



2021-2025 Older Americans Act State Plan on Aging

April 2021

Overview of Older Americans Act State Plan

- Each year, the federal government provides millions of dollars in funding for programs authorized by the Older Americans Act (OAA).
- These programs provide vital services for older adults related to nutrition, health and wellness, caregiver support, and much more.
- In order to receive this funding, California must submit an OAA State Plan on Aging to the federal Administration for Community Living (ACL) every four years. This plan must include goals and objectives related to OAA programs.
- California's next OAA State Plan is due to ACL on July 1, 2021 and goes into effect October 1, 2021.

What is the Department of Aging's Role?



- The California Department of Aging (CDA) is California's designated State Unit on Aging, per the Older Americans Act.
- In this role, it contracts with the state's 33 Area Agencies on Aging to provide services authorized under the Older Americans Act and the Older Californians Act. This includes, among other things, programs that provide:
 - Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals
 - Supportive Services for Community Living
 - Support for Family Caregivers
 - Disease Prevention, Health Promotion, and Medicare Counseling
 - Elder Abuse Prevention and Legal Assistance
 - Advocacy for People who Live in Long-Term Care Facilities

CDA Role: Leadership and Oversight

- CDA provides leadership and oversight for these OAA programs and, with input from the California Health and Human Service Agency, develops the OAA State Plan every four years.
- The 2021-25 OAA State Plan will serve as a blueprint for California's OAA network to build equitable, age-friendly communities through programs, partnerships, services, outreach efforts, and advocacy.

How Were the OAA State Plan Goals Developed?



The following all played or will play a role:

- COVID-19 pandemic, including the equity issues it raised
- Priorities identified in the 2020-24 Area Plans developed by the state's 33 local Area Agencies on Aging
- Statutory requirements and federal guidance
- The Governor's [Master Plan for Aging](#)
- CDA's new strategic plan
- Input from stakeholders and members of the public
 - *Online survey available on CDA website through May 5*
 - *Two public hearings will be held with time for public comments: April 26 and April 29*

2021-25 OAA State Plan Goal 1



Goal 1: Public Information and Assistance: California will expand public access to information, assistance, and services related to aging, disability, and caregiving, with an equity lens to ensure access for all Californians.

- **Objective A: No Wrong Door** Create a statewide California's No Wrong Door network, by making Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRCs) available throughout the state, building on the foundation of six existing ADRC providers that serve one-third of the state as of 2021.
- **Objective B: Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy** Expand access to Medicare and health insurance counseling and advocacy services (HICAP).
- **Objective C: California Aging & Adults Information & Assistance Telephone Line** Modernize statewide California Aging and Adults Info Line (1-800-510-2020), with AAA network.
- **Objective D: Equitable Access** Advance diversity, equity, and inclusion of and by aging service providers, including expanded language access throughout the network.

2021-25 OAA State Plan Goal 2



Goal 2: Home and Community Living: California will help people live in their homes and communities of choice by supporting nutrition, health and well-being, and caregiving, through culturally competent and in-language services.

- **Objective A: Nutrition** Expand equitable access to nutrition and nutrition education services to meet the need following a record-setting number of meals provided as part of the COVID-19 response.
- **Objective B: Family Caregivers** Strengthen support for local programs delivering family caregiver support.
- **Objective C: Fall Prevention & Home Modification** Expand equitable access to new fall prevention programs.
- **Objective D: System Leadership:** California will strengthen its system of accessible and equitable home and community living services statewide for older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers.

2021-25 OAA State Plan Goal 3



Goal 3: Inclusion, Equity, and Prevention of Isolation and Mistreatment California will promote inclusion and engagement and seek to prevent isolation and mistreatment of older adults and people with disabilities through culturally competent and in-language services.

- **Objective A: Behavioral Health** Support the behavioral health of older adults, adults with disabilities, and caregivers with culturally relevant and accessible programming.
- **Objective B: Digital Connections** Narrow the digital divide and connect more older adults to digital information, services, and engagement.
- **Objective C: Community Engagement** Increase opportunities for engagement for older adults to remain active in their communities, including at senior and community centers.
- **Objective D: Elder Justice** Promote culturally responsive elder justice strategies to reduce elder mistreatment.

2021-25 OAA State Plan Goal 4



Goal 4: Long-Term Care Residents' Rights and Well-being: California will increase access to information and advance the rights and well-being of older adults and people with disabilities living in licensed nursing homes and residential care communities, and their family and friends, as appropriate – especially informed by the lessons of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Objective A: Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO): Rights** CDA will protect the rights of long-term care residents.
- **Objective B: LTCO—Well-being** Support culturally relevant programs and activities that enable older adults and people with disabilities to remain actively engaged with friends, family, community activities, and personal interests while living in a congregate setting.

2021-25 OAA State Plan Goal 5



Goal 5: Partnerships: California will strengthen partnerships to advance California for all ages.

- **Objective A: Tribal Organizations** Expand Native American residents' and Tribal Organizations' access to Older Americans Act programs and services provided through the OAA.
- **Objective B: Health Care** Explore partnerships involving health care plans, long-term services and supports (LTSS) providers, government programs, and other health entities.
- **Objective C: California for All Ages Network** Support local aging, disability, and caregiving leaders in developing master plans for aging.

2021-25 OAA State Plan Goal 6



Goal 6: Modernization of CDA: California will modernize and enhance the resources, tools, and infrastructure necessary to deliver quality services and promote a positive, diverse, inclusive, and professional corporate culture in support of CDA, its federally designated State Unit on Aging.

- **Objective A: Operations** Streamline CDA's planning, monitoring, program operations, and fiscal processes related to AAAs and the network of providers.
- **Objective B: Data and Technology** Upgrade and integrate technology and data for action and performance.
- **Objective C: State/Local Aging Services Governance Structure** Organizational alignment of state and local aging networks is needed to achieve person-centered, data-driven, equity-focused outcomes for the growing and diversifying population of older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers in California.

What is not Included in the OAA State Plan?

- Unlike the California Master Plan for Aging, which Governor Gavin Newsom released in January 2021, the OAA State Plan either does not address—or minimally addresses—areas that fall outside of programs provided by AAAs under the Older Americans Act.
- Examples of critical needs that are addressed in the Master Plan for Aging but not the OAA State Plan include:
 - Housing Options
 - Geriatric Care Expansion

The California Master Plan for Aging Goals



- 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.
- 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.



The California Master Plan for Aging Goals

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.

4. Caregiving That Works: We will be prepared for and supported through the rewards and challenges of caring for aging loved ones.

5. Affording Aging: We will have economic security for as long as we live.



CDA's New Strategic Plan



- 1. Promote a California for All Ages.** We will develop, advance, and measure the Master Plan for Aging with diverse partners at the state and local levels.
- 2. Increase Choices to Live at Home and Community.** We will uphold excellence and promote continuous quality improvement in CDA services for home and community living.
- 3. Increase the Well-being of Residents in Long-Term Care Facilities.** We will uphold excellence and promote continuous quality improvement in CDA services for residents of nursing homes and other senior living facilities.

4. Increase Awareness and EngAGEMENT. We will establish an environment that fosters communication that educates Californians about information and resources around aging and disability and engage them in conversations that advance equity in aging.

5. Modernize CDA. We will secure and enhance the resources, tools, and infrastructure necessary to deliver quality services and promote a positive, diverse, inclusive, and professional corporate culture in support of CDA's mission.

Person Centered, Data Driven, Equity Focused:



Resilience: Being able to continue providing services, including during emergencies, while simultaneously implementing changes in response to growth and diversification.

Coordination: Partnering with public and private entities to better leverage a region's resources and meet the social and health needs of older adults in a person-centered way.

Equity: Serving populations in need and ensuring that language access, cultural competency, inclusion, and anti-racism are “baked in.”

Transparency: Sharing data and information with the public and partners—and using data to drive decisions.

Innovation: Continually considering new ways to deliver services or to add services (e.g., helping people access the internet or providing more behavioral health support).

Effectiveness: Achieving outcomes and providing service levels commensurate with agencies possessing similar resources

Share Your Comments!

We are interested in receiving input from older adults, people with disabilities, family caregivers, agencies and advocates that serve these individuals, and anyone else who is interested in the OAA State Plan.

- [Click here to share your comments via an online survey.](#)
- Share your comments during two upcoming virtual public hearings on the OAA State Plan scheduled for April 26 and April 29.

Thank you!

California Department of Aging

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