

JANUARY 2024

*Master Plan*  
**FOR AGING**

**THIRD MPA ANNUAL REPORT**





## *Message From* **GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM**

I am proud to partner with California's families and communities to deliver on the promise of our state's groundbreaking Master Plan for Aging (MPA) – a 10-year blueprint for transformational change as more Californians live longer lives. To fulfill the commitments in the MPA, our Administration works in tandem with the Legislature, the private sector, and stakeholders to advance our five bold goals of housing, health, equity, caregiving, and affordability for Californians of all ages and life stages.

In 2023, we elevated inclusive policies and programs that reflect shared priorities of Californians:

- the home and community care essential to our economy and our families
- climate and disaster readiness, especially in the most at-risk communities
- behavioral health system modernization, including more geriatric care
- health care access and affordability for all, with more dementia prevention, screening, and care
- more affordable and accessible housing, transportation, broadband, and communities statewide

The demographic projections that motivated me to call for a Master Plan for Aging in June 2019 are fast upon us. By 2030, one in four Californians will be age 60 or older, a fact that is evident in every region of our diverse state. We bear witness to the impact of our diverse and growing aging population every day, whether through record number of older adults in the workforce, the statewide efforts to recruit, train, and retain a high-quality direct care workforce, or personal experiences navigating our own aging and that of our parents and loved ones.

California's spirit embraces the new longevity and honors all aspects of aging. We celebrate our progress in building a state that fully includes and supports older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers. We continue to face

head on the most challenging issues – ageism and ableism, inequities across race and gender, loneliness, homelessness, poverty, and food insecurity. Most of all, our Administration remains committed to a California for All, inclusive of age, ability, race, ethnicity, language, culture, religion, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, income, and geography.

Thank you for all of your efforts in 2023 to propel California's Master Plan for Aging ahead to its 2030 goals. In 2024, I invite you to join me in renewing our shared commitment to a California for all ages and abilities, where we all can grow older with purpose, belonging, and peace of mind.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Newsom', with a stylized, cursive script.

Gavin Newsom  
Governor of California



*Message From*  
**CALIFORNIA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
SECRETARY MARK GHALY**

I am honored to present the third Master Plan for Aging (MPA) Annual Report to the California Legislature. Since its inception, the MPA is a dynamic call to action for public/private partnership, local collaboration, and sustained commitment. The MPA continues to set a national standard that extends well beyond traditional health and social services to housing, transportation, climate change, parks, volunteerism, and more.

As we reflect on this past year, I am continually impressed by the advocacy and actions that my fellow Californians have taken to bring the MPA to life in our communities. We proudly witnessed stakeholders mobilize to advance older adult behavioral health and address the homelessness crisis. Locally, we watched age- and disability-friendly communities emerge, propelling the MPA forward in cities, counties, and regions throughout the state. Wherever the work takes place, we see older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers at the forefront, reminding us to act with urgency and with intention. There is no better example of this than our valued MPA stakeholders who guarantee the MPA will never be “a report that sits on a shelf.”

The MPA is both a whole-of-government effort and a whole-of-community dialogue. Our state, local, and philanthropic partners continue to engage with the people most impacted by this work — Californians who shaped our great state and who contribute in countless ways to our society. With the five bold goals of the MPA as our guide, together we are building a California for All ages and abilities.

Sincerely,  
Mark Ghaly, MD, MPH  
CalHHS Secretary



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# Introduction

**Aging impacts us all.** For this reason, the Master Plan for Aging (MPA) is a blueprint for Californians of all ages and abilities — whether a child being raised by a grandparent, a 20-year-old choosing a career path, a 30-year-old living with Down syndrome, a 40-year-old daughter caring for a parent with Alzheimer's, a 50-year-old facing retirement without savings, a 60-year-old experiencing memory loss, a 70-year-old struggling to make ends meet, an 80-year-old living at home with the support of a caregiver, or the large number of Californians in their 90s who are approaching the once-elusive centenarian status. Without question, Governor Newsom's MPA Executive Order signaled to state government, local government, the Legislature, and stakeholders that the population of older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers is a high priority. For the first time in our state's history, the top executive called for a comprehensive aging plan with specific deliverables within a prescribed timeline.



## **Goal 1: Housing for All Ages and Stages**

We will live where we choose as we age in communities that are age-, disability-, and dementia-friendly and climate- and disaster-ready.



## **Goal 2: Health Reimagined**

We will have access to the services we need to live at home in our communities and to optimize our health and quality of life.



## **Goal 3: Inclusion and Equity, Not Isolation**

We will have lifelong opportunities for work, volunteering, engagement, and leadership and will be protected from isolation, discrimination, abuse, neglect, and exploitation.



## **Goal 4: Caregiving that Works**

We will be prepared for and supported through the rewards and challenges of caring for aging loved ones.



## **Goal 5: Affording Aging**

We will have economic security for as long as we live.

Across the MPA's Five Bold Goals, there are daunting challenges and system issues to address. Preparing a state as large and diverse as California for 2030 cannot be accomplished in one year. To this end, the MPA presents a broad framework to address a wide range of needs across the population. The Five Bold Goals are fixed but the initiatives are flexible, allowing the work to iterate and evolve. The 95 new MPA initiatives released in January 2023 include detailed recommendations in each of the Five Bold Goal areas, with work staged over time depending on the cost and complexity of the action. As Governor Newsom noted, "This plan is intended to be a living document for years to come." At the end of Year Three, we have made significant progress and remain committed to the tremendous work ahead in building a home and community-based system that works for ALL Californians, as well as making California an age- and disability-friendly state for ALL.



..... *Measuring our Impact* .....

Together, the governor and the Legislature have made significant investments in services and supports for older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers, with record budget investments exceeding \$9.5 billion since the MPA's launch in 2021, as detailed in [Master Plan for Aging Budget Investments, Fiscal Years 2020-2024](#).



“California is in the midst of an unprecedented Medi-Cal transformation, embedding equity in service delivery, improving access to person-centered care, and proactively addressing the social drivers of health. This revolutionary reform to our healthcare system isn’t just a programmatic or operational change; it is a system-wide reimagining of how and where care is offered to build a healthier, stronger California.”

**Michelle Baass, Director,  
California Department of Health Care Services**

The MPA is driving policy change across all Five Bold Goals. To highlight the most significant advancements:

**Expanding Access to Health Care Coverage:** California’s Medi-Cal expansion to undocumented Californians aged 50 and older has resulted in over 364,000 older adults now receiving health care coverage through Medi-Cal.

**Medi-Cal Access and Affordability:** California is gradually eliminating the Medi-Cal asset test, which will help thousands of older adults and people with disabilities access home and community-based services and avoid impoverishment to meet their long-term care needs.

**Implementing California’s Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Initiative:**

- In 2022, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) launched Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and 14 Community Supports as key foundational elements to its statewide CalAIM initiative, with older adults representing 12% to 15% of all beneficiaries accessing these new services.
- Through CalAIM, the state is integrating care for Californians who are dually eligible for both Medicare and Medi-Cal through Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans, which provide opportunities for greater alignment between medical and social supports by bridging clinical care with community living.
- Effective in 2023, California is carving skilled nursing facility care into Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCPs) statewide to make coverage consistent across California and to incentivize home and community care alternatives.

**Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Data Dashboard:** DHCS released an updated [LTSS Data Dashboard](#) that features additional measures and improves data transparency and accessibility. As California drives significant

improvements in quality and health equity for Medi-Cal members, the LTSS Data Dashboard reports utilization and demographic data of long-term services and supports provided by counties and Medi-Cal managed care plans.

**Investing in Housing and Services:** Through the California Department of Social Services' (CDSS) Community Care Expansion (CCE) Program, California has invested over \$1 billion to acquire, construct, and/or rehabilitate adult and senior housing facilities serving low-income residents with both housing and care. CCE Expansion Program funds have been awarded to 48 projects, and the CCE Preservation Program funds have been awarded to 34 counties.

**Addressing Older Adult Behavioral Health:** In response to the growing behavioral health crisis impacting older adults, California invested \$70 million in 2023 through the following initiatives:

- » \$50 million budget investment to build local community capacity, reduce stigma through an ethnic media campaign, and combat social isolation with a 24/7 warmline.
- » \$20 million from the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission to replicate programs tailored to older adults through PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active, Rewarding Lives) and Age Wise.
- California is embarking on a historic transformation to a data-driven, equity-focused system of care for all ages and abilities with:
  - » Senate Bill 326 (Eggman, Chapter 790, Statutes of 2023) creates transparency and accountability for the \$10 billion-plus county behavioral health care system to serve all ages, engage more with older adults and people with disabilities, and address health equity. This bill revises and recasts the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) as the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), subject to voter approval in the March 2024 statewide primary election.
  - » Assembly Bill 531 (Irwin, Chapter 789, Statutes of 2023) authorizes a \$4.7 billion bond for behavioral health facilities and housing for veterans, subject to voter approval in the March 2024 statewide primary election.

**Supporting our Workforce:** Since the MPA's launch, California has invested significant resources in training and stipend programs to support thousands of direct care workers who provide critical hands-on care to California's older adults and people with disabilities.

**Fighting Poverty by Mitigating Hunger:** Since the MPA Executive Order was issued, the CalFresh program expanded to support more older adults and people with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/ State Supplementary Payments (SSP), resulting in a 208% increase in enrollment for older adults — climbing from 322,000 individuals enrolled in 2018 to 992,000 individuals enrolled in 2022.

**Expanding CalFresh to Older Adults:** As part of Food4All, California will be the first state in the nation to provide food benefits to all Californians who are income-eligible and aged 55 years or older, regardless of immigration status. This expansion will be implemented in October 2025.



..... *Leading with Equity* .....

Embracing the diversity of California's population — both the strong and varied cultural traditions around aging as well as the need to address life-long disparities and inequities faced by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, and more (LGBTQIA+) Californians — equity is a centerpiece of the MPA. We remain



“Older Californians continue to face challenges accessing affordable and equitable health care and long-term care, economic supports, housing, and other resources — all made worse by ageism, racism, and other forms of discrimination that are deeply entrenched in everyday life. But the state's Master Plan for Aging — now in Year 3 and focused on implementation — offers a roadmap to a more equitable California for all.”

**Denny Chan, Equity Advisory Committee on Aging and Disability  
and Justice in Aging**

focused on ensuring all Californians have access to opportunities and services to live how and where they choose — inclusive of age, disability, race, ethnicity, language, immigration status, gender identification, sexual orientation, and other demographic characteristics. We are proud of our efforts to embed and uplift equity throughout all Five Bold Goals of the MPA, as demonstrated through the following actions:

**The MPA Equity Framework and Equity Index:** In consultation with stakeholders, CDA is developing an MPA Equity Framework to define a consistent set of demographic measures, quantify equity-related issues, and track equity-related progress over time. This framework includes development of a forthcoming Equity Index that will identify underserved populations and measure geographic inequity to inform policy decisions and track progress over time.

**LGBTQIA+ Statewide Study:** In January 2024, in partnership with University of California, Berkeley and Openhouse, CDA is launching the first [LGBTQIA+ statewide study](#) on the health, well-being, and economic status of older LGBTQIA+ adults.

**Cross-Agency Equity Engagement:** CDA's first equity officer, as well as the department's first tribal affairs manager, continue to provide leadership on behalf of the MPA, participating in cross-agency cabinet convenings with the governor's state equity officer, the governor's tribal affairs secretary, and the California Health and Human Services Agency's (CalHHS) equity officer to elevate equity for older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers.

**Stakeholder Leadership:** The MPA Equity Advisory Committee on Aging and Disability — comprised of subject matter experts with lived experience and diverse backgrounds — provides guidance on MPA implementation, focusing on issues impacting underserved populations including aging farmworkers, tribal partners, and LGBTQIA+ older adults, among others.



*Pictured: Dr. Marcy Adelman, Commissioner on the California Commission on Aging speaking at the Bay Area Older Adult Behavioral Health Roundtable (April 27, 2023)*

..... *Convening our Constituents* .....

The real strength of the MPA comes from people directly impacted by the work, and from community members who are working with and on behalf of older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers. In fact, it was stakeholders who first called for a plan, contributed thousands of volunteer hours to develop the MPA, and today steward the work in countless ways. The state engages and elevates the voices of diverse stakeholders through [six standing advisory committees](#) addressing home and community living, elder and disability justice, equity, Alzheimer’s and dementia, research, and MPA oversight. Building from this strong stakeholder foundation, CDA led MPA listening sessions with local and state partners to address critical, time-sensitive issues, including the following:



“I have been heartened from the beginning of how well my advocacy efforts on the health and wellness of LGBTQ+ older adults have been received. California's Older LGBTQ+ Adults Survey is the culmination of that advocacy and demonstrates the MPA's commitment to better serve California's aging LGBTQ+ communities.”

**Dr. Marcy Adelman, Commissioner,  
California Commission on Aging**

**Older Adult Behavioral Health:** Roundtable sessions were convened in Fresno, the Inland Empire, San Francisco, and Ukiah, drawing more than 150 people representing community-based organizations, legislative partners, local government, ethnic media, and philanthropic partners to hear directly from impacted members of the community about the unmet needs of older adults experiencing behavioral health challenges with a focus on people of color and members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

**Preventing and Ending Older Adult Homelessness:** With the support of philanthropic partners, CDA invited thought leaders, government partners, advocates, and subject matter experts to focus on solutions that address the growing crisis of older adult homelessness through the MPA.

**Statewide Convening — Adult Protective Services, Multidisciplinary Teams (MDT):** In fall 2023, the California Departments of Social Services and Aging, as well as the Department of Justice, presented at a statewide convening that brought together local MDT leaders to focus on person-centered approaches to adult protective services.

**Long-Term Care Facilities Visitation During Emergencies:** The COVID-19 pandemic created hardship for residents of congregate and institutional settings who remained isolated from families or friends during the public health emergency. In 2022, the Legislature directed the state to convene a work group to “develop recommendations regarding best policies and practices for long-term care facilities during public health emergencies, including, but not limited to, visitation policies” (AB 178, Ting, Chapter 45, Statutes of 2022). The Long-Term Care Facility Access (LTCFA) Policy Workgroup put forth [recommendations](#) on long-term care facility access and visitation during states of emergency, with

Careful consideration given to the impact that restricted access has on the mental and physical health of residents, families, and friends.

**In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Consumer Satisfaction Survey:** The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) launched a consumer satisfaction survey for the program's 700,000+ recipients, offering an opportunity to share experiences and suggestions for enhancing the services provided.



Left to right: CDA Director Susan DeMarois, CDSS Director Kim Johnson, California Interagency Council on Homelessness Executive Officer Meghan Marshall, BCSH Deputy Secretary of Homelessness Dhakshike Wickrema, CalHHS Deputy Secretary for Policy and Strategic Planning Corrin Buchanan.

..... *Widening our Reach* .....

Developing a comprehensive whole-of-government approach to MPA implementation requires ensuring issues impacting older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers are elevated in all conversations – including those impacting health, behavioral health, housing, and workforce, as evidenced by the following efforts:

“

“We are proud to stand in partnership with others to invest in and advance MPA’s Goal Four, ‘Caregiving That Works.’ The direct care workforce allows millions of Californians to live independently at home, in the community, while also supporting working family caregivers. Our state is leading the way in expanding the career pipeline, training the workforce, and creating pathways to meaningful jobs in the health care sector.”

**Stewart Knox, Secretary,  
California Labor & Workforce Development Agency**

**Cabinet Work Group Leadership Convenings:** Throughout the year, leaders representing their respective cabinet agencies met to discuss the MPA with a focus on communications, data, equity, volunteerism, and public/private partnerships. These convenings enabled cabinet agencies to learn from experts in aging, share peer learning, and strengthen connections to further enhance coordination and integration across government, and to improve the delivery of programs and services that are centered on the needs of older Californians.

**California Interagency Council on Homelessness:** Addressing the diverse range of housing needs of older adults is critical to prepare California for 2030. The California Interagency Council on Homelessness oversees the implementation of Housing First guidelines and regulations and local action plans, and identifies resources, benefits, and services to prevent and end homelessness in California. CDA Director Susan DeMarois was named to the task force to represent the perspective of older adults in alignment with the MPA.

**All INside:** CalHHS and BCSH are teaming up with the White House and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness to participate in ALL INside, a first-of-its kind initiative to address unsheltered homelessness. Through this effort, a federal partner works closely with the state for two years to tackle homelessness, focusing on three priority populations — older adults, veterans, and youth. This effort provides an unprecedented opportunity to elevate the voice of older adults in tackling the homelessness crisis.



“Driving progress to prevent and end older adult homelessness requires a comprehensive strategy across all sectors and systems, enlisting our local, state, and federal partners in this critically important work. MPA Goal One, ‘Housing for All Stages and Ages,’ elevates older adults as a priority population in need of affordable and stable housing with access to supports and services to promote dignity, inclusion, and choice.”

**Dhakshike Wickrema, Deputy Secretary of Homelessness,  
Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency**

**California Health and Human Services Agency Behavioral Health Task Force:**

CalHHS Agency’s Behavioral Health Task Force (BHTF) informs efforts that address behavioral health issues across all populations. The diverse BHTF membership, including CDA Director Susan DeMarois and California Commission on Aging Commissioner Marcy Adelman, PhD, fosters connections among wide-ranging perspectives and interests related to behavioral health needs and care — including those of older adults and family caregivers.

**Supporting Older Adults in Prison:** The Governor’s Office, CalHHS, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation continue to collaborate to explore how to address the aging of California’s prison population, including opportunities for effective transitions to community housing and care.

**Workforce for A Healthy California’s Cross-Agency Workforce Training and Development Initiative:** CalHHS and the Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA) continue to elevate the cross-sector issues impacting the needs of a diverse health care workforce. CDA, DHCS, DDS, CDPH, CDSS, DOR, and HCAI engage with LWDA to uplift the range of needs for our diverse workforce, a key component of the MPA.



## ..... *Strengthening our Communities* .....

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“Our rural far north is no stranger to challenges, whether they be natural disasters or social issues. The funding made available from the California Department of Aging and The SCAN Foundation as well as local dollar commitments greatly strengthens the efforts of our newly formed Rural Local Master Plan for Aging Advisory Committee to plan and implement our local MPA.”

**Carolyn Nava, Community Relations Director,  
Disability Action Center**

While the MPA provides a statewide framework to prepare for the aging of our population, real change happens in the community. Today, approximately 80 California communities belong to [AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Communities](#), and three counties (Los Angeles, San Diego, and Ventura) are in the implementation stage of their local Master Plans for Aging, with 29 other counties in the planning and development phase.

### **The Local Aging & Disability Action Planning (LADAP) Grant Program:**

Launched in 2023, the [LADAP grant program](#) provides over \$4 million to support communities in planning for and addressing the needs of California's older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers — focusing on elevating the strengths, voices, and needs of underserved community members. With these resources, communities across our state will improve livability for people of all ages by creating local age- and disability-friendly plans centered on equity, cultural competence, community engagement, and disability inclusion principles and practices.

#### **Grant awardees:**

- Agency on Aging/Area 4 (Sutter and Yuba counties)
- Alliance on Aging (Salinas, Monterey County)
- City of Azusa (Los Angeles County)
- City of La Puente (Los Angeles County)
- City of Santa Monica (Los Angeles County)
- City of Vista (San Diego County)
- County of Orange Social Services Agency
- Disability Action Center (Butte, Glenn, and Shasta counties)
- Independent Living Resource Center (Santa Barbara County)
- Inland Caregiver Resource Center (Riverside and San Bernardino counties)
- Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation/Center for Age-Friendly Excellence (Brisbane, Daly City, East Palo Alto, and Pacifica, San Mateo County)
- Madera County Department of Social Services
- Marin Aging and Disability Institute (San Anselmo and Novato, Marin County)
- Merced County Human Services Agency
- Sacramento County Department of Child, Family and Adult Services
- San Luis Obispo County
- Seniors Council of Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties
- Sonoma County Human Services Department, Area Agency on Aging (Santa Rosa and Sonoma Valley, Sonoma County)
- Solano County Health and Social Services Public Health Division Older and Disabled Adults Services
- Stanislaus County Community Services Agency

### **Governor's Office of Emergency Services' (OES) Focuses on Priority Populations:**

Climate change disproportionately impacts vulnerable populations, including older adults, people with disabilities, and unhoused Californians who face adverse consequences of wildfires, poor air quality, extreme heat, freezing temperatures, flooding, power shutoffs, and evacuation notices. OES has formally prioritized these populations for disaster planning, preparedness, and response, partnering with Listos California and local partners to mitigate against the harmful effects of climate change.

**Blue Zones™:** With funding provided by the governor and Legislature, the California Department of Public Health is integrating older adults into the global Blue Zones™ phenomenon in the state capital. Sacramento County is the largest jurisdiction in the world to work with Blue Zones™ to improve the well-being of all its county residents. This opportunity grew out of the Governor's Alzheimer's Prevention and Preparedness Task Force chaired by Maria Shriver, where the Blue Zones™ interventions were noted as powerful deterrents to dementia around the world.

### **Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Program Initiatives:**

- **Dementia Care Aware:** In 2023, California accelerated progress on the nation's first screening and detection program, [Dementia Care Aware](#). Dementia Care Aware provides a statewide standard of care for dementia screening in California, through equity-focused, culturally appropriate training for primary care providers across all payers, including Medicare, Medi-Cal, and other coverage.
- **Cal-COMPASS (California Community Program for Alzheimer's Services and Supports) Pilot Program:** The California Department of Aging, in partnership with seven licensed Alzheimer's Day Programs and Adult Day Health Care centers, is piloting a modernized community care model to inform best practices to prevent or delay institutionalization of persons living with Alzheimer's and other dementias, support caregivers, and advance health equity.
- **Research and Awareness:** The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) administers Alzheimer's research grants to better understand and address racial and gender disparities. CDPH is planning for an Alzheimer's public awareness campaign to launch in 2024.



## ..... *Aligning Aging and Disability* .....

Older adults and people with disabilities enrich us as a state, contributing their vast life experience to all sectors of our society. California is committed to fighting ageism and ableism in all settings to ensure all Californians can age with dignity and respect. Since its development, the MPA has prioritized aligning aging and disability and elevating the voices of older adults and people with disabilities together in policy, programs, planning, and stakeholder engagement.

**Bridging Aging and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities:** California was awarded a grant from the National Association of State Councils on Developmental Disabilities, in partnership with the federal Administration for Community Living, to establish a Disability and Aging Community of Practice (DACoP) to enhance the client/consumer experience for individuals with disabilities and their families across the lifespan. Strengthening California's emerging No Wrong Door (NWD) system, the DACoP will develop resources, facilitate training, build cross-sector leadership, and collaborate to improve system navigation across aging and disability networks.

**State Independent Living Council (SILC):** The SILC maximizes opportunities for people with disabilities who desire to live independently, a key goal of the MPA. CDA is a proud member of this committee, ensuring that aging and disability issues are elevated throughout the MPA.

**State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD):** The SCDD ensures that people with developmental disabilities and their families receive the services and supports they need. CDA is proud to be a member of this committee, uplifting the alignment of aging and disability across the lifespan.



..... *Advancing Home and Community Care Choices through Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) System Reform* .....

In developing recommendations for the MPA in 2020, [the Long-Term Services and Supports Subcommittee Stakeholder Report](#) noted that system change relies on the interdependence of four key components that include:

- A way to finance elder and disability care that helps millions of middle-income Californians avoid spending down to poverty levels to pay for care.
- Access to services and supports statewide.
- Tools to navigate the LTSS and health care system in a streamlined manner.
- Strong and well-supported workforce to provide services in the home and community.



“More than 75% of adults aged 50 and older want to age at home, but many cannot access or afford the supports they need to do so. To achieve the goals of the MPA and the long-standing systems change required for all Californians to age well, we will need to act with purpose and determination. This includes embracing strong public/private partnerships, successfully elevating the lived reality and needs of our diverse aging populations, and meaningfully addressing structural and institutional biases over the lifespan of the MPA and beyond.”

**Sarita A. Mohanty, MD, MPH, MBA**

**Implementing the MPA In California Together (IMPACT) Stakeholder Committee,  
The SCAN Foundation**

To achieve system change, California must address each of these interrelated elements. In response to the LTSS Subcommittee recommendations, the MPA provides a strong framework with efforts underway to advance this work:

**LTSS Financing and Affordability:** In partnership with national subject matter experts, CDA is leading a cross-agency \$5 million initiative to support data and research of LTSS financing options for older adults and people with disabilities — including Medi-Cal, Medicare, and private insurance. The state Legislature’s 2022 budget investment strategically deploys taxpayer funds to address the most fundamental unplanned financing shocks that can affect California families across all income levels. At its core, the project is designed to meet three objectives:

1. Outline the latest information and data focused on the current and projected future needs of the older adult population in California that is currently ineligible for Medi-Cal (the “missing middle”).
2. Obtain widespread consumer and stakeholder input to validate and deepen California’s understanding of population needs.
3. Identify a comprehensive set of sustainable policy solutions to consider for addressing the needs of older adults and people with disabilities who fall in the “missing middle.”

**Access to Programs and Services in All Communities:** California is developing a collaborative two-part Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Multiyear Roadmap. Each of these efforts seeks to improve access to HCBS services statewide, prioritizing planning for the development of programs for underrepresented populations and services in underserved areas of the state:

- Medi-Cal HCBS and Multiyear Roadmap: DHCS is overseeing development of the Medi-Cal HCBS Multiyear Roadmap, which will be informed by the Medi-Cal HCBS Gap Analysis and the LTSS Data Dashboard.
- Non-Medi-Cal HCBS Multiyear Roadmap: CDA is overseeing development of Non-Medi-Cal HCBS Gap Analysis, which will inform development of the Non-Medi-Cal HCBS Multiyear Roadmap.

**Navigation:** California is in the early stages of planning for statewide adoption of the state's first aging, disability, and caregiver 24/7 contact center and consumer-facing web portal to provide streamlined access to local, regional, and statewide information. This ambitious but essential No Wrong Door system strategy reinforces efforts to promote sustainability of the community-based network of Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRCs), a model for enhanced information, assistance, and referral to local programs and services.

**Workforce:** A key component of the MPA includes investing in the recruitment, training, retention, and advancement of California's direct care workforce, comprised of both paid direct care workers and unpaid family and friend caregivers. Over the past two years, the administration and Legislature have invested an unprecedented \$2.5 billion to meet the growing needs of the direct care workforce through initiatives including the [IHSS Career Pathways Program](#) and [CalGrows](#).



## ..... *Leading the Nation and Engaging a* ..... *Global Audience*

California's MPA serves as a national model for advancing age- and disability-friendly policies, partnerships, investments, and innovative service delivery. We look forward to continued and new partnerships that inspire and build an age- and disability-friendly nation.

**Advising Other States in MPA Development:** California provides technical assistance to the Multisector Plan for Aging learning collaborative, a network of states working with the [Center for Health Care Strategies Multisector Plan for Aging Learning Collaborative](#).

**Elevating Aging's Global Voice:** As a featured speaker at the AARP international event, "Power of Global Aging in an Interdependent World," CDA Director Susan DeMarois positioned California as a global pioneer in planning for the needs of our aging population.

**California as a Model:** CDA Director Susan DeMarois was named this year to U.S. Health and Human Services Agency Secretary Xavier Becerra's National Alzheimer's Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services to represent California's nation-leading efforts to reduce dementia risk and promote early detection.

**Leading for Alzheimer’s Planning:** CDPH was awarded a BOLD Public Health Program grant from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Over the next five years (2023-2028), the funding will support the ongoing work of California’s Healthy Brain Initiative (HBI). Currently 13 county public health departments are implementing strategies from the CDC’s [HBI: State and Local Road Map for Public Health](#).

**Raising Awareness:** California leaders, including First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom, have presented at several national conferences focused on equity, aging, caregiving, workforce, and public health, accelerating new state-led age-friendly action plans. California’s MPA has been mentioned in 44 articles, clips, and notable press releases in both state and national publications, with numerous mentions in The Los Angeles Times.



..... ***Holding Ourselves Accountable*** .....

The MPA is dynamic, flexible, and focused on outcomes and accountability for an age- and disability-friendly state. Through renewed state leadership, deep stakeholder partnership, and continuous public engagement, California

is committed to driving progress, identifying challenges, and delivering on the promise of building a California for All Ages and Abilities by 2030.

**Legislative Oversight:** The California State Legislature is a critical partner in advancing the MPA, including promoting equity and combating ageism and ableism through policy and funding priorities. This year, the MPA had additional oversight from the following entities:

- **Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee:** In February 2023, the Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee held an informational hearing focused on MPA implementation, including representation from state leaders, stakeholders, and advocates to note the progress and potential of the MPA.
- **Little Hoover Commission:** In the summer of 2023, the Little Hoover Commission engaged in [an in-depth review of California's MPA efforts](#) with back-to-back hearings, including a special focus on preventing and ending older adult homelessness. CalHHS Agency Secretary Mark Ghaly, BCSH Agency Deputy Secretary Sasha Kergan, and CDA Director Susan DeMarois provided [testimony](#) speaking to MPA implementation and next steps.

**Data Dashboard for Aging:** The [Data Dashboard for Aging](#) positions California well for the future, as we continue to make great strides in tracking, measuring, and monitoring outcomes to drive fiscal and policy decisions, as well as system change.

**MPA Implementation Tracker:** The publicly available [MPA Implementation Tracker](#) tracks MPA progress, providing updates on each of the MPA's initiatives.

**CA2030:** [CA2030](#) is a collaborative, data-driven process with stakeholders, consumers, and subject matter experts to review the strengths and challenges of California's diverse network of Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) in meeting growing needs with consistency, outcomes, and equity statewide. The [recommendations report](#) for a future-ready California Aging Network is available now.



## *Preparing the State Aging Network for 2030*

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“The California Commission on Aging (CCoA) is honored to collaborate with California’s aging and disability stakeholders in the continued implementation of the MPA. As our state becomes more racially and ethnically diverse, new and unique challenges and opportunities await us. We are so proud of the momentum and leadership created by the MPA. CCoA celebrates our 50th anniversary with renewed commitment to achieving the vision of a California for All Ages and Abilities by 2030.”

**Cheryl Brown, Chair,  
California Commission on Aging**

A future-ready California aging network needs to prepare to serve and support a larger, older, and more diverse population of older Californians. To accelerate planning, [CDA launched CA2030](#) to identify opportunities to modernize the statewide network of Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs). Over the course of one year, CDA and its consultant partner convened the CA2030 Steering Committee comprised of statewide and local leaders in aging and disability, facilitated interviews with more than 250 stakeholders, and conducted California’s first-ever statewide consumer survey with over 17,000 respondents. The Steering Committee identified short- and long-term opportunities for network enhancement in six areas of focus: geography and demographics, governance, programs and services, performance measures, branding and communications, and funding sources and capacities. The [Steering Committee’s recommendations](#) will inform the state’s efforts to reimagine the local aging network for the future.

..... *What's Ahead in 2024* .....



**A Letter From CDA Director Susan DeMarois**

The great American conductor and composer Leonard Bernstein once said, “To achieve great things, two things are needed: a plan and not enough time.” California has both a plan — and not enough time — as we harness the momentum of the Master Plan for Aging in preparation for 2030. Our stakeholders, our communities, our providers, our philanthropic partners, our state agencies, our Legislature, and our governor share in this sense of urgency, and all are contributing to the success of the MPA.

In the year ahead, we will find new ways to work together for the greater good as we simultaneously meet the needs of today’s older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers, and build a system for the future. We no longer have the option of doing one or the other. As state and federal budgets tighten, California is fortunate to have a stakeholder foundation and MPA framework put in place years ago by our governor to guide us all in the coming years. We have already exceeded our own expectations of what an MPA can achieve, and there’s no end in sight for what we can still achieve together.

## *Acknowledgements*

In this third year, the MPA is moving forward with speed, purpose, and the unwavering support from partners from all sectors of California: state and local government, academia, private, non-profit, and philanthropic sectors. The MPA continues to iterate, innovate, and implement with this year's success being a direct result of the continued collaboration and partnership of stakeholders, providers, statewide officials, and Administration partners.

The Administration is especially grateful to the many stakeholder committee members who advocate on behalf of older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers. Lastly, the MPA philanthropic partners continually demonstrate their unwavering commitment to support the Five Bold Goals of the MPA by investing in ideas that lead to change: [Archstone Foundation](#), [The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation](#), [Metta Fund](#), [The SCAN Foundation](#), [May & Stanley Smith Charitable Trust](#), and the [Gary and Mary West Foundation](#). The MPA continues to thrive due to these collective efforts to seek, and achieve, a California for All ages and abilities.

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