

MASTER PLAN FOR AGING PROPOSED AGENDA PRIORITIES

A group of aging advocates has met to propose an agenda that the Master Plan for Aging Stakeholder Group could address in order to improve aging in California. The following document reflects ideas based on these conversations; it is not intended to be an endorsement from these organizations or individuals. The group indicated that the following areas should be a priority and where objectives under each fall on a short, medium, and long-term timeline:

- 1) Advance the economic security of older adults in California.
 - a. The plan should include a specific goal and strategies for reducing California's senior poverty rate.
- 2) Expand access to programs and services that enable older adults to live in home and community-based settings.
 - a. The plan should include specific goals and strategies for increasing the percentage of state dollars spent on and people (older adults and persons with disabilities) served in home and community-based settings versus institutional settings.
- 3) Ensure that all California families can afford the costs of long-term services and supports (LTSS).
 - a. The plan should include a specific recommendation for developing and financing a new model or models for providing long term care coverage to all families.
- 4) Build California's services delivery infrastructure to support and optimize older adults' ability to live with dignity and independence.
- 5) Special Issues & Populations. The Master Plan must contain goals and related strategies to:
 - a. End or at least decrease the rate of older adults experiencing homelessness.
 - b. Increase access to affordable, appropriate housing for older adults.
 - c. Assure that Medicare and Medicaid health plans and Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) service delivery organizations meet dementia friendly standards by 2025.
 - d. Prevent and address the impacts of elder abuse.
- 6) Build and coordinate state and local level leadership.
 - a. The plan should include specific recommendations for augmenting, aligning or modifying state structures to ensure that the evolving needs of older adults are accounted for in decision-making.
- 7) Continue to build integrated, coordinated systems of care.
- 8) Core values of diversity, equity and inclusion underlying all these goals, especially in the areas of race, gender identity, and immigration status.

The chart below calls out specific areas for attention.

General Priority	Specific Issues	Short-Term	Med-Term	Long-Term
ADVANCE THE ECONOMIC SECURITY OF OLDER ADULTS IN CALIFORNIA				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the State Supplementary Payment (SSP), increase the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI), and expand the Earned Income Tax Credit to older adults. ▪ Develop a plan to end older adult poverty, focus on minority older women. ▪ Better measure of poverty for older adults (Elder Index) ▪ Improve food security among older adults. ▪ Minimize predatory lending to older adults. ▪ Address elder homelessness among older adults 	✓		✓
EXPAND ACCESS TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT ENABLE OLDER ADULTS TO LIVE IN HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SETTINGS				
Home and Community Based Services	In the short-term, encourage Minimum of one Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) program serving every county, expand Home Health Service Availability, expand Adult Day Health Care, and stabilize Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP).	✓		
Home and Community Based Services	In the mid-term, maintain and plan for expansion of In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) funding levels and services.		✓	
End of Life Care	Assure Availability of Palliative Care and Hospice	✓		
Behavioral Health	Ensure older Californians have access to behavioral health services and Medicare and Medi-Cal covered BH services are coordinated.	✓		

General Priority	Specific Issues	Short-Term	Med-Term	Long-Term
Expand Medi-Cal Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expand Medi-Cal Assisted Living waiver ▪ Expand the duals demonstration project ▪ Guarantee Medi-Cal managed care plans continue and expand Whole Person Care Programs to include high risk duals. Note: the Medicaid 2020 waiver and federal funds expire on December 31, 2020. 	 ✓ ✓	✓	
ENSURE THAT ALL CALIFORNIA FAMILIES CAN AFFORD THE COSTS OF LONG-TERM SERVICES & SUPPORTS (LTSS)				
LTSS Infrastructure	Support infrastructure within state government to advise on LTSS, and to invest and manage revenue to provide services (similar to SB 512, Pan)	✓		
LTSS Coverage and Financing	Create a new universal LTSS coverage program			✓
Medi-Cal	Expand Medi-Cal eligibility by doing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raise or eliminate asset test for Medi-Cal; raise or eliminate asset test for Medicare Savings Programs ▪ Expand Medi-Cal to undocumented adults over the age of 65 			 ✓ ✓ ✓
Universal Health Care	Ensure health care, coverage and benefit needs of older adults are part of discussions on universal health care at the Healthy California For All Commission, particularly LTSS and behavioral health services.		✓	
BUILD CALIFORNIA'S SERVICE DELIVERY INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT AND OPTIMIZE OLDER ADULTS' ABILITY TO LIVE WITH DIGNITY AND INDEPENDENCE				
Workforce	Coordinate with Governor's Workforce efforts. Potential issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Unpaid workforce – needs of family caregivers. 4.5 million family caregivers provide the bulk of support to older adults and people with disabilities. 	✓	✓	

General Priority	Specific Issues	Short-Term	Med-Term	Long-Term
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paid workforce – state will need 600,000 home care workers in the future. ○ Caregiver credits/paid leave time 			
Housing	Creation of statewide elder housing development plan and bond financing measure for older adults housing Note: does this also include funding for improvements to existing housing supply that would allow older adults to remain in their homes?			✓
Transportation	State should facilitate older adult transportation plan with regional transit bodies		✓	
Age-Friendly Communities	State coordination of county efforts to roll out Age-Friendly Communities/Healthy Aging Initiatives in every county		✓	
SPECIAL ISSUES & POPULATIONS				
Homelessness	<p>End or at least decrease the rate of older homelessness decrease the rate of older homelessness</p> <p>Note: The Governor’s Homelessness Task Force recommendations and the Master Plan must be linked.</p>		✓	
Housing	Increase access to affordable, appropriate housing options for older adults.			
Dementia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assure that Medicare and Medicaid health plans and Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) service delivery organizations meet dementia friendly standards by 2025. ▪ Link the work of the Governor’s Alzheimer’s Task Force with the Master Plan for Aging. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓ 	

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Elder Abuse	Prevent & address the impact of elder abuse		✓	
BUILD AND COORDINATE STATE AND LOCAL LEVEL LEADERSHIP				
State Leader	Appoint aging Leader with recognized vision and stature to Governor's Cabinet (Czar)		✓	
Department Priorities	Identify an aging related priority within each State Department and actionable steps	✓		
Interagency Task Force	Appoint interagency Task Force on Aging with set goals; include Department of Health Care Services, Department of Social Services, Department of Aging, Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Transportation; additionally, include specific topics such as Medi-Cal, economic security, oral health, aging in public health, Commission on Aging.	✓		
CONTINUE TO BUILD INTEGRATED, COORDINATED SYSTEMS OF CARE				
Coordinated Care Initiative	Formalize Care Coordination requirements in CCI	✓		
Coordinated Care Initiative	Expand Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) to all California Counties		✓	
State & Local Integration/ Collaboration	How can we better integrate the needs of and serve older adults into Medi-Cal, Mental Health, Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) at the state and local levels?			