



Master Plan for Aging: FACT SHEET

Building an Equitable California for ALL Ages and Abilities

Since its launch in January 2021, the Newsom Administration and the Legislature have committed billions of dollars in unprecedented investments to advance equity and priorities outlined in the state's Master Plan for Aging (MPA) for 2030. More than 50 MPA initiatives have been adopted to strengthen existing programs while simultaneously launching new services for targeted populations. Today, older Californians, people with disabilities, and caregivers have expanded access to health care, increased housing opportunities, greater home and community-based care options, and a host of new supports to enhance community living.



Goal One: Housing for all Ages & Stages

California communities are expanding age-friendly housing options as part of the overall historic investments in affordable housing production, mortgage and rent relief, and accessible transportation. These include: Community Care Expansion (\$855 million); Accessory Dwelling Units (\$131 million); Veterans Housing (\$100 million); Housing Modifications and Fall Prevention (\$5 million); Healthier Homes-Aging in Place (\$12.5 million); Adult Family Homes (\$9 million); Age-Friendly Communities (\$4.5 million). California is also among the first states designated as an AARP Age-Friendly State.



Goal Two: Health Reimagined

California is establishing the foundation of a true home and community-based care system - the top priority of older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers.

Enhanced Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS)

CalAIM's groundbreaking Medi-Cal Community Supports and Enhanced Care Management with plans to "carve-in" long-term care; \$3 billion HCBS Spending Plan; In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) home care restorations (\$496 million); Adult Day Care COVID-19 recovery grants (\$61 million); increase in the number of Medi-Cal Assisted Living Waiver slots by 7000, and more.

Expanded Health Care Access

Medi-Cal had four expansions for older and disabled adults: Elimination of the asset test by 2024, elimination of working disabled premium, coverage for people 50+ who are undocumented, plus plans to address share of cost in 2025. In addition, California is the first state to focus squarely on Medicare coordination: aligning Medicare/Medi-Cal plans statewide and creating a new Office of Innovation and Integration.

Bold Alzheimer's Investments

Nine of ten Governor's Task Force recommendations implemented, including Healthy Brain initiatives, new Medi-Cal benefit for dementia screening, and dementia capable-care in home and at community centers.

Focus on Nursing Home Quality

Major financing reform to drive quality care. For residents and families, expanded on-line facility quality information, Long-Term Care Ombudsman outreach, review of visitor access during emergencies, and new robotic pets.

Data-Driven Planning for Future Needs

California is embarking on statewide planning to assess HCBS infrastructure and capacity, and to identify gaps in coverage for all income levels (\$9 million). Additionally, the state is building from the California Health Interview Survey to center planning on Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) and caregiving data.





Goal Three: Inclusion and Equity, not Isolation

A new public information and navigation system is being built to help older adults, people with disabilities and family caregivers stay connected and protected in communities, with new investments in a statewide web portal for 24/7 access to community resources with improved language access and telephone support. Made progress toward closing the hunger gap with home delivered meals (\$106 million); Deployed technology grants for digital devices (\$50 million); and Foster Grandparents and Senior Companion Volunteer programs (\$10 million). In the midst of the pandemic, California lowered the age for Adult Protect Services (APS), from 65 to 60 (\$70 million) to reflect growing inequities and created the first state position to coordinate with county and private Public Guardians.



Goal Four: Caregiving that Works

California is prioritizing support for the direct care workforce such as home care aides, IHSS providers, and community health workers/promotores; health professionals including mental and behavioral health, social workers, nurses, primary care doctors and geriatricians; and for unpaid family caregivers who continue to provide the vast majority of long-term care, as part of the historic \$2.5 billion in overall investments in health and human service workforce.



Goal Five: Affording Aging

Unprecedented progress was made to repair the safety net and to address homelessness for older adults and people with disabilities living well below the Federal Poverty Limit:

Homelessness Initiatives to include the fastest growing age segment, 50+: Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (\$300 million) and Home Safe (for APS) (\$185 million).

Cash Assistance

Cash Assistance: SSI/SSP Restoration in 2022 and 2023 - grants for individuals and couples are now back to pre-Great Recession levels and SSP grants have increased by 24 percent in 2022 and 10 percent in 2023.

Hunger

CalFresh access expansions to undocumented 55+, as well as Home and Community Meals expansion (\$58 million ongoing) and infrastructure (\$40 million).

Affordability

California continues to explore new ways to address the affordability gap for a growing number of older adults and people with disabilities who don't yet qualify for Medi-Cal but who need financial assistance to cover the cost of care, housing, and a secure retirement. Significant but modest steps have been taken to date such as expanded employment re-training for older adults (\$17 million) and, most recently, CalSavers employer expansions. There is renewed interest in LTSS financing (\$5 million) coupled with progress on the LTC Insurance Task Force results.



To learn more about the MPA's progress, read the First Annual Progress Report and visit the Data Dashboard for Aging.

mpa.aging.ca.gov