

## State Public Policy Update – February 2012

### **Governor's Budget Proposal Includes Further Cuts to Critical Programs & Services**

On January 5<sup>th</sup>, Governor Brown released his 2012-13 budget proposal. With the state facing another budget deficit, the Governor's budget proposes \$4 billion in cuts and \$7 billion in new revenues in order to address a budget problem of \$9.2 billion. The Governor's plan is to fill the budget gap by seeking voter approval for a temporary half-cent sales tax increase and higher taxes on the wealthy. If voters do not approve the Governor's November ballot measure, the state will impose a \$5.4 billion in automatic cuts to schools, courts and public safety.

The Governor's proposed cuts included several of concern for California families living with Alzheimer's disease, including:

- Reductions to In-Home Supportive Services: The Governor's proposal would eliminate domestic services for recipients in a shared living arrangement, meaning that tasks such as housecleaning, grocery shopping and meal preparation would no longer be covered.
  - Furthermore, the Governor's 2011 budget action to implement a 20% across-the-board reduction to IHSS hours has been blocked by the California Supreme Court.
- The complete elimination of California's Caregiver Resource Centers: The Governor has proposed the elimination of state funding - \$2.9 million – for the Caregiver Resource Centers. The State Office is working with the statewide advocate for the centers, and is in the process of building an advocacy strategy to protect this vital funding.

### **Registration Open for Advocacy Day**

Are you passionate about protecting vital programs and services for families living with Alzheimer's disease? When you hear about these budget cuts, do you feel an urge to make your voice heard?

If so, join other passionate advocates by registering for Advocacy Day 2012!

This year's event will be held at the State Capitol in Sacramento on Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. The day will feature speakers and training in the morning, followed by visits with Legislators and their staff in the afternoon.

There are two ways to register. You can register [online](#), or you can fill out this [registration form](#) and send it to the State Public Policy office at:

921 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 601  
ATTN: Alex Graves  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Register before February 16<sup>th</sup> to get the Early Bird discount of \$20.00, registration after that is \$40.00 with a registration deadline registration of March 1, 2012. We hope you will be able to join us!

### **Californians Contribute Over \$400,000 to Alzheimer's Research**

In 2011, over 32,000 Californians contributed just over \$462,000 to support Alzheimer's research through voluntary contributions made on their tax returns. Thank you to those of you who contributed, and we hope each of you will consider contributing again in 2012.