

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD (SSAB)**

**Held In Person
North Central Live Well Center
5055 Ruffin Road, 2nd Floor Conference Room, San Diego CA 92123
Phone (619) 338-2932 * * Fax (619) 338-2972**

Public Video Viewing/Comment Option:
<https://zoom.us/j/93425003644>

**SSAB Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2023**

Members Present

Vino Pajanor
Jan Spencley
Robin Maxson
Daniela Murphy
Phil Thalheimer
Buck Martin

Members Absent

Rachel Morineau
Keara O'Laughlin
Greg Anglea

Staff Present

Rick Wanne, Director, Self-Sufficiency Services
Alberto Banuelos, HHSA
Assmaa Elayyat, HHSA
Allison Boyer, HHSA
Jeannie Hufford, HHSA
Albert Garcia, HHSA
Darlene Beltran, HHSA
Janelle Jones-Phillips, HHSA
Karina Gallardo, HHSA
Patty Baker, HHSA
Ismael Lopez, HHSA
Christopher Kaeg, HHSA

Guests

Lindsey Wade, HASDIC
Stephanie Phann, HASDIC
Jack Dailey, Legal Aid Society of San Diego
Mauricio Medina, San Diego Hunger Coalition
Cierra Gant, SEIU
Alexondria Harris, HHSA Staff
Gerrell Howard, HHSA Staff
Samantha Brown
Cheri Dawson
Sabrina Lugo

1. Meeting called to order at 9:35 by Chair, Vino Pajanor.
2. The August 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes were approved, with all Board Members present voting yes.
3. Public Comments:
 - No public comment
4. **Information Item:** Overview of Serving Seniors San Diego: Paul Downey, President and CEO, Serving Seniors. Mr. Downey presented an overview of Serving Seniors, including statistics and the demographics they serve. He shared the services they provide, including meals, case management, activities/civic engagement, affordable housing, and homelessness services.

5. **Information Item:** Review Legislative Advocacy Bills that Support SSAB Strategic Priorities: Assmaa Elayyat, Deputy Director, Self-Sufficiency Services, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA). Ms. Elayyat shared a letter from Chairwoman Nora Vargas regarding the Farm Bill and SNAP as well as some additional information if the Farm Bill expires.

A public comment was made by Mauricio Medina, Public Affairs Manager of San Diego Hunger Coalition, sharing that in regards to a question from an SSAB Board Member about outreach activities in rural areas, the Hunger Coalition has released its Federal Policy priorities tracking all of the marker bills that hopefully have enough support and the provisions of those marker bills will be rolled up into the big legislative vehicle that is the Farm Bill, including the Food Deserts Act (HR 1230). He also thanked Assmaa and team for tracking the State legislative process and for all the advocacy as the legislative session in Sacramento wraps up.

6. **Information Item:** Update on PHE Lift for Public Assistance Programs, Waivers, Enrollment, Service Delivery, Data: Assmaa Elayyat, Deputy Director, Self-Sufficiency Services, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA). Ms. Elayyat shared updates on program flexibilities and PHE unwinding waivers for CalFresh and Medi-Cal programs only, with no update on the CalWORKs program. She shared an update on the continuation of the Medi-Cal renewal processing that started back in April 2023, including partnering with health plans and outreach efforts to determine and extend eligibility.

ADJOURNMENT/SET NEXT MEETING:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m. Next regular meeting will be held on October 11, 2023.