

## Master Plan for Aging Recommendation Form

### Global/Flexible LTSS Budget

**Issue Statement:** LTSS funding does not flow according to individual needs and preferences. Rather, it is structured based on siloed services with different funding streams.

**MPA Framework Goal:**

- **Goal 1:** Services and Supports: We will be able to live where we choose as we age and have the help we and our families need to do so.

**Outcome:** California's LTSS budget is organized in a flexible manner to promote access to the necessary services and supports in an integrated fashion.

**Recommendation:**

Develop a global/flexible LTSS budget at the state level.

**Target Population and Numbers:** State policy makers, older adults and people with disabilities.

**Detailed Recommendation:**

The new California Department of Community Living should identify options for developing a more flexible LTSS budget (global/flexible budget) that enables LTSS to be provided according to individual needs and preferences. Specifically, the Department should identify options for unifying the LTSS budget through a global/flexible budget across programs within a singular funding stream, or within and across multiple funding streams (e.g., Medi-Cal HCBS and institutional, General Fund and other funds).

**Evidence that supports the recommendation:**

These two seminal reports explain how the development of global/flexible budgets can provide the structure for a more person-centered system of care, and articulate options for budgeting at the state and local levels.

- [Flexible Accounting for Long-Term Care Services: State Budgeting Practices that Increase Access to Home- and Community-Based Services: Recommendations for California;](#) and
- 2009 CA Community Choices LTC Financing Study (see recommendation #24)

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

## **Implementation:**

- **State Agencies/Departments:** The new Department of Community Living would provide leadership in crafting the options for a global/flexible budget, in partnership with other state departments including but not limited to Departments of Health Care Services, Social Services, Rehabilitation and Public Health. The Department of Community Living would consult relevant stakeholders as part of this process.
- **State Legislature:** The Legislature would provide statutory authority through the budget and legislative process to enable the development and implementation of the global/ flexible budget
- **Local Government:** The state would partner with local government in the development of global/flexible budget options.
- **Federal Government:** The state would partner with the federal government in exploring options for state-level global/flexible budgeting as applied to various funding streams including but not limited to Medicaid (Medi-Cal), Older Americans Act Funding and others.
- **Private Sector:** The state would partner with the private sector in understanding how flexible budgeting could be realized at the state level.
- **Community-Based Organizations:** The state would partner with community-based organizations and service providers in understanding how global/flexible budgeting could be realized at the state level.
- **Philanthropy:** Philanthropy would be a thought partner, providing information and resources for the state's consideration in developing global/flexible budgeting solutions.

**Person-Centered Metrics:** Older adults and people with disabilities access services that align with identified needs in preferences in their individual care plan.

## **Evaluations:**

- Short-term (by 2020): Not applicable/long-term strategy
- Mid-term (by 2025): Not applicable/long-term strategy
- Long-term (by 2030): The state budget is structured in more flexible manner, through development of global/flexible budget(s) that enable older adults and people with disabilities to access services according to needs and preferences.

**Data Sources:** Not applicable

**Potential Costs/Savings:** Not applicable

**Prioritization:** Longer-term priority

**Name of person(s)/organization submitting recommendation:** Sarah Steenhausen,  
The SCAN Foundation

**Email for person(s)/organization submitting recommendation:**  
ssteenhausen@thescanfoundation.org

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