

Welcome LTCFA Policy Workgroup Members



This meeting will begin and open to the public at 2:00PM PT.

Before the meeting starts:

- Please ensure that your video and audio is functioning correctly by introducing yourself to the group and asking the CDA Communications Team to confirm that they can hear you.
- If you are having technical issues, please send a chat to the "Panelists and Hosts" letting the CDA team know about your issue, and someone will assist you.



Long-Term Care Facility Access Policy Workgroup

Kick-Off Meeting
February 8, 2023

LTCFA Policy Workgroup: Purpose

Commissioned by the California Legislature, the **Long-Term Care Facility Access (LTCFA) Policy Workgroup** will develop recommendations for policies and practices regarding access and visitation to long-term care facilities (LTCFs) during states of emergency, with consideration for the impact that restricted access has on the mental health of residents, families, and friends and on the physical health and safety of residents.

Bagley-Keene Open Meeting

- CDA is committed to ensuring an open, transparent, and accessible process. All workgroup meetings will be held publicly and are subject to the Bagley-Keene Meeting Act.
- All discussions related to the charge of this workgroup will be made during public meetings or otherwise made available to the public.

LTCFA Policy Workgroup: Members

The Budget Act of 2022 identified the following groups as participants for this workgroup: “The California Department of Aging, the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, the State Department of Public Health, the State Department of Social Services, and stakeholders representing public health officials, long-term care facility operators and residents, and consumer advocates.”

CDA, in partnership with CalHHS and legislative partners, has identified approximately 40 organizations to represent these stakeholder groups and agencies.

[Bill Text - AB-178 Budget Act of 2022. \(ca.gov\)](#)

LTCFA Policy Workgroup: Public Participation



All meetings of the LTCFA Policy Workgroup will be open to the public, and members of the public will have an opportunity to provide comments at every meeting.

Meeting information, agendas, and materials from past meetings will be available on the following webpage: aging.ca.gov/Long-Term_Care_Facility_Access_Policy_Workgroup

Planned Meetings Dates

Kick-Off Meeting (Today)

February 8 | 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Workgroup Meeting 1

March 14 | 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Workgroup Meeting 2

May 30 | 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Workgroup Meeting 3

July 12 | 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Workgroup Meeting 4

August 22 | 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM

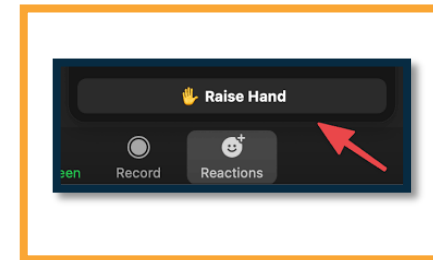
How to Participate In Today's Session

WORKGROUP MEMBERS



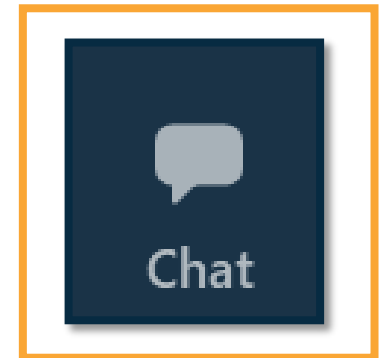
Verbal Comments

- Workgroup members may **"raise their hand"** in the "Reactions" feature of Zoom to enter the line for a verbal comment or question.
- At multiple points throughout the meeting, CDA will take comments or questions from the workgroup members in the line, and members can unmute themselves.



Written Comments

- Workgroup members may submit comments and questions throughout the meeting using the **Zoom Chat**.
- Workgroup members should send their comments to "Everyone."
- All comments will be recorded and reviewed by CDA staff.



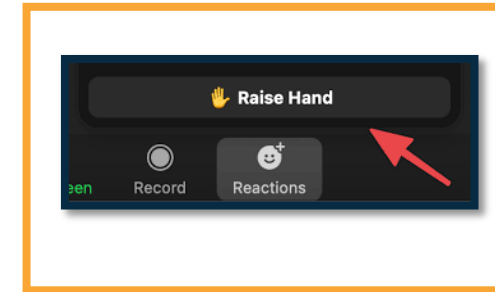
How to Participate In Today's Session

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC



Verbal Comments

- CDA will take public comments at designated times during the meeting, as indicated in the meeting agenda.
- Logistics for verbal comments:
 - Workgroup members may "**raise their hand**" in the "Reactions" feature of Zoom to enter the line for a verbal comment or question.
 - For attendees joining by phone, press *9 on your dial pad to join line.
 - When called on for comment, the moderator will announce your name or your last 4 digits of your phone number and will unmute your line.



How to Participate In Today's Session

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC



Written Comments

- Members of the public may submit comments and questions throughout the meeting using the **Q&A**.
- All comments will be recorded and reviewed by CDA staff.



Workgroup members and members of the public can also provide written comments for this work between meetings. CDA will provide details on how to provide those comments later in this meeting.

How to Participate In Today's Session

GENERAL NOTE

- CDA will take comments from workgroup members and members of the public at designated times throughout the meeting.
- Please raise your hand if you would like to speak and wait to be called on before taking yourself off mute.
- Please keep all comments respectful and brief (no more than 2 minutes).

Agenda

- 2:00 PM** Introduction and Workgroup Member Roll Call
- 2:20 PM** Welcome
- 2:30 PM** Workgroup Overview
- 2:45 PM** Workgroup Processes
- 2:55 PM** Questions and Comments from Workgroup Members
- 3:10 PM** Public Comment
- 3:25 PM** Next Steps and Closing Remarks



Workgroup Member Roll Call

Workgroup Member Roll Call (1/4)

Organization	Workgroup Member
6Beds	
The Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Advisory Committee	
Alzheimer's Association	
California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform (CANHR)	
California Assisted Living Association (CALA)	
California Association of Health Facilities (CAHF)	
California Association of Health Plans (CAHP)	
California Association of Long-Term Care Medicine (CALTCM)	
California Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies (CASRA)	
California Commission on Aging (CCoA)	

Will update with names/tiles of primary designees

Workgroup Member Roll Call (2/4)

Organization	Workgroup Member
California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO)	
California Department of Aging (CDA)	
California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet)	
California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC)	<div data-bbox="1431 515 2234 1119" style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 20px; text-align: center;"> Will update with names/titles of primary designees </div>
California Pan Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN)	
Caregiver Resource Center	
County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California (CBHDA)	
County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC)	
Department of Developmental Services (DDS)	
Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)	

Workgroup Member Roll Call (3/4)

Organization	Workgroup Member
Department of Public Health (CDPH)	
Department of Social Services (CDSS)	
Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)	
Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)	
Disability Rights California (DRC)	
Equality California	
Foundation Aiding the Elderly (FATE)	
Health Officers Association of California (HOAC)	
Justice in Aging (JIA)	

Will update with names/titles of primary designees

Workgroup Member Roll Call (4/4)

Organization	Workgroup Member
Long-Term Care Facility Residents	[3]
Long-Term Care Facility Residents' Friends, Chosen Family, Or Loved Ones	[3]
Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman (OSLTCO)	
Service Employees International Union (SEIU)	
State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)	
United Domestic Workers (UDW)	

Will update with names/tiles of primary designees



Welcome

Susan DeMarois,
California Department of Aging, Director

Introductions



Mark Beckley
Chief Deputy Director



Brandie Devall
Attorney III



Workgroup Overview

Background: COVID-19 in LTCFs

Over the course of the pandemic, residents and workers in long-term care facilities faced a unique risk for COVID-19 outbreaks and disproportionately higher mortality rates.

“The vulnerable nature of the nursing home population combined with the inherent risks of congregate living in a healthcare setting have required aggressive efforts to limit COVID-19 exposure and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within nursing homes.”

- CMS Nursing Home Visitation Guidance (Revised [9/17/20](#))

Restricting visitation during periods of high COVID-19 transmission were among the social distancing measures taken to prevent outbreaks and mortality among residents and patients of long-term care facilities.

Background: Impact of COVID-19 Visitation Policies

Health care leaders, researchers, and other experts have acknowledged that restricted visitation policies throughout the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency may have impacted the physical and mental health of residents and their loved ones.

“...We recognize that physical separation from family and other loved ones has taken a **physical and emotional toll** on residents and their loved ones. Residents may feel socially isolated, leading to increased risk for depression, anxiety, and expressions of distress. Residents living with cognitive impairment or other disabilities may find visitor restrictions and other ongoing changes related to COVID-19 confusing or upsetting.”

- CMS Nursing Home Visitation Guidance ([Revised 9/30/22](#))

This Workgroup's Task

Bringing together diverse perspectives from across the state and building on learnings from the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, the LTCFA Workgroup will develop recommendations for **access and visitation policies** for **future states of emergency**.

Scope Considerations

In developing recommendations, the LTCFA Policy Workgroup will consider a range of the following:

- Visitors
- Modalities of Visitation
- Purpose of Visitation
- Long-Term Care Facilities
- Emergencies

Scope Considerations: Visitors and Modalities

LTCFA Policy Workgroup may consider a range of visitor types and visitation modalities in its recommendations, including but not limited to:

Types of Visitors

- Friends, Family, and Chosen Family
- Health Care Workers Not Employed By Facility
- Social Services or Other Services Providers
- Spiritual Care Providers
- Ombudsman, Surveyors, Regulators, Auditors, And Similar

Modalities of Visitations



Indoor Visit



Window Visit



Outdoor Visit



Remote Visit



What other types of visitors and modalities might the workgroup consider?
Please use the chat to weigh in.

Scope Considerations: Visitation Purpose

LTCFA Policy Workgroup may consider a range of visitation purposes in its recommendations, including but not limited to:

Compassion Care Visits

Generally refers to visits for individuals whose health has declined, has experienced a significant change in circumstances, or has an acute need for support

Visits for Persons with Disabilities

Generally refers to visits from a caregiver to support the physical, mental emotional, and well-being of those with disabilities

Social Visits

Generally refers to visits to supporting mental and emotional well-being of LTCF residents

Health Care or Social Services Visits

Generally refers to visits to provide health care, social services, or care coordination

Visits for Spiritual Care

Generally refers to visits for religious or spiritual support

Visits to Provide Services

Generally refers to visits to provide services, such as barber visits



What other types of visitation purposes might the workgroup consider?
Please use the chat to weigh in.

Scope Considerations: Facilities

LTCFA Policy Workgroup may consider a range of long-term care facility types in its recommendations, including but not limited to:

Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF)	Provides <u>24-hour</u> skilled nursing care, as well as related or rehabilitative services to an individual who is chronically ill or recuperating from an illness or surgery.
Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF)	Provides comprehensive and individualized health care and rehabilitation services to promote functional status and independence among individuals with developmental disabilities.
Adult Residential Facilities (ARFs)	Provides 24-hour non-medical care and supervision to adults aged 18-59, primarily developmentally or mentally disabled.
Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE)	Provides 24-hour non-medical care and supervision to adults aged 60 years or older, who may need assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs).



What other types of long-term care facilities might the workgroup consider?
Please use the chat to weigh in.

Scope Considerations: Emergencies

LTCFA Policy Workgroup may consider a range of potential emergencies in its recommendations, including but not limited to the CDC emergency types.

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines an emergency as “any incident, whether natural or man-made, that requires responsive action to protect life or property.”
- Emergencies may impact visitation due to risk of infection or illness (such as in cases of pandemic, chemical, or radiation emergencies), due to physical barriers to access (such as in cases of fire and other natural emergencies that may require resident relocation), and other potential impacts.

According to the [CDC](#), types of emergencies include:

- Pandemics
- Natural Disasters
- Bioterrorism Emergencies
- Chemical Emergencies
- Radiation Emergencies
- Other Agents, Diseases, and Threats



What are other key ways in which emergencies might impact visitation?
Please use the chat to weigh in.

Other Considerations for Recommendations

- During the development of policy recommendations, LTCFA Policy Workgroup members will evaluate the impact of restricted access on the mental health of residents, families, and friends and on the physical health and safety of residents.
- The Workgroup may consider a few key concepts in its recommendations:

BALANCE	PARITY	REGIONALISM
Relationship between the need for public health protection vs. the physical, mental health, and advocacy needs of residents, their family, friends, and others during emergencies.	Sameness or differences of visitation requirements that a facility requires for visitors, outside professional staff, and facility staff.	Differences among all regions of California and allowing for flexibilities in policies.



What additional concepts might the workgroup consider?
Please use the chat to weigh in.



Workgroup Process

How Workgroup Will Develop Recommendations

Through consensus and collaboration, the LTCFA Policy Workgroup will build toward joint recommendations for LTCF access and visitation over 4 meetings.

Learnings from the COVID-19 PHE, Research

*Meeting 1 will focus on key **learnings** from and the lived experience of workgroup members and the public on LTCF access and visitation policies during the COVID-19 pandemic*



LTCF Visitation and Access Principles for Future Emergency

*For each of the learnings from Meeting 1, Meeting 2 will identify a set of **actionable principles** for future emergencies*



Policy & Practice Recommendations

*For each of the principles, Meetings 3 and 4 will identify **policy and practice recommendations** for future emergencies*

How Workgroup Members Can Provide Input

DURING MEETINGS



Written Comments

- Workgroup Members may submit comments and questions throughout the meeting using the Zoom Chat.
- All comments will be reviewed by CDA staff.



Verbal Comments

- At multiple points throughout the meeting, CDA will take comments or questions from workgroup members in the line.
- For time and to give all members the opportunity to speak, comments will be limited to two minutes per comment.

IN BETWEEN MEETINGS



- Members can direct any additional comments or questions between meetings to LTCFAPolicyworkgroup@aging.ca.gov.
- All comments will be reviewed by CDA staff.

How The Public Can Provide Input

DURING MEETINGS



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- All comments will be reviewed by CDA staff.



Verbal Comments

- At designated points in the meeting, CDA will take comments or questions from member of the public who are in the Zoom comments line.
- Unless otherwise specified, comments will be limited to two minutes per individual.

IN BETWEEN MEETINGS



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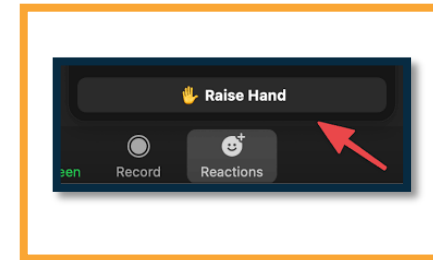
Workgroup Q&A

Workgroup Comments and Questions



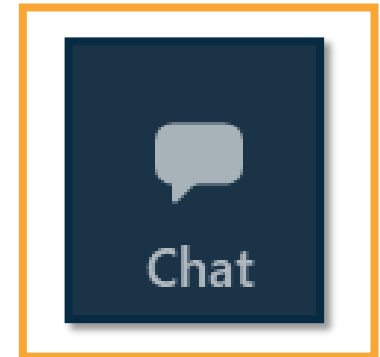
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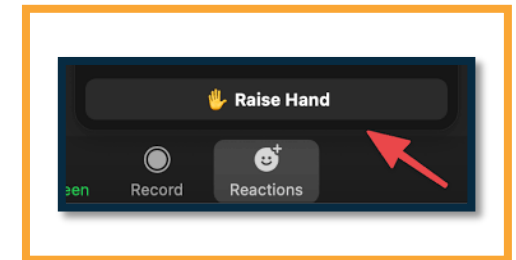




Public Comment

Public Comments

- Members of the public are asked to limit comments to two minutes.
- Prior to making your comments, please state your name for the record and identify any group or organization you represent.
- Comments will be taken in the order of the line.
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Next Steps

Next Steps After Today's Meeting

By **2/20/23**, workgroup members are asked to submit to CDA:

1. A one-paragraph bio for the Long-Term Care Facility Access Policy Workgroup website, to include:
 - Current role and relevant previous experience; and
 - Your experience with long-term care facilities access and visitation during COVID-19.
2. Any relevant research, policy guidance, and/or and position papers from your organization or others that this workgroup should consider in the development of recommendations.

Email: LTCFAPolicyWorkgroup@aging.ca.gov

Website: https://aging.ca.gov/Long-Term_Care_Facility_Access_Policy_Workgroup/

Preparing for 1st Workgroup Meeting

The first meeting of the LTCFA Policy Workgroup is scheduled for March 14 at 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM.

- CDA will circulate the agenda for this workgroup meeting to the public at least 10 days prior to March 14.
- CDA will send meeting materials to workgroup members 5 days in advance of the meeting and will post all materials for the public following the meeting.
- Workgroup members are encouraged to review materials prior to the meeting and consult other individuals within their organizations as needed.

Email: LTCFAPolicyWorkgroup@aging.ca.gov

Website: https://aging.ca.gov/Long-Term_Care_Facility_Access_Policy_Workgroup/



Closing Remarks

Questions or Comments?

Please email CDA with any questions or comments at the email address below.

Email:

LTCFAPolicyWorkgroup@aging.ca.gov