

Senior Services Coalition of Alameda County

AGING IS SOMETHING WE ALL HAVE IN COMMON

About Membership in the Senior Services Coalition of Alameda County

Membership Process

SSC members are providers of health and supportive services for seniors, as well as stakeholders who share a commitment to senior services. Members may include nonprofit organizations, for-profit corporations, city government, public agencies, public advisory bodies, elected officials, consumer groups, and individuals. Of these, all but elected officials and individuals may choose to become full members. Membership is obtained by submitting a completed membership form along with an annual dues payment. Current members will be invoiced for their annual membership renewal.

Membership Categories

Full Members - Organizations that serve seniors and people with disabilities in Alameda County may be full members with voting rights, and thus determine SSC's policy agenda and priorities. Full members are also eligible to serve on SSC's Steering Committee, which guides SSC's staff and scope of work.

Individual Members - Policy Makers or individuals who support the Coalition's mission. Individual Members do not have voting rights, but are otherwise invited to participate fully in all Coalition activities.

Membership Dues

In FY 2019-20 membership dues are as follows:

Full Members

\$2,700 per year (organizations with budgets over \$5 million)

\$1,500 per year (organizations with budgets over \$1.2 million)

\$600 per year (organizations with budgets between \$800,000 and \$1.2 million)

\$360 per year (organizations with budgets between \$500,000 and \$800,000)

\$120 per year (organizations with annual budgets under \$500,000)

Commissions on Aging (dues exempt; must submit resolution affirming membership)

Dues reduction or exemption may be requested.

Individual Member

\$50 to \$500 per year (based on ability to pay)

Guidelines for SSC Membership

Full Members

Selecting dues level - SSC's sliding scale dues structure is linked to the size of a member organization's budget (that is, annual expenditures). Revenue from dues is a cornerstone of SSC's budget and is necessary for covering our core costs and keeping staff. However, participation in the coalition is essential to SSC's success, and ability to pay dues must not be a barrier to membership. Therefore, the following options are available:

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Requesting dues reduction - Many organizations have multiple divisions that do not serve seniors, or have budgets highly constrained by restricted funding streams. We ask that members use their best judgment when selecting their dues level, weighing their ability to pay with a recognition of SSC's value to their organization and the aging services system. If you choose to select a dues level that is lower than your organization's formal budget size, simply check the box on the Membership Renewal Form that corresponds to the dues amount that you are selecting, check the box for requesting dues reduction, and send in the form and dues payment.

Requesting dues exemption - Organizations who wish to request an exemption from dues in any given fiscal year may do so by filling out the membership renewal form and emailing it to wendy@seniorservicescoalition.org.

Individual Members

Selecting dues level - Several individual member dues levels are suggested on the Membership Renewal Form. Individuals are asked to select payment level based on their ability to pay. Additional donations to SSC are always welcome.

About SSC

History

The Senior Services Coalition of Alameda County (SSC) was formed in 1996, with support from the Area Agency on Aging, to help senior service providers address policy issues together. That year, SSC built consensus and brought the collective voice of providers "to the table" where policy decisions were being made about the distribution of federal dollars in the County.

Since that time, SSC has provided a continuing forum for members to share information and innovations in service delivery and public policy. In 2002, SSC hired staff to build capacity to participate in emerging efforts to create a coordinated system. Since then, we have convened events to focus policy maker and public attention on senior issues; built relationships with local and state elected officials, and a reputation as a local resource on senior services and policy; won local investments in aging services; expanded our membership and built cooperative advocacy partnerships throughout the safety net; and we continue to respond with coordinated effort to proposed state and local budget decisions that put vulnerable seniors at risk.

Purpose

The Coalition represents nonprofit and public organizations and stakeholders who are working together to ensure that older people in Alameda County can rely on an easily accessible, coordinated network of social, medical and supportive care. Collectively, SSC members provide a broad array of health, social, and supportive services to over 79,000 older adults in the County. SSC members are committed to improving the system of care for all older adults, especially those most vulnerable due to fragile health, cognitive impairment, disability, language, culture, race or financial status.

SSC Goals:

- Strengthen the voice and influence of the aging services community in shaping policy at the state and county level.
- Increase funding for aging services and strengthen the safety net for economically insecure older adults.

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- Build collaborative bridges and support the development of partnerships to leverage social determinants and improve health and life outcomes.
- Drive systems change to improve access to health, supportive and coordinating services that help older adults meet the opportunities and challenges of aging.

Funding

In addition to membership dues and sponsorships, the Senior Services Coalition is funded through foundation grants. In FY 2019-20, SSC is supported by grants from East Bay Foundation on Aging, The SCAN Foundation and the Thomas J. Long Foundation.

Fiscal Sponsor and Leadership

SSC's fiscal sponsor is Meals On Wheels of Alameda County, a nonprofit organization that receives grant funds for SSC and oversees the activities of the SSC Director. SSC's Steering Committee oversees and guides the work of the coalition.