

Master Plan for Aging Recommendation Form

Integrated Data Platform

Issue Statement: California's LTSS data sources are constructed according to funding source and reporting requirements, without connection to other LTSS programs and services. As a result, the state lacks the comprehensive data necessary to understand population needs, identify gaps in service delivery, and plan for future population changes. California needs an integrated information system that creates a comprehensive picture of population needs and service use patterns. Ultimately, individual data should flow from the person-level, where it guides care planning; to the provider/program level, where it supports program planning; and to the state level, where it guides statewide policy development.

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.
- **Goal 2: Livable Communities and Purpose:** We will live in and be engaged in communities that are age-friendly, dementia-friendly, and disability-friendly.
- **Goal 3: Health and Well-Being:** We will maintain our health and well-being as we age.

Outcome: Data and information is organized in an efficient manner to enable effective policy development, budgeting, benefit design, and oversight at the state and local levels.

Recommendation: Develop an integrated data platform for LTSS.

Target Population and Numbers: State policymakers; researchers; providers; advocates and consumers

Detailed Recommendation:

The Health and Human Services Agency should build off the [open data portal](#) to integrate data on the range of services provided to older adults and people with disabilities across medical and social service delivery systems as provided under the new Department of Community Living, as well as the Departments of Social Services, Health Care Services, Rehabilitation, Public Health, Housing and Transportation. The data platform should be easily navigable to enable its use by consumers, providers, advocates and policymakers for planning purposes at the state and local levels.

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

- Integrated data effort in higher education system: The Governor's 2019-20 budget proposed a data integration project for the CSU/UC system, focused on integrating data in the higher education system. [This LAO report](#) could be applied to data integration in the LTSS system. The final action in the budget includes \$10million GF to initiate an Integrated Education Data System. Of this amount, \$4.3 million GF is for work group planning and matching student records between K-12 and higher education. The planning facilitator is charged with submitting specified reports to the Legislature and DOF that detail the work group's advice on matters such as the type of data system to create and protocols for

protecting student privacy and addressing security risks. The budget package gives CCC, CSU, and UC until 2020-21 to begin linking their data with K-12 data using statewide student identifiers (or SSIDs). The remaining \$5.7 million is available to implement the initial build-out of the data system.

Implementation:

- **State Agencies/Departments:** Under the leadership of the Health and Human Services Agency, the new Department of Community Living would work with sister agencies in contracting for the development of an integrated data platform for LTSS.
- **State Legislature:** The Legislature would provide statutory authority, if necessary, to enable the development of the integrated data platform for LTSS.
- **Local Government:** The state would partner with local government in determining the potential to access any relevant data sources, if applicable.
- **Federal Government:** The state would partner with the federal government regarding access to federal data sources, including Medicare and Medi-Cal.
- **Private Sector:** Not applicable.
- **Community-Based Organizations:** CBOs would work with the state in outlining potential sources of data that should be included in the portal, as well as how to access it.
- **Philanthropy:** The philanthropic sector would contribute resources into the development of the data platform.

Person-Centered Metrics: Not applicable

Evaluations:

- **Mid-term (by 2025):** Development of an integrated data portal framework
- **Long-term (by 2030):** Implementation and ongoing reporting of relevant measures

Data Sources:

- California Community Choices. *The Power of Integrated Information: Benefits and Challenges of Developing a Long Term Care Data Warehouse in California*. 2011. (available by PDF)
- CA Medicaid Research Institute: *Studying Recipients of LTSS – Medicaid and Medicare Claims and Data in California*. 2011. Accessed here: <https://www.thescanfoundation.org/publications/camri-studying-recipients-of-ltss-medicaid-and-medicare-claims-and-data-in-california/>

Potential Costs/Savings: Unknown

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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