

From: [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Wong, Linda \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Fund senior & disability rental subsidies!
Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 4:29:26 PM

Alisa Somera

Legislative Deputy Director
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102
415.554.7711 direct | 415.554.5163 fax
alisa.somera@sfgov.org

(VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS) To schedule a “virtual” meeting with me (on Microsoft Teams), please ask and I can answer your questions in real time.

Due to the current COVID-19 health emergency and the Shelter in Place Order, the Office of the Clerk of the Board is working remotely while providing complete access to the legislative process and our services.

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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 2:45 PM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors <bos-supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Cc:** Calvillo, Angela (BOS) <angela.calvillo@sfgov.org>; Mchugh, Eileen (BOS) <eileen.e.mchugh@sfgov.org>; Somera, Alisa (BOS) <alisa.somera@sfgov.org>; Ng, Wilson (BOS) <wilson.l.ng@sfgov.org>; Laxamana, Junko (BOS) <junko.laxamana@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Fund senior & disability rental subsidies!

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**From:** Tiffany Yu <[tiffany@mydiversability.com](mailto:tiffany@mydiversability.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 2:40 PM

**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <[board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org)>

**Subject:** Fund senior & disability rental subsidies!

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisors Board of Supervisors,

Dear Supervisors,

I am a resident of East Cut and I am writing to urge you to fund rental subsidies for seniors and people with disabilities in the city budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

I am part of the senior and disability communities and I see the great need for housing that we can afford. What is called “affordable” housing in the city is not affordable for those of us living on Social Security, SSI, or other extremely low incomes.

Portable rental subsidies and Senior Operating Subsidies have made it possible for hundreds of seniors and people with disabilities to stay in their homes, but thousands more see our rents rising but our incomes staying the same.

You have the chance to expand subsidies and keep us in our homes and off the streets! Please include in the upcoming budget an additional \$3 million for portable rental subsidies for seniors and people with disabilities and an additional \$3 million for Senior Operating Subsidies.

Our communities are counting on you.

Thank you!

Tiffany Yu

[tiffany@mydiversability.com](mailto:tiffany@mydiversability.com)

50 Lansing Street

San Francisco, California 94105

**From:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#)  
**Cc:** [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Laxamana, Junko \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Wong, Linda \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Restore the Promise of the Dignity Fund - \$3 million still missing  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 3:26:18 PM

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**From:** Marie Jobling <marie@sfccommunityliving.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 9:14 AM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** Restore the Promise of the Dignity Fund - \$3 million still missing

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

**The Mayor's Budget does not restore this year's \$3 million to the Dignity Fund, despite a healthy budget. We look to you to help assure that services and supports for older adults and people with disabilities are in place to meet the needs, made worse by the pandemic. See below for additional signers.**

**This fiscal year, the \$3 million contribution to the Dignity Fund at the Department of Disability and Aging was suspended - in what was a most difficult year for older adults and adults with disabilities due to the pandemic.** We could have really used these funds as service providers had to provide a higher level of services and provide them remotely keeping participants and staff safe.

**Next year will be twice as challenging as we have to begin to open in person services safely AND continue to provide remote service for those who continue to feel unsafe.** What is being called a hybrid model is really two tracks of services requiring significantly more staffing and support.

**Now that the City's finances are much better, we urge you to restore the \$3 million promised for this year as part of the 2020-2021 budget** as we struggle to serve the more than 20% of the City's residents who are older adults and adults with disabilities (most of whom are low income and living on fixed incomes.)

***See original letter with additional signers below.***

## **Restore the Promise of the Dignity Fund**

In November 2016, the citizens of San Francisco voted on Proposition I and overwhelmingly approved it, thereby establishing the [Dignity Fund](#). It guarantees funding for expansion of supportive services to assist Older Adults (60+ years old, 21% of SF's populations) and adults with disabilities (18-59 years old) age with dignity in places they call home.

Since 2017, the Dignity Fund has expanded much needed services in areas of support to older adults, adults with disabilities, including targeted services to communities of color, veterans, LGBTQ individuals, and neighborhoods that have historically been left behind. [Click here for a summary of the focused, high impact programming that the Dignity Fund made possible.](#)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City was anticipating a budget shortfall and with uncertainty about the future, **suspended the \$3 million annual contribution to the Dignity Fund**. When the legislation for the fund was being drafted, the Mayor and the City's Controller insisted on including language which dictated this type of suspension when the City was facing a significant shortfall.

However, the **City's fortunes greatly improved during the current fiscal year (FY 2020-2021)** with an expected **\$125.2 million General Fund balance** ([Controller's Office 6-month Budget Status Report](#)). Expected allocations from the state and federal government have added to funding streams and will likely continue to off-set losses. **In the end, there is no excuse to withhold the promised contributions to the Dignity Fund this year and there certainly should not be next year!**

**We need your support to restore the annual contribution of \$3 million to the Dignity Fund in the upcoming budget!** The pandemic has disproportionately affected older adults and people with disabilities, literally being trapped in their homes for a year, isolated, unable to access regular health care or transportation to medical appointments, increased food insecurity, and more, all of which has been exasperated by the digital divide. We ask that you hear our voice. Don't leave out in the cold some of their most vulnerable constituents and ensure continuity of programs and services that enable them to age with Dignity.

**Restore this year's annual \$3 million allocation to the [Department of Disability and Aging Services \(DAS\)](#), which administers the funds and ensures delivery of critical services!**

**Fiona Hinze and Marie Jobling, Dignity Fund Co-chairs**

***Addition Co-signers***

Dr. Marcy Adelman  
The Arc San Francisco  
Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach  
Duff Axsom Nonprofit Consulting  
Adele Bookman  
Amy Brokering

Bayview Hunters Point Multipurpose Senior Services Inc  
Brenda Billings  
Kathy Cady  
Amber Carroll – Covia Front Porch Partner  
Anna Chou  
Coalition of Agencies Serving the Elderly (CASE)  
Community Living Campaign  
Covia  
Curry Senior Center  
Joan Downey  
Family Caregiver Alliance  
Felton Institute  
Adrian Gaino  
Golden Gate Senior Services  
Judy Goddess, Senior Beat  
Corinne Goodrich  
Margaret Graf, Senior Power  
ML Holmstadt  
HP Uniti  
Judith Janec  
Janis Kaempfe  
Diane Lawrence, DAS Advisory Council  
LeadingAge California  
Deni Leonard  
Herb Levine  
Elinore Lurie, DAS Advisory Council  
Ashley C. McCumber  
Therese McGlone  
Meals on Wheels San Francisco  
Michelle Minolli  
Charles Minster  
Sandy Mori, retired  
National Coalition of 100 Black Women  
Karen Nemsick  
Anne-Marie Nowak  
Older Women's League, SF  
Jeannee Parker Martin, LeadingAge California  
Fabian Pascal  
Barbara Patton  
Susan Poor Consulting  
Richmond Senior Center  
Ralph Roullard  
Senior and Disability Action  
Linda Silver  
Cary Sweeney  
Swords to Plowshares  
Betty Traynor  
Katie Wade  
Noah Weaker  
Ray Xu

--

Marie Jobling

[www.sfcommunityliving.org](http://www.sfcommunityliving.org)

office 415-821-1003 ex 101

cell 415-640-8239



**From:** [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [Wong, Linda \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Fund senior & disability rental subsidies!  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 12:15:34 PM

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File

*Alisa Somera*

Legislative Deputy Director  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
415.554.7711 direct | 415.554.5163 fax  
[alisa.somera@sfgov.org](mailto:alisa.somera@sfgov.org)

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From: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 12:11 PM
To: BOS-Supervisors <bos-supervisors@sfgov.org>
Cc: Calvillo, Angela (BOS) <angela.calvillo@sfgov.org>; Mchugh, Eileen (BOS) <eileen.e.mchugh@sfgov.org>; Somera, Alisa (BOS) <alisa.somera@sfgov.org>; Ng, Wilson (BOS) <wilson.l.ng@sfgov.org>; Laxamana, Junko (BOS) <junko.laxamana@sfgov.org>
Subject: FW: Fund senior & disability rental subsidies!

From: Sage Phoenix <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:04 PM

To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>

Subject: Fund senior & disability rental subsidies!

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Supervisors Board of Supervisors,

Dear Supervisors,

I am a resident of San Francisco District ____ and I am writing to urge you to fund rental subsidies for seniors and people with disabilities in the city budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

I am part of the senior and disability communities and I see the great need for housing that we can afford. What is called “affordable” housing in the city is not affordable for those of us living on Social Security, SSI, or other extremely low incomes.

Portable rental subsidies and Senior Operating Subsidies have made it possible for hundreds of seniors and people with disabilities to stay in their homes, but thousands more see our rents rising but our incomes staying the same.

You have the chance to expand subsidies and keep us in our homes and off the streets! Please include in the upcoming budget an additional \$3 million for portable rental subsidies for seniors and people with disabilities and an additional \$3 million for Senior Operating Subsidies.

Our communities are counting on you.

Thank you!

Sage Phoenix

sagepho@gmail.com

34 Turk St apt 251

san francisco, California 94102

From: [Shavonne Wong](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Fund senior & disability rental subsidies!
Date: Friday, June 4, 2021 2:03:41 PM

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Supervisors Board of Supervisors,

Dear Supervisors,

I am a resident of San Francisco District ___6_ and I am writing to urge you to fund rental subsidies for seniors and people with disabilities in the city budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

I am part of the senior and disability communities and I see the great need for housing that we can afford. What is called “affordable” housing in the city is not affordable for those of us living on Social Security, SSI, or other extremely low incomes.

Portable rental subsidies and Senior Operating Subsidies have made it possible for hundreds of seniors and people with disabilities to stay in their homes, but thousands more see our rents rising but our incomes staying the same.

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Our communities are counting on you.

Shavonne Wong

Thank you!

Shavonne Wong

shavonnewong2@gmail.com

34 Turk St, APT 632

San Francisco, California 94102

From: [Suzanne Lee](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Fund senior & disability rental subsidies!
Date: Friday, June 4, 2021 2:09:41 PM

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Supervisors Board of Supervisors,

Dear Supervisors,

I am a resident of San Francisco District __6__ and I am writing to urge you to fund rental subsidies for seniors and people with disabilities in the city budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

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Our communities are counting on you.

Thank you!

Suzanne Lee
osussana@gmail.com
953 Mission St 10
San Francisco , California 94103-2975

From: [Peter Estes](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Fund senior & disability rental subsidies!
Date: Thursday, June 3, 2021 1:20:10 PM

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Supervisors Board of Supervisors,

Dear Supervisors,

I am a resident of San Francisco District 8 and I am writing to urge you to fund rental subsidies for seniors and people with disabilities in the city budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

I see the great need for housing that low-income seniors and people with disabilities can afford. What is called “affordable” housing in the city is not affordable for those of us living on Social Security, SSI, or other extremely low incomes.

Portable rental subsidies and Senior Operating Subsidies have made it possible for hundreds of seniors and people with disabilities to stay in their homes, but thousands more see our rents rising but our incomes staying the same.

You have the chance to expand subsidies and keep us in our homes and off the streets! Please include in the upcoming budget an additional \$3 million for portable rental subsidies for seniors and people with disabilities and an additional \$3 million for Senior Operating Subsidies.

Our communities are counting on you.

Thank you!

Peter Estes
peter@sdaction.org
109 Caselli Avenue
San Francisco, California 94114

