



## NEWS RELEASE

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### Hey, Governor! Don't Terminate Senior Funding!

*More than 2,000 Seniors at 22 L.A. County Locations Expected at Massive "Senior Stand-In" Friday to Protest Governor's Proposed Budget Cuts*

**SANTA MONICA (June 12, 2009)** - More than 2,000 seniors at 22 locations from Palmdale to South Bay and from Santa Monica to Claremont will be staging a massive 10-minute "Senior Stand-In" at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, June 12.

The show of solidarity is in peaceful protest of Governor Schwarzenegger's proposed \$14 million budget cut, which would completely eliminate funding statewide for vital programs that primarily or exclusively serve older adults.

In Los County, alone, this would impact thousands of seniors and caregivers. There are an estimated 882,000 seniors age 60 and above living in Los Angeles County.

The proposed budget cut comes on the heels of the Governor's eliminating last Fall the State's \$6 million budget for the long-term care Ombudsman program, which provides advocacy services for residents of long-term care facilities.

The proposed additional cuts on the "chopping block" would eliminate funding for such critical services as food distribution, Alzheimer's care, care management, support to working families with caregiver obligations, adult day health care, the Senior Companion program, and more.

"Eliminating aging programs will only shift millions of dollars in expenditures, as many older persons become inappropriately placed in nursing homes," said Grace Cheng Braun, president and CEO of WISE & Healthy Aging in Santa Monica, and one of the Senior Stand-In organizers.

"We strongly believe that as the demographics of California begin to shift to an aging society, that it is crucial that we commit the necessary resources to helping frail older persons remain in the community and live with dignity and independence."

To attend and cover a "Senior Stand-In" at one of the 22 locations, please contact directly the individual listed for that site. Seniors will be available for interviews at each site.

Experts on senior services from several Los Angeles organizations and agencies are also available for interviews. Their contact information is below.



- El Monte Senior Center, 3120 N. Tyler Ave., El Monte, CA 91731; Contact: Marian Last, LMFT, CPC, (626) 580-2210; mlast@ci.el-monte.ca.us
- Gay & Lesbian Elder Housing at Triangle Square in Hollywood, 1602 N. Ivar Ave., Hollywood, CA 90028; Contact: Rafael Cosio or Mark Supper, (323) 957-7200; rcosio@gleh.org
- Hawthorne Senior Center, 3901 El Segundo Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250; Contact: Sikizi Allen, (323) 945-6936; sallen@cityofinglewood.org
- Human Services Association, Adult Day Care Resource Center, 6800 Florence Ave., Bell Gardens, CA 90201; Contact: Terry Terriquez, (562) 806-5400, ext 154; terry.terriquez@hsala.org
- Inglewood Senior Center, 330 Centinela Ave., Inglewood, CA 90302; Contact: Sikizi Allen, (323) 945-6936; sallen@cityofinglewood.org
- International Institute of Los Angeles Multipurpose Center, 435 South Boyle Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90033; Contact: Vicky Gutierrez; (323) 264-6210; vgutierrez@iilosangeles.org
- Jewish Family Services (JFS)/Partners Adult Day Health Care Center; 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90046; Contact: Vivian Sauer, LCSW, (323) 841-9004; vsauer@jfsla.or
- Lancaster Senior Nutrition Center, 777 W. Jackman St., Lancaster, CA 93534; Contact: Margo Monroy, (661) 942-6244; margo@avcoa101.org
- Larkin Park, Community Senior Services in Claremont, 660 N. Mountain Ave., Claremont, CA 91711; Contact: Floy Biggs, (909) 621-9900 ext. 229; cssfloy@linkline.com
- Ladera Park Senior Center, 4750 62nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90056; Contact: Sikizi Allen, (323) 945-6936; sallen@cityofinglewood.org
- Lennox Park Senior Center, 10828 Condon Ave., Lennox, CA 90304; Contact: Sikizi Allen, (323) 945-6936; sallen@cityofinglewood.org
- ONEgeneration, 17400 Victory Blvd., Van Nuys, CA 91406; Contact: Larry Lisonbee, (818) 705-2345; llisonbee@oneneration.org
- OPICA Adult Day Care & Caregiver Support Center, 11759 Missouri Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025 (West LA); Contact: Mary Michlovich, (310) 478-0226; mary@opica.org
- Palmdale Senior Nutrition Center, 1002 E. Ave Q-12, Palmdale, CA 93550; Contact: Margo Monroy, (661) 947-3223; margo@avcoa101.org
- Robert M. Wilkinson Multipurpose Senior Center, 8956 Vanalden Ave., Northridge, CA 91324; Contact: Linda Chan, (818) 756-7741; Wilkinson.SeniorCenter@lacity.org
- St. Barnabas Senior Services, 675 S. Carondolet St., Los Angeles, CA 90057; Contact: Rigo Saborio (for Spanish-speaking media), (626) 733-3475; rsaborio@sbssla.org or Gordon Gibb (English-speaking media), (213) 388-4444; ggibb@sbssla.org
- (Korean-speaking media opportunities also), Theresa Lindsay Multipurpose Senior Center, 429 E. 42nd Place, Los Angeles, CA 90011; Contact: Phyllis Willis, MSW, (323) 923-2761; pew7777@aol.com
- Watts Labor Community Action Committee, 10950 South Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA. 90059; Contact: Phyllis Willis, MSW, (323) 923-2761; pew7777@aol.com

*WISE & Healthy Aging, a social services organization, enhances the independence, dignity and quality of life of older adults through leadership, advocacy and innovative services. This nonprofit is the result of a November 2007 merger of WISE Senior Services and Center for Healthy Aging.*