

Master Plan for Aging Recommendation Form

To submit your recommendation, fill out as many of the fields below as possible. It is fine to leave some blank. Recommendations can be submitted at engage@aging.ca.gov. Initial recommendations are requested to be submitted by December 13, but they may be submitted after this date as well.

Issue Statement: There is a need for an integrated services system to serve seniors at the local and State level. A single state department is needed to bring applicable programs together under one roof, coordinate service delivery across the State and be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Master Plan.

MPA Framework Goal: Goal 1.

MPA Framework Objective: Objective 1.1

Recommendation: Form a single state agency to administer and oversee services for seniors and persons with disabilities.

Target Population and Numbers:

- Those over 65 in California currently number 4 million, anticipated to double by 2030 – where one of every five residents will be 65+.

Detailed Recommendation:

- Take the action now to integrate as many of these programs at the State level as possible in anticipation of the significant growth occurring in the older adult population.
- Identify a State department to serve as the single state agency for senior services and include those services for persons with disabilities where feasible.

Evidence that supports the recommendation:

During the past 25 years, numerous studies have taken place documenting the challenges in serving older adults and persons with disabilities in California. Of the 13 studies completed during this time period, 8/13 identified the need to restructure the state departments that serve these individuals.

The periodic table (originally part of the “A Shattered System” publication from 2015) of California’s long term care programs documented 22 different departments providing services to these individuals. Services are fragmented and difficult to access without in-depth knowledge of the State and local systems or without expert assistance.

Examples of local, state or national initiatives that can be used as an example of a best practice:

- **Local:** A number of local area agencies on aging (San Francisco, San Diego) have integrated services at the local level to create an entity that is responsive to the needs of those in the community. These entities have the challenge of working with multiple State agencies with differing requirements.
- **State:**
- **National:** At the national level, a number of states have configured their state agencies to serve as the focal point for services for seniors/persons with disabilities. Two thirds of the states' area agencies on aging are now also involved in Medicaid waiver programs, integrating the core functions of an area agency with services for lower income Medicaid recipients.
- **Other:**

Implementation: [Insert actions state agencies, legislators, counties, local government, or philanthropy can take to move this recommendation forward. Some of the entities listed below may or may not be applicable to each recommendation.]

- **State Agencies/Departments:** Review/identify the programs serving seniors/persons with disabilities and set up a timetable for integration, reviewing and addressing budgetary and staffing impacts.
- **State Legislature:** The legislature would likely need to designate an entity to serve key roles (e.g., be designated as the State Unit on Aging to receive federal funding).
- **Local Government:**
- **Federal Government:**
- **Private Sector:**
- **Community-Based Organizations:**
- **Philanthropy:**
- **Other:**

Person-Centered Metrics: Individual measures of inputs or outcomes that can be used to measure the recommended action's impact on people.

Evaluations: [How will we know that the recommended action is successful once it has been implemented?]

- **Short-term (by 2020):**
- **Mid-term (by 2025):**
- **Long-term (by 2030):**

Data Sources: [What existing data can be used to measure success or progress?]:

- Existing data sources: [specify datasets, variables, and data owner/location]
- Suggestions for data collection to evaluate implementation of this goal when no data sources exist:

Potential Costs/Savings: [insert any research, actuarial analysis or other evidence of the cost of this recommendation or potential savings]

Prioritization: High. Without integration at the State level, the Master Plan will be more difficult to implement and administer.

Name of person(s)/organization submitting recommendation: Ellen Schmeding – member of LTSS Subcommittee and Chief Operating Officer/St. Paul’s Senior Services and Commissioner from the CA Commission on Aging.

Email for person(s)/organization submitting recommendation: eschmeding@stpaulseniors.org

Date of submission: