

June 6, 2019

Governor Gavin Newsome State Capital Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsome:

The Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance strongly urges the state to support the budget request for the "CalQualityCare.org" website. This database provides comprehensive, public, unbiased information so that informed decisions can be made regarding long term services and supports (LTSS).

Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance hears almost daily from consumers and caregivers who are looking for high quality services for themselves and their family members. Each year over 600,000 consumers receive care in a skilled nursing facility, assisted living or hospice facilities. Deciding which facility best meets a consumer's needs is a challenging task. The CalQualityCare.org website makes it easy for consumers to learn how these long term care facilities compare on the basis of location, quality ratings, staffing, and cost.

The website is unique in its comprehensiveness of LTSS and ease of use for family and individuals in need of information on long-term care providers. Using this website, the public and health care providers can obtain easily accessible, timely, reliable, and impartial information to make well-informed choices that may ultimately lead to improved health care for all Californians.

CalQualityCare.org is highly regarded by many as having the best LTSS information with the most consumer-friendly design in the US and internationally. By continuing to fund this website, California can become a leader among states in providing consumers with the most comprehensive and inclusive compilation of information about long term services and supports.

We strongly support the budget request of \$500,000 for this important resource and including the website in the Office of the Patient Advocate (OPA). The OPA is an ideal home for CalQualityCare.org since it fits with OPA's consumer focused mission to "...improve California health care quality and advocate for consumer interests by publicly reporting data for informed decision making."

Sincerely.

Jim Provenza, chair

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