

# **AGING, WOMEN and POVERTY IN CALIFORNIA**

*A forum to discuss the needs of older Californians*

# 2016

Skirball Cultural Center | Los Angeles

**June 3, 2016**

# WELCOME

## CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON AGING

EDMUND G. BROWN, JR. Governor

1300 National Drive, Suite 173  
Sacramento, CA 95834



**Executive Director**  
Sandra Fitzpatrick

PAUL DOWNEY, Chair  
San Diego

June 3, 2016

ED WALSH, Vice Chair  
Rancho Mirage

Dear *Aging, Women and Poverty in California Forum* Attendees,

### Commissioners

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San Diego

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JEAN SCHULDBERG,  
Chico

On behalf of the California Commission on Aging, I welcome you to today's forum on *Aging, Women and Poverty in California*.

Together with our partners, the California Women's Law Center and the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, we hope that we have planned a day that will provide new insights into both the causes and implications of aging in poverty for the women of our state. We believe the combined expertise of the panel presenters and our invited audience will inspire a meaningful discussion about policy solutions that could improve women's economic standing and late-life outcomes.

California's older adult population will double – by 4 million – over the next two decades. Traditionally, older women live longer than men and make up the majority of the older adult population. While increased longevity is a bonus for some adults, it can often bring with it chronic health conditions, frailty, vulnerability, social isolation and scarcity of resources. Women who live longer are more likely to develop Alzheimer's disease and those who live longest also risk outliving their savings. Twenty percent of single older women live below the federal poverty level. Older women of color are at greatest risk of poverty, with over 60% of all single elders of color facing economic insecurity.

The factors causing older women's trajectory into poverty create policy and programmatic challenges that require innovation and determination. We need to both have – and demand – the political will to find and champion the tough solutions to assure that all older adults, regardless of gender or ethnicity, can have safe and secure lives.

Thank you for joining us for this interactive and exciting day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sandra K. Fitzpatrick".

Sandra K. Fitzpatrick  
Executive Director



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Commissioner

Nancy Kirshner-Rodríguez,  
Executive Director

June 3, 2016

Dear Colleagues:

For more than 50 years, the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls (CCSWG) has worked in partnership to bring attention to some of the most important challenges confronting women and girls in our great state. We are extremely honored to be collaborating with the California Commission on Aging and California Women's Law Center to co-sponsor today's gathering of policymakers, civil society leaders and funders. The 17 Commissioners serving on the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls are committed to addressing 'Aging, Women and Poverty.'

Women make up a majority of California their population over the age of 65. Many of these women live alone, often outliving life partners. We already know that the existing wage gap between men and women manifests in future income insecurity. Furthermore, reductions in health and social services programs have a greater negative impact on older women than men. Disparities in race and class exist across all age groups and exacerbate the preexisting struggles of aging in California for many women.

Together, we have convened this group of experts to explore creative solutions to many of the vexing challenges faced by women aging in our communities without proper resources and support. We hope to identify policy proposals and creative strategies to alleviate the burdens of poverty older women and their families are experiencing in California so that everyone has an equal opportunity to enjoy their golden years in the Golden State.

Today we also say a special thank you to State Senator Carol Liu, Chair of the Select Committee on Aging and Long term Care, as well as a CCSWG Commissioner for many years. Throughout her time in the Legislature, Senator Liu has been a champion for many women living in a state of economic and often physical insecurity. She is completing her final term in the State Senate this year and we want to take this special opportunity to recognize her for her significant leadership and impact on public policy.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Kirshner-Rodríguez".

Executive Director

# WELCOME

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WOMEN'S  
LAW CENTER

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**Executive Director**  
**Betsy Butler**

June 3, 2016

Dear *Aging, Women and Poverty In California* Attendees:

Thank you for joining us today to help build a strategy to address the changing dynamics and economic realities facing California women as they age.

The California Women's Law Center (CWLC) is honored to partner with the California Commission on Aging and the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls to discuss the priorities and perspectives community and policy leaders should be aware of and be planning for throughout the state. We thank our moderators, panelists and speakers for sharing their knowledge and assisting our combined effort to impact the local, state and national agenda regarding the changing needs of aging Californians.

Established in 1989, CWLC is a statewide legal support center whose mission is to break down barriers and advance the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy and education. We pursue justice for women and girls on matters pertaining to equal pay and equal rights, domestic violence, women's health, reproductive choice and gender-based discrimination.

Together, the organizations sponsoring this forum will address the factors contributing to higher rates of poverty, homelessness, food insecurity, abuse, fraud, lack of medication and loneliness for women. Nationally, one in six Americans age 65 and older is living in poverty. Over the next two decades, the older adult population in California will double by more than 4 million people, which will have demonstrative effects on nearly every aspect of our society. To be clear, aging in California is a women's issue: women represent 40% more of the over-65 population than men.

Collaboratively, we look forward to working with the attendees and the participants of the *Aging, Women and Poverty In California* forum who will help outline the most pressing challenges older Californians face now and in the coming years. With your assistance, we will act on these items and hopefully brighten the Golden Years of our aging citizens.

Thank you again for being with us today to be a part of this important discussion.

In pursuit of justice,



Betsy Butler  
Executive Director

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# Aging, Women and Poverty In California

Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 | Skirball Cultural Center

- 8:00am **Registration and Continental Breakfast** **Haas Hospitality Center**
- 8:45am **Welcome** **Magnin Auditorium**  
*Forum Facilitator: Paul Downey*, Chair, California Commission on Aging and President/CEO, Serving Seniors  
**Nancy Kirshner-Rodriguez** - Executive Director, California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls  
**Betsy Butler** - Executive Director, California Women's Law Center  
**Hon. Jackie Lacey** - Los Angeles District Attorney  
**Video** - Justice in Aging "*Dollie, Sandy, Lydia, and Myrtle Have Something to Say About Being Poor*"
- 9:45am **First Panel — California's Aging Population Through a Woman's Lens** **Magnin Auditorium**  
*Moderator: Sandi Fitzpatrick* - Executive Director, California Commission on Aging  
**Kevin Prindiville** - Executive Director, Justice in Aging  
**D. Imelda Padilla-Frausto** - UCLA Center for Health Policy Research  
**Denise Likar** - Vice President, Independence at Home—a SCAN Community Service
- 11:00am **Second Panel — Elder Justice: Leveling the Field for Our Mothers and Grandmothers** **Magnin Auditorium**  
*Moderator: Kafi D. Blumenfeld* - Commissioner, California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls  
**Grace Cheng Braun** - President and CEO, WISE & Healthy Aging  
**Karen Lincoln** - Associate Professor and Director, USC Hartford Center of Excellence in Geriatric Social Work and Founder and Chair of Advocates for African American Elders  
**Lisa Nerenberg** - Executive Director, California Elder Justice Coalition  
**Laphonza Butler** - Provisional President, SEIU Local 2015
- 12:00pm **Lunch and Program** **Haas Hospitality Center**  
**Hon. Kevin de León** - President pro Tempore of the California State Senate  
**Hon. Hilda L. Solis** - Supervisor, Los Angeles County  
**Recognition of State Senator Carol Liu**
- 1:30pm **Third Panel — Retirement and Economic Security** **Magnin Auditorium**  
*Moderator: Surina Khan* - CEO, Women's Foundation of California  
**Anne Price** - CEO, Insight Center for Community Economic Development  
**Catherine J. Dodd** - Chair, National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare  
**Usha Ranji** - Associate Director, Women's Health Policy, the Kaiser Family Foundation  
**Chris Hoene** - Executive Director, California Budget and Policy Center
- 2:45pm **Final Thoughts — A Call to Action** **Magnin Auditorium**  
**Hon. Mitch O'Farrell** - Los Angeles City Councilmember  
**Laphonza Butler** - Provisional President, SEIU Local 2015

# SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:45 AM

**Registration & Continental Breakfast**

➤ Haas Hospitality Center

8:45 - 9:30 AM

**OPENING SESSION**

➤ Magnin Auditorium

**Welcome**

**FORUM FACILITATOR**

**Paul Downey**

Chair, California Commission on Aging and President/CEO, Serving Seniors

**Nancy Kirshner-Rodriguez**

Executive Director, California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

**Betsy Butler**

Executive Director, California Women's Law Center and Commissioner, California Commission on Aging

**Honorable Jackie Lacey**

Los Angeles District Attorney

**Video: Justice in Aging** *"Dollie, Sandy, Lydia, and Myrtle Have Something to Say About Being Poor"*

9:45—10:45 AM

**FIRST PANEL**

➤ Magnin Auditorium

**CALIFORNIA'S AGING POPULATION  
THROUGH A WOMAN'S LENS**

Almost half of California seniors do not have enough money to meet their basic needs. The implications of senior poverty – and the fact that 1,000 Californians turn 65 each day – present profound social and policy implications for California. With women outnumbering men in the older adult population and living longer the impact of the intersection of age, longevity and poverty is profound. This panel will explore these demographic realities and offer recommendations that should be pursued.

**MODERATOR**

**Sandi Fitzpatrick**, Executive Director  
California Commission on Aging

**PANELISTS**

**Kevin Prindiville**, JD, Executive Director  
Justice in Aging

**D. Imelda Padilla-Frausto**, MPH  
UCLA Center for Health Policy Research

**Denise Likar**, MSW, Vice President  
Independence at Home – A SCAN Community Service

10:45 - 11:00 AM

**BREAK**

11:00 - 12:00 PM

SECOND PANEL

➤ Magnin Auditorium

**ELDER JUSTICE: LEVELING THE FIELD FOR OUR MOTHERS AND GRANDMOTHERS**

Poverty and inequity create fertile ground for abuse and exploitation, placing vulnerable elders at heightened risk. Older women make up a majority of elder abuse victims, made more susceptible by their lower incomes, dependence upon others, and susceptibility due to loneliness and isolation. This panel will discuss the policies that perpetuate inequities and examine the changes needed to reduce vulnerability.

**MODERATOR**

**Kafi D. Blumenfield**, Commissioner  
California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

**PANELISTS**

**Grace Cheng Braun**, MSPH, President and CEO  
WISE & Healthy Aging

**Karen Lincoln**, PhD, MSW  
Associate Professor and Director, USC Hartford Center of Excellence in Geriatric Social Work  
Founder and Chair, Advocates for African American Elders

**Lisa Nerenberg**, MSW, MPH, Executive Director  
California Elder Justice Coalition  
Professor, City College of San Francisco

**Laphonza Butler**, Provisional President  
SEIU Local 2015

12:00 - 1:15 PM

LUNCH and PROGRAM

➤ Haas Hospitality Center

**THE TIME IS NOW: ADDRESSING POVERTY IN CALIFORNIA**

**Honorable Kevin de León**  
President pro Tempore, California State Senate

**INTERSECTION OF AGING, WOMEN and POVERTY**

**Honorable Hilda L. Solis**  
Supervisor, Los Angeles County

**RECOGNITION OF STATE SENATOR CAROL LIU**



We are honored to recognize State Senator Carol Liu for fourteen years as a California Legislator serving first in the Assembly and later becoming the first Asian American woman elected to the California State Senate. Senator Liu has pursued an agenda to improve public education, increase access to higher education, promote a sustainable environment and economic development, and preserve essential services for the elderly.

1:15 - 1:30 PM

BREAK

# SCHEDULE

1:30 - 2:45 PM

## THIRD PANEL

➤ Magnin Auditorium

### RETIREMENT AND ECONOMIC SECURITY

California is facing a mounting retirement crisis requiring national and state-based policy attention. With our older population growing by nearly two-thirds over the next twenty years, most workers are not prepared for retirement and the economic realities that exist in California. The high cost of living in the Golden State combined with the fact that we have a very low percentage of people who have access to a savings, pension or 401(k) retirement plan, means that the number of impoverished older Californians will expand rapidly over the next two decades. While the retirement crisis is national in scope, this panel will address the challenges aging Californians are facing and policy options to help address the income disparities, housing needs and supportive services required for our quickly changing demographics.

### MODERATOR

**Surina Khan**, CEO  
Women's Foundation of California

### PANELISTS

**Anne Price**, CEO  
Insight Center for Community Economic Development

**Catherine J. Dodd**, PhD, RN, Chair  
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare  
Director of the San Francisco Health Service System

**Usha Ranji**, Associate Director for Women's Health  
Policy, the Kaiser Family Foundation

**Chris Hoene**, Executive Director  
California Budget and Policy Center

2:45 - 3:30 PM

## CLOSING REMARKS

➤ Magnin Auditorium

### MOVING FORWARD: A CALL TO ACTION

**Honorable Mitch O'Farrell**  
Los Angeles City Councilmember

**Laphonza Butler**  
Provisional President, SEIU Local 2015

3:30 PM

ADJOURN



# PARTICIPANTS



**KAFI D. BLUMENFIELD** is the Executive Director of Discovery Cube – LA, a 70,000 square foot museum campus offering interactive, hands-on exhibits and educational programs that focus on science, technology, engineering and math proficiency (STEM), environmental stewardship, early learning and healthy living. Between 2007 and 2013, she served as the President and CEO of Liberty Hill, a \$6 million public foundation where she strengthened the foundation's investment in community advocates by launching innovative philanthropic and training programs. Ms. Blumenfield has worked on an array of issues related to social determinants of health and the environment. She has served as Deputy Director of Neighbor to Neighbor, Director of Programs for the Fair Housing Council of San Gabriel Valley, and as an Urban Air Advocate for the Natural Resources Defense Council. Ms. Blumenfield serves on the boards of Tides Foundation, ARC, and Planned Parenthood Advocacy Project in Los Angeles. She is a member of the advisory board of the Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation and of the Draper Center for Community Partnerships. Ms. Blumenfield is a member of the selection committee for the James Irvine Foundation

Leadership Awards. Her leadership has been recognized by organizations such as the National Women's Political Caucus LA Westside, National Council of Negro Women, and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. She holds a law degree from UCLA and a B.A. from Pomona College. She and her husband live in Woodland Hills with their two children. Ms. Blumenfield was appointed to the California Commission on the Status of Women by Assembly Speaker John Perez in August 2011.



**BETSY BUTLER** has been fighting for equality and justice throughout her career. Before joining the California Women's Law Center, Ms. Butler served in the California State Assembly, representing the 53rd Assembly District, which covered coastal Los Angeles. During her tenure in the legislature, she prioritized bills addressing the needs of veterans, older Americans, working families, the environment and consumer rights. Committed to those who have served our country, Ms. Butler was honored to be named the 2011 Legislator of the Year by the Vietnam Veterans of American and the 2012 Legislator of the Year by the American Veterans (AMVETS). A committed advocate for fairness and equal rights, Ms. Butler has worked for the California League of Conservation Voters, the Environmental Defense Fund and the Consumer Attorneys of California. She began her career in public service with Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy and was an appointee of President Bill Clinton in the International Trade Administration at the U.S. Department of Commerce in Washington, DC. Ms. Butler is an appointed member of the California Commission on Aging and is also an appointed member of the Los Angeles County Probation Commission. She presently serves on the board of the Planned Parenthood Advocacy

Project Los Angeles, Equality California, the Redondo Beach Veterans Memorial Task Force, the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles and she is an Advisory Board member of the Soldier's Project as well as Peace Over Violence, a domestic violence education and support organization. Ms. Butler graduated from San Diego State University and from the Executive Program in Management at UCLA.



**LAPHONZA BUTLER** is the Provisional President of SEIU Local 2015 – the newly formed statewide long term care union that has united the voices of 283,000 SEIU nursing home and home care providers throughout California. SEIU Local 2015 is the largest SEIU Local in California and the largest long term care local in the country. Prior to leading SEIU Local 2015, Ms. Butler served as President of SEIU United Long Term Care Workers (ULTCW), a local that successfully improved the lives of its 180,000 long term care workers and those they care for by placing over 150,000 workers on a pathway to earning \$15 an hour, protecting funding for long term care programs, and passing legislation that restored vital hours of care to seniors and people with disabilities and brought dignity to the work of caregivers. Ms. Butler also served as SEIU's Property Services Division Director where she led the strategic direction of the more than 250,000 janitors, security officers, window cleaners, and food service workers across the country. She was also instrumental in reaching collective bargaining agreements on behalf of 20,000 security officers in nine major cities across the United States and played a key role in the uniting of 25,000

foodservice workers in a virtually non-union industry. Ms. Butler also currently serves as an SEIU International Vice President, President of SEIU California State Council, and co-convenor of Raise the Wage. She's also served as a Director for the Board of Governors of the Los Angeles branch of the Federal Reserve System and was appointed by Senator Harry Reid to President Obama's Long Term Care Commission. A proud native of the south, Butler is a graduate of Jackson State University, in Jackson, Mississippi.

# PARTICIPANTS



**GRACE CHENG BRAUN**, MSPH, joined WISE Senior Services in July 2005 as the organization's president and CEO. In November 2007, the then 35-year old organization merged with Center for Healthy Aging to become WISE & Healthy Aging. The Santa Monica-based nonprofit organization administers the City & County of Los Angeles Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program and Elder Abuse Prevention Services. They also offer adult day care, care management, mental health services, peer counseling, benefits enrollment, congregate meals, transportation, evidence-based programs and senior recreational programming. Ms. Cheng Braun holds a master's degree in health planning and policy from UCLA and a bachelor's degree in psychology from UC Riverside. Prior to joining WISE Senior Services, she was vice president for Marketing and Public Relations at Cedars-Sinai Health System. She has also served as Associate Director of Business and Organizational Development at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica. She also teaches graduate-level courses in the International Public Policy and Management Program at USC.



**KEVIN de LEÓN** serves as President pro Tempore of the California State Senate. He is the first Latino elected to the position in more than 130 years. Senator De León is focused on building a more prosperous, equitable, and sustainable economy for the Golden State. He is working to make college more accessible and affordable, combat climate change while building a clean-energy economy, improve retirement security for low-income workers, and support California's growing diverse communities. Last year, Senator De León authored SB 350, which gives the state the most ambitious renewable energy goals in the nation. In 2012, he passed SB 1234, a first-of-its-kind retirement-savings program for low-income workers and SB 535, which requires a quarter of all cap-and-trade revenue be spent in disadvantage communities. He also co-chaired the campaign for Proposition 39, which closed a corporate-tax loophole and steered billions of dollars to improve energy efficiency in California's public schools. Senator De León was instrumental in negotiating the new film and television tax credit program that is now bringing film-production jobs back to California. He also has an extensive legislative record on public safety and expanding rights for women, workers, and immigrants.



**CATHERINE J. DODD**, PhD, RN, is the Director of the San Francisco Health Service System and is responsible for negotiating and administering health benefits for over 116,000 covered lives. In this position since 2009, she actively participated in the implementation of two Accountable Care Organizations within the Blue Shield HMO to establish patient centered medical homes and reduce costs. In 2014, she launched a Well Being program for the 34,000 employees of the City and County in an effort to establish a culture of health and reduce long term health costs and a data analytics program. Prior to this, she was the Deputy Chief of Staff to Mayor Gavin Newsom focusing on Health and Human Services. Ms. Dodd held numerous offices within the local, state and national affiliates of the American Nurses Association and worked as the Director of Government Affairs as the full-time policy expert and lobbyist for the California affiliate of the American Nurses Association. Ms. Dodd served as District Chief of Staff to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D) from 2001 to 2006 and prior to that she served as Region IX Director of Health and Human Services as an appointee of President Clinton under Secretary Donna Shalala. Ms. Dodd is currently the Chair of the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare on the board of Commonweal. She holds a bachelors and masters degree from UCSF School of Nursing and completed a PhD in Sociology 2007.



**PAUL DOWNEY** is the Chair of California Commission on Aging. For over 20 years, Mr. Downey has served as president and CEO of Serving Seniors in San Diego, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping seniors in poverty live healthy and fulfilling lives. Mr. Downey also works with senior advocacy experts on a national level as immediate past president of the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP), where he advocated for reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, which has made it possible to provide a range of home and community-based services. Under Mr. Downey's leadership, Serving Seniors has developed innovative approaches to supportive services focused on keeping low-income seniors healthy and independent. In addition to opening a 200-unit, low-income, senior housing complex called Potiker Family Senior Residence in downtown San Diego and a 150-unit affordable housing complex for seniors in City Heights, Mr. Downey has overseen the agency's wrap-around wellness services, nutrition program, public relations and advocacy efforts. Mr. Downey participated in President Barack Obama's White House Conference on Aging in July 2015. He represents both the City and County of San Diego on aging issues. Mr. Downey holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from San Diego State University and completed a certificate program in Strategic Perspectives in Non-Profit Management from Harvard Business School.



**SANDI FITZPATRICK** has 37 years of experience in the administration, development and evaluation of senior and volunteer services with an expertise in rural service delivery. She is a respected statewide advocate for older adults. Since 2004, Ms. Fitzpatrick has been the Executive Director of the California Commission on Aging, an independent state entity that serves as the principal advocate for 7+ million older Californians. The 25 member Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the Governor, State Legislature and California Department of Aging. Her work at the Commission has included advancing the cause of elder justice, taking a lead role in helping the state understand the implications of Medi-Cal Managed Care expansion to rural counties, and promoting community based services transformation through a multiyear senior center initiative. Under her direction CCoA has successfully secured policy bills related to senior housing, older adult mental health, culturally appropriate services and for increased funding for the long-term care ombudsman and adult protective services. Fitzpatrick worked with the Governor's office to coordinate California's White House Conference on Aging delegation in 2005. She is a member of AARP's Livable Communities Advisory Team, an ex officio Board member of the California Foundation on Aging and recently was appointed by the Assembly Speaker to the California Task Force on Family Caregiving. In 2014 she was selected "Advocate of the Year" by the Congress of California Seniors.



**CHRIS HOENE** became the Executive Director of the California Budget & Policy Center in October 2012, bringing to the organization 15 years of leadership in in state and local policy research and analysis. He leads the strategic direction of the organization, acts as primary spokesperson, and works with the Board of Directors and community partners to implement the Budget Center's vision and mission. Prior to joining the Budget Center, Mr. Hoene was director of the Center for Research and Innovation at the National League of Cities in Washington, D.C., leading efforts to analyze trends in local and state government and promote constructive policy action on issues including public finance, economic development, housing, poverty reduction, infrastructure, and governance. Mr. Hoene also previously worked for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington, D.C. and the Public Policy Institute of California in San Francisco. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Claremont Graduate University and a B.A. in Political Science of the College of Idaho. In 2011, in recognition of his service to the state and local community, Mr. Hoene was elected as a Fellow into the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA).

# PARTICIPANTS



**SURINA KHAN** is CEO of the Women's Foundation of California. For more than two decades, Ms. Khan has been a leader in the philanthropic and non-profit social justice sector starting with local community-based publishing in New England and then shifting to national and global work on an array of social justice issues including women's rights, LGBT rights, human rights and more. Before being appointed CEO in 2014, Ms. Khan served as a Director in the Democracy Rights and Justice Program at the Ford Foundation where she shaped more than \$30 million in annual grant making around the world to expand rights for women, LGBT people, people living with HIV/AIDS, and in the area of strengthening democratic participation and governance.



**NANCY KIRSHNER-RODRIGUEZ** is the Executive Director of the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. The 17 member Commission (CCSWG) was established in 1965 and is focused on identifying and eliminating inequities in laws, practices and conditions that affect California's now more than 19 million women and girls. For more than 25 years Ms. Kirshner-Rodriguez has served in senior federal, state and local government positions including almost eight years in the Clinton Administration at the US Department of Labor and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Washington. She has also previously served as Director of Government Relations for the City and County of San Francisco. Ms. Kirshner-Rodriguez served for 5 years as a Commissioner for the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women where she worked to create the Cities for CEDAW Campaign and

championed local initiatives to reduce domestic violence and human trafficking; improve gender equality and advance girls' services. She serves as the Board Treasurer of Emerge America and on the Jewish Community Relations Council. Ms. Kirshner-Rodriguez graduated from Mount Holyoke College and received the Alumnae Medal of Honor in 2005 for her years of service to the college.



**JACKIE LACEY** was sworn in on December 3, 2012 as the 42nd District Attorney. Ms. Lacey oversees roughly 1,000 lawyers, nearly 300 investigators and 800 support staff employees. She is the first woman and first African American to serve as Los Angeles County District Attorney since the office was created in 1850. A graduate of the University of Southern California Law School, Ms. Lacey joined the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation in 1986 as a deputy district attorney, where she prosecuted hundreds of serious criminal cases. Ms. Lacey won national attention for her successful prosecution of the county's first race-based hate crime murder and was recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice for prosecuting this case and for participating on the Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee. In 2000, Ms. Lacey took on management and executive roles in the District Attorney's Office by reviewing nearly every major case the office prosecuted, serving on the office's special circumstance committee that reviews death penalty eligible cases and making high-level policy decisions affecting the pursuit of justice and the management of the office. She also considered federal, state, and local legislation to determine the impact on the

county's criminal justice system. Ms. Lacey has overseen the development of several groundbreaking crime-fighting initiatives within the office, including the nation's first Animal Cruelty Prosecution Program, the Graffiti Prosecution Program, and the Project Safe Neighborhoods Gun Prosecution Program. She was key in the creation of alternative sentencing courts to deal with specific nonviolent offenders. These include the Los Angeles County Veterans Court, the Los Angeles County Women's Reentry Court, and the Los Angeles County Co-Occurring Disorders Court.



**DENISE LIKAR** is the Vice President for Independence at Home (IAH), a SCAN community service, where she has responsibility for all non-health plan home and community-based programs. Ms. Likar joined IAH in 2002 as an MSSP Care Planner. She has also held the positions of MSSP Supervisor and MSSP Site Director/Director of Programs. Over her 14-year tenure with IAH, Ms. Likar has led her management team and staff in providing quality care management and supportive services during challenging legislative and fiscal times. Current programs under her leadership include the largest Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) in California, Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) (Title III E), LA County's Linkages Program, Supportive Services Program (SSP) (Title III B), California Community Transitions (CCT) as well as Innerlinks Advantage (mental health), Health & Wellness, Volunteer Action for Aging and Community Giving. Ms. Likar spent four years as the President of the MSSP Site Association, where she provided leadership and coordination of legislative and policy efforts. Prior to IAH, Ms. Likar worked in substance abuse treatment as Deputy Director of Outpatient Services and Supervisor of Case Management for Prototypes Women's Center, Staff Development Specialist for McKesson Water Products and Director of Social

Services for Driftwood Health Care Center. Ms. Likar received her Masters in Social Work from the University of Southern California and her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Loyola Marymount University.



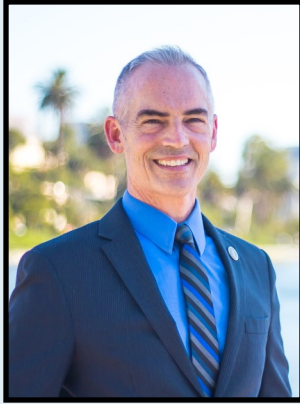
**KAREN LINCOLN** is an Associate Professor in the USC School of Social Work, Director of the USC Hartford Center of Excellence in Geriatric Social Work, Associate Director at the USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging and Founder and Chair of Advocates for African American Elders at the University of Southern California. Dr. Lincoln has published over 50 articles and book chapters in the areas of stress, aging and mental health disparities. She has been published in *The New York Times* and has contributed to articles published in *The Washington Post*, *US News & World Report*, *Los Angeles Magazine*, *Los Angeles Daily News*, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and is a regular contributor to *The Wall Street Journal*. Dr. Lincoln has received more than \$2 million in grant funding to support her research which focuses on improving clinical and community-based treatment of African Americans with mental health disorders and chronic health conditions. She also contributes to a blog where she fuses social commentary with her vast knowledge of health and mental health of African American communities; posing questions such as "Is Being Black Bad for Your Health?," disseminating information about how the Affordable Care Act will impact African Americans, and sharing her inspiration for a "Healthy Black America." Dr. Lincoln is a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America, a Hartford Faculty Scholar, and a member of the California Task Force for Family

Caregiving. Dr. Lincoln is an honors graduate of UC Berkeley and the University of Michigan where she earned a MSW, a M.A. in Sociology and a Ph.D. in Social Work and Sociology.



**LISA NERENBERG** MSW, MPH is the Executive Director of the California Elder Justice Coalition, which was formed in 2009 to provide a voice from the field in elder justice public policy development. She is an instructor of gerontology, elder abuse, and ageism at City College of San Francisco and consultant to local, state and national organizations. Her clients have included the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, the National Indian Council on Aging, the San Francisco Superior Court, the National Adult Protective Services Association, the Police Executive Research Forum, and the California Medical Training Center. She was the founding director of the San Francisco Consortium for Elder Abuse Prevention, which piloted the nation's first elder abuse multidisciplinary team and other widely-replicated services. She has presented at hundreds of professional forums, testified before Congressional committees, served on governmental advisory committees, and written extensively about elder abuse and related issues. Her book, *Elder Abuse Prevention: Emerging Trends and Promising Strategies* (Springer, 2008) describes what agencies, communities, tribes, states, and national organizations can do to prevent abuse, treat its effects, and ensure justice.

# PARTICIPANTS



**MITCH O'FARRELL** has served the constituents of the 13th Council District for more than a decade. Mr. O'Farrell is passionate about making our neighborhoods even safer and improving quality of life in Atwater Village, East Hollywood, Echo Park, Elysian Valley, Glassell Park, Historic Filipinotown, Hollywood, Mid-Wilshire/Koreatown, and Silver Lake. Prior to his election in May of 2013, Mr. O'Farrell served the district under the leadership of then Council President Eric Garcetti. Mr. O'Farrell's experience as field deputy, district director, and senior advisor provide him with a strong background in working with the government on every level. Mr. O'Farrell is focused on improving quality of life, creating opportunities for more affordable housing, reforming City policy to help drive the local economy, and collaborating with the entertainment industry to find creative solutions to bring more jobs back to Hollywood. Mr. O'Farrell lives with his partner, George Brauckman, in Glassell Park, and is the first openly gay person to be elected to the 13th Council District seat.



**D. IMELDA PADILLA-FRAUSTO**, MPH, is a researcher at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, and is pursuing her doctorate in the Department of Community Health Sciences of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. Through her work with the Center, she previously managed the California Health Interview Survey Use and Impact Study, examining how health data influences policy and practice. Ms. Padilla-Frausto collaborated on development, publication and advocacy of the California Elder Economic Security Index and has conducted research into economic security for older adults as well as health access and outcomes for Latino immigrants. Prior to joining the Center, Ms. Padilla-Frausto was a research assistant at the University of New Mexico in Family and Community Medicine and Center on Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions, where she supervised and trained promotoras (lay health-workers) to provide mental health services. Ms. Padilla-Frausto holds a BS in Psychology from the University of New Mexico and an MPH from the Department of Community and Health Sciences of the

UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. Her personal research interests include mental health outcomes among Latinos, re-conceptualizing acculturation among Latino populations, and domestic violence prevention for women and children.



**ANNE PRICE** has spent over 20 years working in the public sector on issues including child welfare, hunger, welfare reform, workforce development, community development, and higher education. Since 2011, Ms. Price has led the Closing the Racial Wealth Gap initiative at the Insight Center, elevating the voices and opinions of experts of color in national economic debates and policy making. Prior to joining the Insight Center, Ms. Price was the Project Director for California Tomorrow's Community College Access and Equity Initiative, where she worked to introduce community college equity issues into a wide range of existing state, system, and campus-level conversations to garner increasing support for equity based reforms aimed at improving success for marginalized students. Ms. Price has worked as a Senior Associate at the Philadelphia Workforce Investment Board and at Seattle's Human Services Department, where she served as the Community Development Block Grant Administrator and Strategic Advisor to the Director

and was responsible for the overall grant administration and day-to-day operations of the City of Seattle's highly visible and politically charged \$16 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and \$19 million in federal loans. During her tenure, she designed and implemented the first results-based request for proposal process for the \$1.4 million HUD funded Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grant. Ms. Price holds a BA in Economics from Hampton University and a Master's Degree in Urban Affairs and Public Policy from the Milano School of Management and Urban Policy in New York City.



**KEVIN PRINDIVILLE** is Justice in Aging’s Executive Director. He is a nationally recognized expert on Medicare and Medicaid policy and has served as counsel in several class action lawsuits protecting low-income senior’s access to public benefits. Mr. Prindiville has a long history of developing partnerships and directing strategic advocacy efforts. The author of numerous articles, reports and briefs, he frequently testifies before legislators, presents at national conferences and works closely with both federal and state regulatory agencies. He also is quoted often in national and California media. Prior to joining Justice in Aging, Mr. Prindiville worked as a staff attorney at the Pennsylvania Health Law Project in Philadelphia where he represented low-income individuals having trouble obtaining health care. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School and the University of California, San Diego. Mr. Prindiville is admitted to the California Bar.



**USHA RANJI** is Associate Director for Women’s Health Policy at the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. Her work addresses the impact of major health policy issues on women and girls, with an emphasis on insurance coverage, access to care, and low-income populations. In particular, her work aims to understand how federal, state, and local public policies, in particular the Affordable Care Act, state Medicaid decisions, and reproductive health laws, influence health and access to services for women. Prior to joining the Kaiser Family Foundation, Ms. Ranji worked in Chicago at Health and Medicine Policy Research Group, where her work focused on analyzing the consequences of the welfare program on access to health care for low-income families in Illinois. Ms. Ranji is a member of the Executive Committee of the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative and has previously served on the boards of Health Initiatives for Youth and the Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health. Ms. Ranji received a Masters degree in Health Policy and Management from the School of Public Health at Harvard University.



**HILDA L. SOLIS** was sworn in as Los Angeles County Supervisor for the First District of Los Angeles County on December 1, 2014. Prior to becoming Supervisor she served as Secretary of Labor. Supervisor Solis was confirmed on February 24, 2009, becoming the first Latina to serve in the United States Cabinet. Before that, Supervisor Solis represented the 32nd Congressional District in California, a position she held from 2001 to 2009. In the Congress, Supervisor Solis’ priorities included expanding access to affordable health care, protecting the environment, and improving the lives of working families. A recognized leader on clean energy jobs, she authored the Green Jobs Act which provided funding for “green” collar job training for veterans, displaced workers, at risk youth, and individuals in families under 200 percent of the federal poverty line. In 2007, Supervisor Solis was appointed to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (the Helsinki Commission), as well as the Mexico — United States Interparliamentary Group. In June 2007, Solis was elected Vice Chair of the Helsinki Commission’s General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions. She was the only U.S. elected official to serve on this Committee. A nationally recognized leader on the environment, Supervisor Solis became the first woman to receive the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award in 2000 for her pioneering work on environmental justice issues. Her California environmental justice legislation, enacted in 1999, was the first of its kind in the nation to become law. Supervisor Solis graduated from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of Southern California. A former federal employee, she worked in the Carter White House Office of Hispanic Affairs and was later appointed as a management analyst with the Office of Management and Budget in the Civil Rights Division.



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