mail drop box location. While it is too late to sign up for the November 2018 election, the next election year will be here sooner than ever thanks to another recent change in California law moving the primary election date from June to March in 2020.

Passed into law in 2016, the California Voter’s Choice Act seeks to modernize elections in California by allowing counties to conduct elections under a new model. The new election model makes several important changes to the voting process in

California, including mailing every registered voter a ballot. While Madera, Napa, Nevada, Sacramento and San Mateo are the only participating counties in 2018, all other counties in the state will be eligible to participate starting in 2020.

In participating counties, voters can vote in one of three ways: (1) Mail the ballot; (2) Drop the ballot off in a secure county ballot drop box; or (3) Visit any Vote Center in the county. Under the new law, traditional polling places will be replaced by “Vote Centers,” where a voter can vote in person, drop off their ballot, get a replacement ballot, vote using an accessible voting machine, get help voting in multiple languages, and register to vote or update their voter registration card.

Counties that implement the Voter’s Choice Act are required to establish a minimum number of vote centers and vote by mail drop box locations. In order to meet those requirements, counties will be readily seeking businesses and other organizations who are willing to allow their facilities to be used as either a Vote Center or a vote-by-mail drop box location.

Of course, the law requires your facility to meet certain requirements in order to serve as a Vote Center. Before contacting your county to offer your space, **check to make sure your facilities meet the following requirements:**

1. You are required to have a designated area or other room that can be used for voting, which is free of other activities.
2. Because you'll need to have voting equipment on site, your facility will need to have secured storage available for the voting equipment.
3. You must be open a minimum of eight (8) hours per day, between the hours of 7:00am and 8:00pm.
4. If you serve as a Vote Center, you will need to offer access to your facility to Vote Center Staff one hour before and one hour after voting hours.
5. Restrooms must be available for use by Vote Center Staff
6. You must also be able to provide parking for voters and Vote Center staff.
7. Your facility will need to meet certain accessibility requirements, which are generally reviewed by someone from the County.

If you want to serve as a vote-by-mail dropbox location, the requirements are fewer. You will need to:

1. Have a secure location for the ballots to be dropped off.
2. The dropbox will need to be available during your regular business hours, but your business must be open on Election Day.

3. To serve as a vote-by-mail dropbox location, the County will also need to make sure that your facility meets certain accessibility requirements.

Vote Centers and dropbox locations are set up on a county-by-county basis, so you should contact the Registrar of Voters in your county to ask for information on specific county requirements and to sign up in time to serve as a Vote Center or vote-by-mail dropbox location for the 2020 election.

Emily Andrews is an attorney at Olson, Hagel & Fishburn in Sacramento, Calif, where she specializes in advising nonprofits, political action committees, candidate and others on campaign and election law.



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Benefits of Belonging



PROVIDERS

- Career Center
- Committee Activities
- Communities Networking
- Provider Compensation Report
- ENGAGE Online Communities
- ENGAGE Magazine
- Late Breaking Regulatory & Legislative News
- Membership Directory
- Regional Networking and Education Research
- SNF Compliance Manual
- Value First Group Purchasing Program
- White Papers



NEWS

- Leading News for Seniors
- Press Releases and Press Kit



EDUCATION

- Leading Education**
- Education and Events
 - Conferences, Webinars and Regional Meetings
 - Workforce Reference Materials



POLICY AND LEGISLATION

- Leading Policy**
- Abuse/Neglect Reporting Guide
 - Clinical Excellence
 - Crisis Communications
 - Federal Requirements of Participation Reference Guide
 - Five-Star Reports
 - Healthcare Reform
 - Legislative Advocacy
 - Licensing
 - New Models
 - Policies and Procedures
 - Products and Services
 - Regulations
 - SNF Compliance Guide
 - Survey Assistance
 - Technical Support Briefs



LEADERSHIP

- Cultivating Leadership**
- Committees
 - EMERGE
 - Regional Meetings
 - Scholarships



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Advocacy Opportunities
- Career Hub
- Community Locator Tool online
- Choosing a Non-Profit Consumer Guide
- Resource Listing



RESIDENTS

- Advocacy Opportunities
- Crimestoppers Program



EVENTS

- LeadingAge California Annual Conference and Exposition
- Annual Policy and Leadership Summit
- Annual Affordable Senior Housing Conference
- Affordable Senior Housing
- Resident Advocacy Day

Participate in our Group Savings Programs through:





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FALL 2018 ISSUE