



California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports

November 25, 2015

Ms. Colleen Cain, Chair,
Board of Directors
The SCAN Foundation
3800 Kilroy Airport Way, Suite 400
Long Beach, CA 90814

Dear Ms. Cain:

This letter supports the 2016-17 grant application from Government Action and Communication Institute (GACI) to The SCAN Foundation for the California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS).

The signers are members of the Collaborative and believe that it, thanks to support from The SCAN Foundation, is playing a valuable role in advancing LTSS policy for seniors and persons with disabilities. Our organizations benefit from being involved in the Collaborative, and the Collaborative has succeeded in developing a point of view that resonates across the senior and disability communities. Federal and state agencies – as well as the California Legislature – look to the Collaborative for direction and advice.

For example, we believe that our work on the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) has been of great importance to the California Department of Health Care Services, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Legislature. For five years, the Collaborative has nurtured working relationships with each of them -- achieving consensus on central policy issues, influencing policy, and forging a united advocacy voice for LTSS policy change.

Collaborative members put it this way in a recent evaluation:

- The Collaborative succeeds at coalition-building, and it serves as a broad-reaching stakeholder group on the ready to respond to administration plans and issues.

- What the Collaborative does best is interdisciplinary sharing of information and the coordination of policy advocacy strategies.
- The Collaborative keeps critical issues before the administration.
- The information received from the field is vital to making needed policy changes. It truly has to be a group effort, and thanks to the Collaborative, it has been. The Collaborative serves as the town square for these important conversations among members and with the administration.

Since its inception, the Collaborative has assisted the state to clarify issues and solve problems, assisted the Legislature with the review of key long-term-care legislation, and answered an invitation from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to provide a monthly review of the implementation of the CCI.

With support from The SCAN Foundation, the California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports will continue to be a trusted voice advocating policies that promote a client-driven integrated system of high quality services to seniors, persons with disabilities, and their families. For 2016-17, Collaborative members will be sharing in the Collaborative's budget, contributing dues based on agency size. The total pledged will cover 25 percent of the Collaborative's annual budget.

In addition, the Collaborative established priorities for 2016-17. First, it will provide continuous review of state LTSS initiatives to ensure that California designs programs and services that are responsive to consumers' needs, desires, and preferences. The Collaborative will propose new policy directions when needed. Second, the Collaborative will engage in a concerted effort to inform and educate policy makers, candidates, opinion leaders, and the voting public about the crisis in aging and disability services, a crisis driven by demographic changes. We intend to ensure that long term services and supports are adequate and of high quality, that consumers have access to services, and that consumers live in the setting of their choice.

We thank you for your support of the Collaborative and request that this support continues in 2016 and 2017.

Sincerely,

AARP California
The Arc of California
Association of California Caregiver Resource Centers
California Alliance of Retired Americans
California Assisted Living Association

California Association for Adult Day Services
California Association of Area Agencies on Aging
California Association of Health Facilities
California Association of Health Plans
California Association of Public Authorities
California Commission on Aging
California Council of the Alzheimer's Association
California Council of the Blind
California Elder Justice Coalition
California Foundation for Independent Living Centers
California Hospital Association
California IHSS Consumer Alliance
California Senior Legislature
California State Independent Living Council
California Medical Association
Californians for Disability Rights
CaIPACE
Congress of California Seniors
County Welfare Directors Association
Disability Rights California
Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy
Justice in Aging
LeadingAge California
LifeLong Medical Care
MSSP Site Association
National Center on Caregiving/Family Caregiver Alliance
SEIU-United Long Term Care Workers
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
UDW Homecare Providers Union

cc: Dr. Bruce Chernof, President and CEO
Mr. René Seidel, Vice President
Ms. Kali Peterson, Program Officer