

CALIFORNIA AGING AND DISABILITY ALLIANCE:

Creating financing solutions to promote access & choice

- **The demographic imperative:** California's population of older adults and people with disabilities stands at about 8 million – including older adults who are either age 65 and over as well as individuals under age 65 who are living with disabilities, developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injuries. With a two-fold increase anticipated over the next several decades, population growth will bring increased demand for services and supports, which the state is not prepared to meet.
- **Voters want solutions:** Recent statewide polling data found that 83% percent of likely voters would support a gubernatorial candidate with a vision and long-term investment plan for California's older adults. In addition, more than two thirds of likely voters feel the state is not prepared to meet the needs of this population, while nearly two thirds believe that these services should be a high priority for increased public investment.
- **Challenges:** California confronts a number of challenges in how to finance, develop and organize services for the population. For individuals and families, the unanticipated costs can lead to impoverishment and lack of care options. For the state, the issues are many, including lack of a sound financing structure, confusing and complicated systems of care, a shortage of available services and supports, a dearth of affordable and accessible housing, and need for a culturally competent workforce.
- **Critical Next Steps:** The Alliance initiated and succeeded in securing \$3 million in the 2018-19 state budget to incorporate key Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) screening questions on the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), the largest population-based state health survey in the United States. This lays the foundation for further action already in progress:
 - Evaluating feasibility and developing strategies to explore new LTSS financing mechanisms – including pursuit of a statewide ballot initiative.
 - Advising Gubernatorial candidates on emerging issues, informing the incoming Administration on public priorities and proactively assisting through the transition and beyond.
- **What is LTSS?** Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS), also referred to as Long-Term Care (LTC), consists of a broad range of day-to-day tasks that include personal care (bathing, dressing, toileting); complex care (medications, wound care); help with housekeeping, transportation, paying bills, and meals; and other ongoing social services. LTSS may be provided in the home, in assisted living and other supportive housing settings, in nursing facilities, and in integrated settings that provide both health care and supportive services.

- **Who uses LTSS?** Generally, individuals who need LTSS include but are not limited to those with chronic conditions, disabilities, behavioral health needs, and/or cognitive impairment. Unpaid caregivers, including family members and friends, can also receive supportive services or respite to help in the care of their loved ones. The LTSS system seeks to empower consumers to self-direct their care, as desired by the individual.
- **About the Alliance:** The California Aging and Disability Alliance (CADA) – formerly referred to as the LTSS Exploratory Coalition – is comprised of 21 diverse organizations sharing a common commitment to creating affordable financing solutions to address the needs of our population now and into the future.
 - Organizations include a broad cross section of stakeholders, including statewide representatives of aging, consumer, disability, labor and provider groups.
- **Alliance efforts:** The Alliance began its work in 2017 with the goal of developing thoughtful budget, financing, and policy solutions to strengthen the LTSS system today and prepare California for tomorrow.
 - Member organizations engage with policy makers at all levels to raise awareness, build momentum and develop solutions to meet the needs of this population.
- **The Policy Platform:** The Alliance’s platform centers on creating solutions for LTSS system financing to create affordable and accessible LTSS for all Californians. The platform envisions a three-pronged solution to meet the needs of older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers, now and into the future: 1) linking people to care, 2) promoting access, and 3) ensuring affordability.

Participating Organizations Include:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AARP ▪ Alzheimer’s Association ▪ California Association for Adult Day Services ▪ California Association of Area Agencies on Aging ▪ California Collaborative for LTSS ▪ California Commission on Aging ▪ California Domestic Workers Coalition ▪ California Foundation for Independent Living Centers ▪ California LTC Ombudsman Association ▪ CalPACE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Caring Across Generations ▪ Congress of California Seniors ▪ Disability Rights California ▪ Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund ▪ Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network ▪ Justice in Aging ▪ LeadingAge California ▪ Service Employees International Union ▪ State Independent Living Council ▪ The Arc of California ▪ UDW/AFSCME Local 3930 |
|---|---|