

## GOVERNING BODY MEMBER BIOS



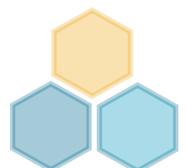
**Melvin Beetle**  
*President*  
Older Consumer

Melvin “Mel” Beetle is the current (2017-18) PA Governing Body president. He was born in Mt. Ephraim, New Jersey. He received a B.A. in Social Studies from Trenton State Teachers College. He taught five different grades as well as college. Mel served 10 years with the Peace Corps in the Philippines: three as a volunteer, two as a Regional Director, and five as a Training Officer and Acting County Director when necessary. He speaks Tagalog and Ilokano. Mel was also the Program Evaluation Director for ACTION (a federal domestic volunteer agency) as well as Acting Inspector General on occasion. He has volunteered for the Episcopal Community Services (ECS) Canon Kip Senior Center, Senior Action Network (SAN) and is a former vice president of the Senior Homeless Task Force. Mel notes that “I am disabled and very interested in advocating for myself and others with similar limitations. I’ve spoken many times at Board of Supervisors meetings advocating for beneficial programs and policies for the elderly and disabled. I serve Pilipino groups and organizations in San Francisco.”



**Kenzi Robi**  
*Vice President*  
Younger Consumer

Kenzi Robi was paralyzed from the neck down when he was 19 years old and spent a year at Laguna Honda Hospital. An artist all his life, he taught himself how to paint again by using his teeth. As part of this process, he studied Graphic Arts at City College. He has a son, Kenzi Jr., now a young adult. Kenzi has spoken on behalf of IHSS and people with disabilities at Capitol Action Day in Sacramento. He now works with other people with disabilities as a Peer Mentor. He notes that he’s very happy to be able “to help others appreciate and improve their lives, those people who were and are in my shoes.” In late 2010, a film about Kenzi won first prize in the National Disability Institute’s “Economic Empowerment—Defining the New American Dream” video contest. He served two terms as the PA Governing Body President.





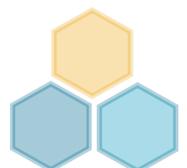
**Daisy McArthur**  
*Secretary*  
Union Representative

Daisy McArthur has been a San Francisco IHSS IP for over two decades. She has also been a member of the union representing IP's (now SEIU Local 2015) for 20 years. She has resided in SF District 3 for 37 years. Her extensive work experience has given her a unique understanding of both IHSS and union issues and how the two groups best work together. Her community involvement spans many years and includes working with various SF mayors and the Board of Supervisors on tenant rights and affordable, accessible health care. Ms. McArthur states that "I am committed to providing quality services for IHSS consumers and building relationships with the Human Services Agency, the Public Authority and SEIU Local 2015."



**Alex Madrid**  
Mayor's Disability Council Member

Alex Madrid was born in Manila, Philippines with Cerebral Palsy. In 1996, he moved to San Francisco and later attended the University of California, Berkeley. While he was a student at UC Berkeley, Alex became a strong advocate for disability rights. He served as a liaison between over 50 student groups and the Disabled Students Program and ensured open communication regarding disability issues on campus and in the community. Additionally, he conducted disability awareness and etiquette trainings and provided technical assistance to faculty, staff and students about accessibility options such as room scheduling, transportation and general navigability around campus. Currently, Alex is the Independent Living Generalist at the Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities in San Mateo. In his position, he assists people with disabilities to identify resources, strategies, and equipment for achieving maximum independence. He joined the San Francisco Mayor's Disability Council in 2017 and continues to be a champion for the rights of people with disabilities in his community. His areas of interest are accessible transportation, programmatic access, and accessible information technology.





**Rita Semel**  
DHS Commissioner

Longtime San Franciscan Rita Semel has been a well-known community activist in the City for many years. A founder and past chair of the San Francisco Interfaith Council, she is also a former president of the Family Service Agency. A graduate of Barnard College, Rita worked as a reporter at the San Francisco Chronicle during World War II. She and her late husband Max were married for 51 years. They had two daughters, Elisabeth and Jane. Among her many other activities, Rita serves on the Board of Trustees for Grace Cathedral and the Board of Directors for the New Israel Fund. She was the First Chair of the Global Council of United Religions Initiative and is the Executive Director Emeritus of the Jewish Community Relations Council. In addition, she was a member of the San Francisco Homeless Board. Rita brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to her latest role as a member of our Governing Body.



**Patricia Webb**  
Younger Consumer

A longtime resident of San Francisco, Patricia (Tricia) Webb is the mother of two grown sons and describes herself as “a lifetime volunteer,” because “I have been volunteering for one thing or another most of my life.” Formerly, Tricia volunteered full-time with Planning for Elders (PECC). She greatly enjoyed working with the staff there because they treated “me as a person with a disability and not a disabled person.” At PECC, Tricia was involved with, among other things, their hugely successful “Rock ‘n’ Roll” event, the Senior Survival School and CLAIM, a mentoring program for emerging advocates. Given her own life experiences, advocacy history and personal knowledge of IHSS as a longtime consumer, she brings a unique perspective to the Governing Body.





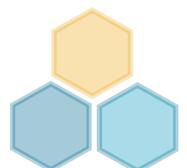
**Robin Wilson-Beattie**  
Younger Consumer

**Robin Wilson-Beattie** is a speaker, writer, and advocate for disability and sexuality as well as one of the first people to talk about disability, sexuality, and marketing to adult product retailers and manufacturers. She combines years of personal experience with medically sound research to provide a unique perspective on how life and identity impacts one's sexual expression. Her speaking engagements include multiple keynotes and panels, including three consecutive years speaking at the Adult Video News convention in Las Vegas. Robin is a member of the Association of American Sexual Educators, Counselors and Therapists (AASECT), the Women of Color Sexual Health Network (WOCSHN), and a graduate and member of the San Francisco Sexuality Information Training (SFSI). Currently, she is writing a book on the intersection of disability and sex work in history and the present. Robin is a deep-fried Southern woman, mid-century buff, and proud Mama of one son.



**Sascha Bittner**  
Younger Consumer

Sascha Bittner grew up in San Francisco, and has been a disability rights activist for 30 years, serving on numerous disability-related committees and boards. Sascha is quadriplegic with a speech disability as a result of cerebral palsy. She is committed to the mission of creating fair, equitable conditions for both domestic workers and those who rely on their services. Sascha has been an employer leader at the San Francisco Bay Area Hand-in-Hand, the Domestic Employer Network since 2011, and is also a representative on her local Care Council. Furthermore, she proudly serves on the San Francisco IHSS Task Force and the Bay Area Regional IHSS Task Force. She is the chair of the Regional Advisory Committee on Developmental Disabilities, co-chair of the Golden Gate Regional Center Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee, and is a past chair of the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities. In addition, Sascha has conducted disability awareness workshops for thousands of students in the Bay Area with KIDS (Keys to Introducing Disability in Society) Project.





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