2015 NASW-CA Legislative Lobby Days

Please Take Your Seat So We Can Start The Program

Open Seating
2015 Lobby Days Speaker

Rebecca Gonzales

- Director of Government Relations and Political Affairs for NASW-CA
- Former Outreach Coordinator for the California Budget Project
- Former Chief-of-Staff to former Assemblymember Antonio Villaraigosa
- Former Senior Legislative Assistant to former Majority Floor Leader Tom Hannigan
- Former Consultant with the Speaker’s Office of Majority Services under then Speaker Willie Brown
- Former Organizer at UCB for the California Public Interest Research Group (CalPIRG)
Lobby Days Objectives

- Learn about priority legislation and budget issues that affect social workers and their clients
- Meet Legislators and other important political contacts
- Network with social workers and “stand up for others” on important social policy issues
Lobby Days Issues

SB 3 (Leno)
Raise the Minimum Wage

SB 4 (Lara)
Health Care: Immigrants

SB 23 (Mitchell)
Eliminate the Maximum Family Grant
How Are Topics Determined?

- Current or Emerging Issues
- Member Submissions
- Positions Based On *Social Work Speaks*
- NASW-CA Legislative Committee
- NASW-CA Board Approval
Attendee Objective

Learn as much about the policy issues presented and how they apply to you and your clients
2015 Lobby Days Speaker

- Student Director South
- MSW, Class of 2015, CSU Long Beach
  - Older Adults and Families concentration, Mental Health Specialization
- BA, Class of 2011, UC Irvine
  - Psychology and Social Behavior with minor in Civic and Community Engagement

Christa Tipton
2015 Lobby Days Speaker

- Student Director North
- BASW, Class of 2015, CSU San Francisco
  - Emphasis in Public Policy
- President, Social Workers Advocating for Visions of Empowerment (SWAVE)
- Legislative Aide Intern, San Francisco Supervisor, John Avalos, MSW
- Focus on community engagement, social welfare policy reform and non-profit collaboration

Maria Waters
University Role Call
Christa Tipton, Student Director South
Maria Waters, Student Director North

Azusa Pacific University
CSU, Dominguez Hills
CSU, Fullerton
CSU, Long Beach
CSU, Los Angeles
CSU, San Bernardino
CSU, San Diego
La Sierra University
Los Angeles Harbor College
Loma Linda University
UCLA
USC
Whittier College

CSU Bakersfield
CSU, Chico
CSU, East Bay
CSU, Fresno
CSU, Monterey Bay
CSU, Northridge
CSU, Stanislaus
CSU, Humboldt
CSU, Sacramento
CSU, San Francisco
CSU, San Jose
UC Berkeley .......
and Professional Social Workers!
Shirley Gentilini, MSW, LCSW

President, NASW-CA

Former; Field Faculty and Instructor, Department of Social Work, California State University, Los Angeles

Worked in Department of Children and Family Services, Orange; La Casa Mental Health Facility, Norwalk; Vitas Hospice, Los Angeles; St. Joseph Hospice, Orange.

MSW since 1989, graduated from California State University, Long Beach Department of Social Work

Member of NASW since 1987
Former Assemblymember Mariko Yamada, MSW

Candidate, State Senate District 3
Former State Assemblymember, 4th District.
She has consistently fought for the protection of civil rights, the preservation of open space and agricultural land, and the inclusion of underserved communities in our educational system, economy and political process.
Her education and experience as a social worker drives her leadership on issues affecting the poor, elderly and disabled.
MSW, USC

2015 Lobby Days Speaker
2015 Lobby Days Speaker

Scott Graves, Ph.D.

- Director of Research, California Budget & Policy Center
- Former researcher, Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, Consumers Union, and the Public Policy Clinic at the University of Texas at Austin
- California Executive Fellow
- Former newspaper reporter
- Ph.D. in political science, University of Texas at Austin
- Bachelor's degree in government and journalism from CSU Sacramento
2015 Lobby Days Speaker

- Legislative Advocate, Western Center on Law and Poverty
- Former executive director of Housing California, advocated for affordable housing, homelessness, community reinvestment and adequate public benefits and services for the poor
- Former Deputy Director for External Affairs and Innovations and Acting Deputy Director for Legislation at the state Department of Housing and Community Development
- Co-authored reports by Governor Davis' Interagency Task Force on Homelessness
- J.D. UC Santa Barbara

Michael Herald, J.D.
State Budget and The Minimum Wage

National Association of Social Workers Conference
April 19, 2015
Mike Herald, WCLP
The Sad Truth

• Childhood poverty means that a child is:
  – less likely to finish high school
  -- more likely to be poor
  -- less likely to be working as a young adult
• The longer that children are poor during the early years, the worse are adult outcomes
• The younger the child, the worse are adult outcomes.
We’re Number ONE!

• California has the highest poverty rate of any state in the country. 23.6 percent under the SPM.
• One in four children in California are growing up in poverty.
• More than 1 million blind, aged and disabled Californians now live below the poverty line.
Who Said This?

• “I say we’re not going to adopt a socialist system with Leninism and all the rest of it. So, where are we going? France and Germany, they’re all in retreat. This is a challenging point. The modern economy is based on individuals, with most of the money moving towards the top. That’s the system. And we try to mitigate that. But I would say the country is moving more to the right.
But is the Governor Correct?

• Governor seems to suggest there is a limit to what can be done to reverse inequality.
• A recent report by the Office of Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) from December 2014 reports that “reducing income inequality would boost economic growth.”
• Well known radicals like the IMF, Standard and Poor’s and Morgan Stanley concur with the OECD.
• In fact if the United States had taken steps to reduce income inequality in 1990, the gross domestic product would have increased by seven percentage points.
• A key way to reduce inequality is increasing income of the bottom forty percent. In another words more investment by government not less.

We Are Making Progress

• There is more interest in reducing poverty than any time in recent memory.
• In recent years we have increased CalWORKs grant by 10% but they are still at 42% of FPL.
• We repealed laws banning CalWORKs and CalFresh to persons with drug convictions.
• We repealed the double truancy rule.
• We “banned the box” on Government job applications.
Key Investments to Support

- **Health for All** – Pass SB 4 (Lara) so that every Californian, regardless of documentation, can access affordable health coverage.
- End the **Maximum Family Grant** rule – Pass SB 23 (Mitchell) to ensure that every child born into a family who already receives CalWORKs is given the support they need to thrive.
- Lift **SSI/SSP** recipients out of poverty – Ensure that all blind, aged or disabled Californians have enough income for housing, food and health care so they can live in dignity.
- **Child care** – Expand access and eligibility requirements to child care subsidies so every California parent can pursue work and educational opportunities that will lead them to economic security and lead their children to success in school and life.
- An honorable **minimum wage** – Pass SB 3 (Leno) so every California worker earns a living that lifts them out of poverty.
Minimum Wage

SB 3 (Leno)
The Rise of Inequality

• The real value of worker earnings has collapsed as the purchasing power of the California minimum wage fell 29% between 1968 and 2014, with over a third of that decline occurring since 2008.

• A recent report from UC Berkeley showed that nationally government provided $152 Billion in subsidies to corporations due to low wages.
Share of total household wealth growth accruing to various wealth groups, 1983–2010

Get the Feeling
Something is Not Right?

According to the AFL-CIO’s *Pay Watch*:

- In 1982 CEOs were earning 42 times more than average rank-and-file employees.
- By 1992 that ratio had grown to 201 times more than the average.
- By 2012 it jumped to 354 times more than the average person.
The Implications are Far-Reaching: Boosting Incomes Among Poorest Families Increases Young Children’s Earnings as Adults

Source: Duncan and Magnuson, “The Long Reach of Early Childhood Poverty”
AB 10 – A Good First Step

• AB 10 (Alejo) was a key step in jump starting the national discussion on increasing the minimum wage.

• It increased the minimum wage to $9 an hour and will raise it again in 2016 to $10 an hour.
But More is Needed

• Under AB 10 a family of four working full time never gets above the federal poverty level.
• SB 3 (Leno) would pick up where AB 10 finished and increase the minimum wage to $13 an hour in 2017 at which point a family of four would be above the poverty level.
• This is a reasonable proposal since there is now a national movement to go to $15.
It’s Good for Government, Too.

• The California Research Bureau estimates that passing SB 3 will:
  • Increase income for low wage workers in CA by $21 billion.
  • Will increase state income taxes by $135 million or more.
  • Increase sales tax revenue by $460 million or more.
  • Reduce MediCal costs by $615 million
Opponents Arguments

• It is Too Soon – That’s what opponents argued about civil rights in the 1960’s. But McDonald’s and Walmart just increased wages.
• It will destroy businesses – So we should reduce wages so no business ever fails at the expense of people?
• This is a massive untested social experiment – So was 40 years of wage stagnation and inequality. Time to try something new
• It will slow the Recovery – That is sooo 2011. The economy is adding jobs in record numbers but wages are still flat.
• It will harm non-profits – The CA Assoc for Non-Profits supports the Bill.
BUILDING STRENGTH THROUGH ASSOCIATION

Power in Numbers
WHY JOIN NASW?

- Join the LARGEST social work organization in the world!
- Add your voice to the 145,000 national members and 10,000 members statewide advocating for the profession and advocating for change!
- Together we can accomplish more for the profession and for the communities we serve
MEMBER SERVICES

- Leadership Opportunities
- Networking
- Activities/Events
- Ethical Consultation
- Insurance
- Licensing
- Jobs and Careers
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Workshops
- Conferences
- Seminars
- CEUs
- Online CE
- State, Regional and Local Events
ADVOCACY

- Social Justice and Action
- Title Protection
- Federal, State and Local Legislation and Policy
- Fighting Deprofessionalization
- The Largest Lobby Days in the Country!
SOCIAL MEDIA ACTION PLAN
LET’S CREATE A TWITTER STORM!

#LobbyDays2015
#NoPovertyCA

#EndPovertyWith3
#Health4All
#RepealMFG

And people can either #
or @ NASWCA
NASWCA_Advocacy

• Post Lobby Days pictures and hold signs supporting our bills to our Facebook page (See link below).
• Also use Instagram and other social media outlets

https://www.facebook.com/naswca
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Only

$48.00

price valid ONLY while you are a student!

A 75% savings off the full professional price!
2015 NASW-CA Legislative Lobby Days

What you can do during the break

- Join NASW if you are not a member
- Bid at the CalPACE Silent Auction table
- Visit the Exhibitor Area
- If you do not have an appointment, you can go to the registration area to be added to the waitlist
- If you are unable to be here on Monday, please turn in your appointment information to the registration area
2015 Lobby Days Speaker

Jessica Bartholow

- Legislative Advocate at the Western Center on Law and Poverty
- Previously worked for the California Association of Food Banks
- Alameda County Community Food Bank
- Progressive Alliance for Community Empowerment (PACE)
- Education: The University of New Mexico
REPEAL MFG
SUPPORT SB 23 (MITCHELL) TO REPEAL MFG
APRIL 19, 2015

A PRESENTATION BY:
JESSICA BARTHOLOW
THE WESTERN CENTER ON LAW & POVERTY
THE MAXIMUM FAMILY GRANT RULE
WHY IT MUST BE REMOVED

Denies $128/Mo to Child Based on How & When Conceived

Increases Deep Poverty Among Children by Over 13%

Interferes in Reproductive Decisions & Privacy of Families

Undermines Poverty-Fighting Goals of CalWORKs Program

California has more children in deep poverty than any other state!
Sponsors

- Western Center on Law and Poverty (co-sponsor)
- American Civil Liberties Union of California (ACLU) (co-sponsor)
- CA Welfare Directors Association (co-sponsor)
- ACCESS Women’s Health Justice (co-sponsor)
- East Bay Community Health Justice Center (co-sponsor)
- CA Latinas for Reproductive Justice (co-sponsor)

Other Support

- ACT for Women and Girls
- Alameda County Community Food Bank
- Alliance for Community Transformations
- American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME)- California
- Asian Law Alliance
- Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council

Association of California Commissions for Women
California Black Health Network, California Association of Food Banks
California Alternative Payment Program Association
California Catholic Conference
California Community College
CalWORKs Association
California Food Policy Advocates
California Hunger Action Coalition
California Immigrant Policy Center
California Labor Federation
California NOW
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
California Partnership
California Partnership to End Domestic Violence
California Reinvestment Coalition
Californians United for a Responsible Budget
California Women’s Law Center
California WIC Association
Center for Law and Social Policy
Center on Reproductive Rights & Justice - UC Berkeley
University of California
Children Now
Child Care Law Center
Children’s Defense Fund of California
Citizens for Choice
Covenant Campaign
Coalition of CA Welfare Organizations
Raising California Together
Rights Organizations, Inc.
County of Los Angeles
Having Our Say Coalition
Health Access
Health & Human Services Network
Help A Mother Out
Housing California
Hunger Advocacy Network of San Diego County
Interface Children & Family Services
Guam Communications Network
Feminist Democrats of Sac County
Friends Cmte on Legislation of CA
Jewish Family Service of SD
John Burton Foundation
Legal Aid Society-Employment Law Center
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Laborers’ Intl Union of North America Local 777
Laborers’ Intl Union of North America Local 792
Law Students for Reproductive Justice
Lutheran Office Public Policy CA
NARAL Pro-Choice California
National Council of Jewish Women California
National Association of Social Workers – CA Chapter
National Women’s Political Caucus of California
Nevada County Business and Professional Women
Monterey County Board of Supervisors
Rainbow Services, Ltd.
Parent Voices California
Peace Over Violence

Physicians for Reproductive Health
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
Public Interest Law Project
Public Counsel
San Diego Hunger Coalition
San Francisco Living Wage Coalition
Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments (SAVE)
Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
SEIU Local 721
Strong Hearted Native Women’s Coalition, Inc.
St. Anthony’s San Francisco
Special Needs Network, Inc.
The Women's Foundation of CA
United Ways of California
Western Regional Advocacy Project (WRAP)
Women’s Health Specialists of CA
YWCA of Glendale

@HollyJMitchell @Jess_Barholow @Western_Center @NASWCA @JerryBrownGov
REPEAL MFG – ON ITS WAY
NEXT STEPS

- Passed Senate Human Services – No “No” Votes
- Will Be Heard in Senate Appropriations on April 13 – Chair Lara
- If passed, heads to Senate Floor & Needs Majority Vote
- Starts All Over in Assembly
- We are Also Asking Budget Committees to Include in #CABudget

Signature!
WILL GOVERNOR BROWN SUPPORT REPEAL MFG? -- ONLY IF WE ASK!

SB 23: This is the third year this bill has been run by Senator Holly Mitchell.

Bill Never on Gov’s Desk: This bill has never gotten to the Governor’s desk.

There is No Plan to Reduce Childhood Poverty: California is home to the most poor children in America. There is currently no plan to address this.

Governor Brown is Reproductive Rights Champion: This is the only bill supported by reproductive justice advocates & Catholics.

#RepealMFG - #TalkPoverty - #CALeg - @HollyJMitchell - @Jess_Bartholow @Western_Center - @NASWCA - @JerryBrownGov
FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

JESSICA BARTHOLOW
THE WESTERN CENTER ON LAW & POVERTY
WWW.WCLP.ORG
JBARTHOLOW@WCLP.ORG

#RepealMFG
#TalkPoverty
#CALeg
@HollyJMitchell
@Jess_Barthalow
@Western_Center
@NASWCA
@JerryBrownGov
The Maximum Family Grant (MFG) Rule: Inequalities and Inequities
Introduction of Topic

- According to the CalWORKs Maximum Family Grant (MFG) rule, cash assistance is denied to a child born into a family in which any parent or child received cash aid within the last 10 months.

- Poverty exacerbated by the MFG rule can lead to poorer health and social outcomes for children whose basic needs may go unmet without the vital financial support they would otherwise receive through Cal WORKs (Gutierrez, 2013).
**Culture of Poverty/Culture of Inequality**

Oscar Lewis and Daniel Moynihan 1960s: myths: “behaviors and attitudes.”


“Culture of Poverty” represents deeply held prejudice used to justify and explain inequality.

Truth: the richest 10% own about 80% of the country’s capital (Reich, 2014).
Violation of the Three Generational Rights

- Civil and political rights - the MFG rule seeks to control reproductive rights and perpetuate gender-based and class-based oppression.

- Economic, social, and cultural rights - the MFG rule denies women and children special protection and assistance, without discrimination, to such rights as food, shelter, decent living conditions, and the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

- Solidarity and environmental rights - poverty and the environment are related. The poor are more likely “…to live in neighborhoods that are noisier, more crowded, and not adequately maintained” (Evans & Cassells, 2014). Low-income families are also more likely to live closer to toxic waste dumps that can have a significant impact on health outcomes (Evans, 2004).
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study

- Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs): potentially traumatic events that can have negative, lasting effects on health and well-being.

- These experiences range from physical, emotional, or sexual abuse to parental divorce or the incarceration of a parent or guardian.

- “…economic hardship is the most common adverse childhood experience reported nationally and in almost all states…” (Sacks, Murphey, & Moore, 2014).
Cradle-to-prison pipeline/School-to-prison pipeline

Pervasive Poverty...is the largest driving force behind the Pipeline crisis, exacerbated by race.

- Black children are more than three times as likely as White children to be born into poverty and to be poor, and are almost four times as likely to live in extreme poverty.

- 1 in 3 Latino babies and 2 in 5 Black babies are born into poverty.

- More than 3 in 10 Latino children and 1 in 3 Black children are poor.

- Between 2000 and 2008, the number of poor Latino children increased by 1.5 million (to 5.0 million) and the number of poor Black children increased by 297,000 (to 3.9 million).
Policy Recommendations

- Repeal the Maximum Family Grant rule, a violation of reproductive privacy rights that pushes families further into poverty.

- Increase the CalWORKs benefits above deep-poverty threshold and restore the federally allowed 60 months of lifetime eligibility.

- Restore and strengthen opportunities for low-income women to receive education, training and employment services that can lead to reduced lifetime months in poverty (Western Center, 2015).
References


Janlee Wong, MSW

2015 Lobby Days Speaker

- Executive Director of the 10,000 member California Chapter, NASW, the largest NASW Chapter in the U.S.
- Serves on the Board of Directors for the California Social Work Education Center, and on the NASW Presidential Diversity Initiative
- Former San Diego County Chief Administrative Staff Officer, Public Conservator and Chief of Adult Protective Services in San Diego
- Received his MSW from San Francisco State University and a BA in Asian Studies from Claremont McKenna College

Janlee Wong, MSW
Darrell Steinberg
Founder of the Steinberg Institute, Advancing Behavioral Health Policy & Leadership
Visiting Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences and Director of Policy and Advocacy for UC Davis Behavioral Health Center of Excellence
Chair of the CA Government Law & Policy Practice, Greenberg Traurig Law Firm
Former Speaker Pro Tem of the Senate, Former Assemblymember, Former Member of the Sacramento City Council
J.D. UC Davis, B.A. UCLA

2015 Key Note Speaker

Darrell Steinberg
Lunch Explanation

If you have pre-ordered a vegetarian or vegan lunch, please place your ticket on the table for your server.
Networking Break

Please Return to Ballroom at 1:30!

Take All Your Belongings With You!
Betzabel Estudillo, MSW

2015 Lobby Days Speaker

- Health Policy Coordinator for the California Immigrant Policy Center.
- Previously worked as the Community Coordinator for the CLEAN Carwash Campaign organizing immigrant carwash workers in Los Angeles.
- Intern with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health analyzing health policies and providing best practices when working with immigrants.
- Community organizer in multiple immigrant youth groups.
- MSW from UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs and a B.A. in Political Science from UCLA.
SB 4-Health For All (Sen. Lara)
Undocumented and Uninsured

BETZABEL ESTUDILLO
HEALTH POLICY COORDINATOR
CALIFORNIA IMMIGRANT POLICY CENTER
Immigrants in the U.S.

- 11 million undocumented immigrants nationwide
  - 2.7 million are in the state of CA

- Deportation Raids
  - More than 2 million deportations under the President Obama Administration
  - Fear and mistrust in immigrant communities
Undocumented Californians and Health Access

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has expanded health coverage to millions of Californians

- Remaining Uninsured
  - UC Berkeley Labor Center study- After the full implementation of the ACA, there will be **2.7-3.4 million** Californians who will remain uninsured
  - About **1.2 million** will be undocumented Californians

- Access “Band Aid” Care-Patchwork of coverage for the undocumented.
  - Some counties offer coverage, other counties don’t offer any coverage, and some offer limited scope/duration coverage.
  - Emergency and charity care
What type of care do immigrants receive?
My name is Gilbetro Moran and I was one of the participants of the #Health4all “CARE-van”, and when it stopped in San Diego county I shared my story at the San Ysidro Adult Day Health Center. I am active in the community of Linda Vista in San Diego, and I volunteer at ACCESS Community Center (which provides adult education classes for those and helps at-risk youth and victims of domestic violence). I also organize my community and am a regular member of Holy Family Church in San Diego.

However, my immigration status has been an obstacle to receiving adequate access to healthcare during a time when it mattered most. In 2005 I began experiencing vision problems and when I visited the the optometrist I learned that an imbalance in my glucose levels was causing serious implications to my eyesight. Without regular access to a doctor, I didn't realize I was at risk of diabetes which was affecting my vision. When I went to the clinic to take further eye tests, it was confirmed that I needed to receive treatment to alleviate my eye condition, and the doctor stressed that I needed surgery. Without insurance my options were very limited. Even though the doctor had told me that if I didn’t have surgery I would go blind, the cost of doing surgery was estimated at $5700 and that would only be the beginning, since subsequent surgeries would be needed at additional costs. By this point my vision had deteriorated so much that I couldn’t walk, just see shadows.

At a point when I was considering going to Mexico to seek more affordable treatment, I came across a clinic where one of the staff was able to reach out to the Lyons Club in San Diego. The Lyons club listened to my situation and decided to pay for the cost of three surgeries in full which I desperately needed. Due to the surgery I was able to retain 50% of my vision but even today I must use a special flashlight in order to help me walk and see. I was even told that if I had the operation earlier I wouldn’t have experienced so much vision loss but this wasn’t possible because I didn’t have insurance, however it is something that may be possible to change with inclusive health legislation like SB 1005.
Immigrants and the Affordable Care Act

- **Eligibility**
  - All lawfully present immigrants are eligible for the ACA and financial assistance *(Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients are not eligible)*
  - Undocumented immigrants are not eligible to purchase coverage through our state’s exchange Covered CA or for full scope Medi-Cal

- **Barriers**
  - Mixed status families – confusion about eligibility, fear, lack of information.
  - Complexity of U.S. healthcare system
  - Undocumented people and DACA recipients were wrongfully charged a tax penalty for not having health insurance
GOT DACA NOW WHAT?
DACA & Medi-Cal

- What is DACA?
- Taking the ACA out of DACA—President Obama’s announcement to exclude DACA individuals from the Affordable Care Act (ACA)

But in California......

- Medi-Cal Expansion—Starting January 1, 2014, all low-income childless adults including qualified immigrants and PRUCOL are eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal, if they meet the income requirement.
- DACA individuals are eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal, if they meet the income requirement.

- How is this true? In CA DACA status is considered “Permanently Residing under the Color of Law” or PRUCOL
Why is Health4All important?

Though the state provides health care services through programs with limited scope or duration, and some counties provide coverage regardless of immigration status, it is still not enough.

- Health Care system works better when everyone participates
- Emergency room treatment is expensive
- Cost Savings from other Health care spending
- Healthy Parents, Thriving Families
- Undocumented immigrants are a major economic engine for California, and contribute to the state’s revenue
- Health is a Human Right
Health For All Act

- First introduced by Senator Ricardo Lara in 2014 as SB 1005
- Re-introduced in December 2014 by Senator Ricardo Lara
- The proposal will ensure that everyone in our communities has access to quality and affordable healthcare
- Coalition Building: Diverse coalition of immigrant rights groups, health and consumer advocates, labor, and many others
- Immigrant rights issue
What does the Health for All Act do?
Health for All Act will expand access to health care coverage for all Californians, regardless of immigration status.

**Full Scope Medi-Cal:** low-income immigrant families (below 138% FPL) would be able to get comprehensive medical care through our state’s Medi-Cal program.

**State Marketplace:** undocumented immigrants whose incomes are above Medi-Cal’s eligibility limit would purchase insurance through Covered California upon approval of a “1332 waiver” from the federal government.
SB 4 Legislative History

- Senate Health Committee Hearing- April 15th
  - Passed with 7 votes- All Democrats voted in favor and 2 Republicans abstained

- Appropriations Committee

- Challenges/Things to Consider
  - Cost reductions and policy proposals
  - 1332 Waiver
  - Making this a budget priority
  - Continue building momentum and community advocacy
Pres. Obama Announces Administrative Relief

- President Obama made announcement on November 20, 2014
- Expansion of DACA “DACA plus”
- Creation of a Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) Program
- Nationally, an estimated **4.1 million** people should qualify for this program
- What does this mean for California and Health for All?
  - Cuts the cost of Health for All in half since 400,000 Californians approved for deferred action could gain access to Medi-Cal
How can I support?

- NASW-CA Lobby Day - visit legislators and urge them to support SB 4
- Work with advocates
- Send a letter of support
- Join community actions, town halls, information sessions
- Share your story or the story of a consumer/client
- Share information in social media

#Health4All   #SB4
Betzabel Estudillo

California Immigrant Policy Center

Los Angeles I Oakland I Sacramento

bestudillo@caimmigrant.org
The California Legislature

- Two-year legislative sessions
  - Odd-numbered year is first year of session.
  - Bills must meet certain legislative deadlines to move forward.
Key Legislative Terms

- **SB**: Senate Bill
- **AB**: Assembly Bill
- **Amendment**: Proposal to change the text of a bill after it has been introduced.
- **Appropriation**: Amount of money made available for an expenditure by a specific entity for a specific purpose.
If Assembly and Senate pass different versions of a bill, differences must be reconciled. This can be done by

- **Concurrence**
  - One house agrees to other house’s version.
- **Conference committee**
  - Both houses must approve any compromise bill.
- **If approved by Legislature, bill goes to Governor.**
Key Web Sites for Advocacy

- Official California legislative information — http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/
  - Links to important information about legislation and legislative process.
  - Search for California bills at http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html.
  - “Subscribe” to bills you want to track.
  - Budget Bill is also available via the leginfo website.
Martha Guerrero, MSW, LCSW

- Legislative Representative for the County of Los Angeles since 2004.
- Served as Acting Government Relations Director and Analyst for Los Angeles County’s Department of Mental Health and L.A. Care Health Plan.
- Volunteer as a Planning Commissioner for the City of West Sacramento and Yolo County Local Mental Health Board Member.
- Master’s Degree in Social Work, USC

2015 Lobby Days Speaker
Kristi Lopez, MSW

Currently, Legislative Director for Assemblymember Patty Lopez where she works on human services legislation.

Worked as a Field Representative for an Assemblymember where she worked on eradicating issues faced by underserved communities.

She assisted with foster care and child care legislation, as well as, covered disabilities/special needs, arts and culture, labor and Latino issues.

B.A. in Urban Planning from California State University, Northridge and MSW from USC.

2015 Lobby Days Speaker
EFFECTIVE LOBBYING STRATEGIES

Martha Guerrero, LCSW
Legislative Rep. for Los Angeles County
and
Kristi G. Lopez, MSW
Legislative Dir. for the Office of Assemblymember Patty Lopez
Overview

- Behind the scenes lobbying prep work
- Networking
- Establish and maintaining a good rapport as a lobbyist
- Teamwork =
Information is Power

- Lobbying objectives/key message
- Be informed about your issue: Media, research, polling data
- Stakeholders: Support or oppose
- Legislative Visits: Research the legislators background/voting history/constituent issues/district composition
- Keep track of legislative actions on your issue
- Leave-behind materials: Fact sheets/personal stories, press releases
- Follow up with supplemental information—as needed
Organize Your Meetings

- Determine your meeting goals
- Schedule appointments with scheduler or consultant and call or email to cancel/confirm meeting
- Introduce yourself, and who/what you are representing, repeat this with every contact, never assume they know.
Presentation Skills

- Be informative, authentic, positive, tactful and reasonable
- Stay focused on your topic
- Exchange business cards
- Be clear and concise
- Stay focused on your topic
  - Small vs. large group
Build a Bond not a Gap

- Don’t write-off a legislator/stakeholder because of their party affiliation or differences of opinion on your issue

- Demonstrate transparency and appear confident about what you represent respectfully

- Be a pipeline of intelligence and share your knowledge and research
Network to Establish Alliances

- Build long-term alliances in preparation for that “window of opportunity” to work together
- Research and identify issues of mutual interest
- Share ideas or strategies to achieve mutual goals
Lobby as a Team

- Ask questions and listen
- Accept responsibility
- Be coachable and flexible
- Show up and pay attention
- Be yourself and energetic not emotional
- Contribute and educate others
- Always be respectful
A little professionalism goes a long way…

- Be credible, honest and trustworthy – *never threaten, lie or conceal facts* *(Support/Oppose/New/updated information)*
- Appear confident – make your case without being critical or apologetic
- Avoid confrontational responses to criticism or rejection
- Don’t be afraid to admit you don’t have an answer; *honesty* boosts your credibility and follow up with your response
Be Open and Structured

- Be prepared for a healthy debate
- If interrupted, respond to questions and respectfully return to your key points
- Keep track of time during the appt.
- Be flexible and assess the best delivery of your message to achieve a positive response
- Observe body language, verbal comments & respond appropriately
Face Adversity Intelligently

- Put a human face on the impact to their constituents and use personal stories
- Provide examples to reinforce your issue
- Reflect a positive response to differences of opinion or opposition
- Aim for consensus and team-building rather than a solo “Victory”
Seal the Deal

- Succinctly summarize key points
- Ask for favorable consideration
- “Leave-behind” material, letters, handouts or media releases that reinforces your message
- Shake hands with everyone
- Say “thank you”
Afternoon Explanation

- 15 Minutes Break, Return at 2:35pm
- All Attendees Must Leave Ballroom
- Take All Your Belongings With You!
- Attendees With Legislative Appointments Return To Seats Based on Team Meeting Map
CalPACE Silent Auction

Closes at 2:40 PM

Get your final bids in during this break!
2015 NASW-CA Lobby Days Team Tables

Entrance
Lobby Visits

Presenter: Rebecca Gonzales

Director of Government Relations and Political Affairs, NASW-CA
Goals of Lobby Days Legislative Appointments

- Provide Participants with a “real” & educational Legislative experience
- Explain why issues are important to social workers and our clients
- Influence Social Welfare Policy
Why NASW Lobby Days?

- Act with others rather than alone! POWER in Numbers!
- Mobilize existing resources and create new advocates.
- Create energy around the issue.
Before Your Appointment

- Check the room number!
- Meet OUTSIDE the Legislator’s door 15 minutes prior to appointment
- DO NOT go into the Legislator’s office until 5 minutes before your scheduled appointment time
- Be respectful of the noise level outside the Legislator’s office
During Your Appointment

- Team Leader introduces team
- Present the “leave behind” packet
- Team member introductions
- Present on Issue(s)
- “Seal the Deal” - Get Card of Staff!
- Confirm follow-up, if any
- Thank Legislator/Staff
After Your Appointment

- Debrief with team OUTSIDE Legislator’s office
- Discuss Follow-up
- Fill out “Seal the Deal Form”
- Drop “Seal the Deal Form” at NASW table in Capitol Basement Cafeteria
Important Reminders

PLEASE... DO NOT SKIP YOUR SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT!

- Double-check the room number
- Wear business professional clothing
- Turn off cell phones during legislative appointments
- Remember, you are representing NASW!
Don’t be Scared!

- The State Capitol is YOUR Building!
- You are not expected to be experts!
- Legislators want to hear your personal stories
- It is ok if you don’t know the answer to a question
- HAVE FUN!!
Transportation to the Capitol

- Shuttle to and from the Red Lion Woodlake to the Capitol (10th St. and Capitol Mall)
  - Will depart every 15 minutes from 7:30am to 3:30pm
  - Last shuttle will leave the Capitol at 3:30pm
  - Please leave 90 minutes before scheduled appointment

If you drive, parking information will at the table by the registration area.
Red Lion Woodlakke Check-out

- Check-out is at Noon!
- You may store your bags at the front desk
- Keys will no longer work after going through the Capitol security machines. Visit front desk to have them restored.
- Please remember to tip your bell person!
Lobbying Skits

- Skits will demonstrate what a good visit looks like
- Skits will show the flow of the appointments
- Skits will show what to do and what not to do
- Skits will show how to react to unforeseen encounters
- Enjoy and laugh!
2015 NASW-CA Legislative Lobby Days

Team Meetings

Please Take Your Seat
Team Meeting Agenda

- Stay at your team’s designated table
- Identify yourself
- Review your Legislator’s background
- Discuss personal experiences with lobbying issues
- Identify speakers - Strategize appointment
- Practice!!!
NASW SOCIAL ACTION RALLY

Monday, April 7, 2014
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
State Capitol South Steps (N Street Side)

Bring Posters & Signs!
Evaluations

Evaluations will be e-mailed out after the event. Please complete. We appreciate the feedback!
Thank You For Attending the 27th Annual Legislative Lobby Days!

We will see you at the Capitol Tomorrow!