

## **Dignity Fund Coalition Recommendations to Commission Reform Task Force**

**November 3, 2025**

**The Dignity Fund Coalition still believes that keeping the Advisory Council and Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Committee as distinct bodies would be the most effective way to meet all of the required work of each body and to not lose focus on the importance of the Dignity Fund.** (See attached list of all responsibilities drawn from the DAS overview and bylaws) Moving requirements out of the Charter and reducing the number of formal representatives is viewed as a sign of reducing importance for older adults and people with disabilities, even though seniors and people with disabilities make up a full 25% of the population and the proportion is increasing as people age in place. These advisory bodies are one of the few places seniors and people disabilities are guaranteed a place at the table.

**However, if the final recommendation of the task force and decision by the Board of Supervisors is to combine these 2 committees, then there must be a commitment to provide enough staff support for it to function well, including keeping the current experienced leadership wherever possible.** The appointment process, particularly the recruitment of new members, needs to be clarified, especially during this time while the restructuring process is ongoing so that vacant seats are filled rather than wait for this process to conclude. The structure of this combined committee needs to address how all their required work will be completed in a way that allows members, the general public, and service providers to have enough information to be engaged and help inform good decisions.

### **Advisory Council/Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Committee**

- **Membership should stay at 22 based on the amount of work in the proposed combined committee**
- **11 seats appointed by Board of Supervisors to have representation across the city and communication back to Supervisors about issues affecting their district**
- Remaining 11 seats appointed by a combination of bodies, with the goal to reflect the diversity of the city and the populations served through DAS
  - 3 Mayoral appointees
  - 2 Commission members
  - 6 Other Commission appointees – could be representatives from some of bodies below directly is they have appointing privileges or thought active outreach:
    - These appointees should be selected through Commission Nominating Committee who should solicit recommendations from:
      - Mayor’s Disability Council or similar body representing disability community (providers or consumers)
      - Mayor’s Office on Transgender Initiatives, LGBTQI+ Advisory Council or similar body representing LGBTQIA community (providers or consumers)
      - CASE, Dignity Fund Coalition, or similar body representing service providers including the service provider working group.
      - HIV Community Planning Council or similar body representing older adults and adults with disabilities with HIV

### **Service Provider Working Group**

- If removed from the Charter, we urge including language in the admin code that requires a process for including service provider engagement in the planning and development of community needs assessments, area and service plans, budget and service planning, and evaluation of outcomes.
  - Service Provide Working Group feedback to be included on Advisory Council agenda on regular basis
  - Service Provider Working Group engaged by DAS at key decision points in needs assessment, service development, and budget planning processes
  - Provide an appropriate level of staffing from DAS, as was committed in the original charter amendment.