



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Statement from the HHS Network of CA on Jean Ross's Departure from the California Budget Project**

A statement from the leaders of the HHS Network of California: Vanessa Aramayo, Executive Director of California Partnership; Anthony Wright, Executive Director of Health Access California; Reshma Shamasunder, Executive Director of the California Immigrant Policy Center; and Mike Herald, Legislative Analyst at the Western Center on Law & Poverty.

“The HHS Network of California congratulates Jean Ross on her new position at the Ford Foundation, though she will be sorely missed as the Executive Director of the California Budget Project. Jean has been a constant and reliable truth-teller in the budget debate, highlighting the vital role of California’s social safety net, and speaking eloquently and soberly against a destructive spending cap in the California budget many times over the last few years.

Jean led the call for revenue solutions in the California budget again and again, in order to avoid balancing the budget at the expense of our state’s families, children, seniors, and people with disabilities. For nearly two decades, Jean has been a leading figure in the struggle to protect services for California’s most vulnerable families through the worst of the recession and our state’s budget crisis. She has been an enormous influence and ally, and we wish her the best of luck at the Ford Foundation.”

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#### **About the HHS Network of California:**

We are a network of advocates, consumers, and allies working together for strong health care

and human services in California. We are statewide, diverse, and grassroots. Our network includes people who care about health care, home care for seniors and disabled people, emergency food and food stamps, domestic violence shelters, independent living centers for people with disabilities, child abuse and neglect prevention, women's health care, community health clinics, AIDS prevention and care, and more — in other words, the basic human needs we all share.

Convening groups for the network include the [Western Center on Law and Poverty](#), [Health Access](#), [California Partnership](#), and [California Immigrant Policy Center](#).