October 15, 2025

Commission Streamlining Task Force

City Hall, Room 362

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Discussion and Recommendations from the Dignity Fund Oversight Committee, Service Provider Work Group, and Department of Aging and Adult Services' Advisory Council – October 16, 2025

Dear Task Force Members,

My name is Jennifer Walsh, and I am grateful for the opportunity to co-lead the Dignity Fund Oversight Advisory Council (DF OAC). Both co-chairs of the DF OAC come from the Long-Term Care Coordinating Council (LTCCC), and I am excited to share that we all have lived experiences advocating for individuals with both visible and invisible disabilities. Our backgrounds represent a diverse range of ages, including seniors and younger individuals with disabilities, demonstrating the interconnectedness of our communities.

I want to address the recommendation that "[the Advisory Council to the Disability and Aging Commission] can absorb some functions of the [Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Committee]." While this may seem feasible in theory, it undermines the voices of those we serve. The LTCCC and OAC were established to promote collaborative efforts among city department representatives, service providers, and the individuals we serve, with the goal of enhancing long-term care services in San Francisco while preserving autonomy and self-determination.

The Dignity Fund Coalition (DFC) urges you to retain the Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Councils in their current roles. It is essential to maintain both the Dignity

Fund Oversight Committee and the Advisory Committees in their existing configurations, each with their unique roles, to ensure stability and responsiveness to community needs. Please avoid the pitfalls of ageism and ableism by assuming that we only need one representative for each demographic because we are all different.

I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Walsh

Native San Franciscan