

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



March 18, 1991

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-27-91

TO: ALL-COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: SENIOR CITIZEN PROGRAMS

We would like to bring to your attention a funding mechanism for some senior citizen programs in California which help provide local and direct services and advocacy, and which also help provide funding for research for the cause of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

This funding mechanism is adjunct to the State income tax form in a section titled "Voluntary Contributions" which allows taxpayers to donate to one or more charitable funds. Among the funds are those linked to programs for senior citizens, namely:

- California Seniors Special Fund supports senior citizens' advocacy and local direct services;
- California Fund for Senior Citizens provides support for the advocacy group, the California Senior Legislature. The remainder of the funds goes towards local direct services;
- Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Fund helps research the cause of diseases and helps provide care for victims.

Attached is a sheet which provides a little more detail on the above voluntary contribution funds which may be circulated to provide information to those who may be interested. The information provided concerning the aforementioned funds was provided by the California Department of Aging.

Thank you for your attention.

  
LONNIE M. CARLSON  
Interim Director

Attachment

cc: CWDA

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION OPPORTUNITIES  
ON STATE INCOME TAX FORMS RELATED TO  
SENIOR CITIZENS PROGRAMS AND ALZHEIMER'S  
DISEASE AND RELATED DISORDERS

CALIFORNIA SENIORS SPECIAL FUND

This is the first year taxpayers 65 years or older have the unique opportunity to support senior citizens' advocacy and services by donating their \$58 senior exemption credit to the California Seniors Special Fund. The initial \$80,000 collected supports California's Area Agency on Aging Advisory Councils' advocacy efforts. The balance is distributed to the 33 area agencies on aging for direct services. This fund is distinct from other voluntary contributions as the taxpayer donates the entire \$58 tax credit. Married couples filing jointly may donate both their credits for \$116.

CALIFORNIA FUND FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

This fund helps the needy elderly in two ways:

First, it provides the total financial support of the activities of the California Senior Legislature, a volunteer organization made up of senior citizens age 60 and older who advocate for legislation on behalf of the elderly.

Second, it provides much needed funding for services for seniors. Over the years these services have included mobile dental clinics for the homebound or bedridden, emergency alert response systems, respite care, mental health peer counseling, and most recently, earthquake relief for the elderly in areas affected by the 1989 California earthquake.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DISORDERS FUND

Alzheimer's disease is one of our aging society's most severe public health problems. The key to unlocking the puzzle of the devastating disease is research. Over the past three years, nearly \$1.5 million for Alzheimer's research in California has been generated through the State Income Tax Check-Off program. Research is currently being conducted into causes of and treatments for the disease and into effective methods of coping and caregiving. Californians may continue to back new and promising research in the State.