



Meeting Our Needs As We Age Ensuring Access to Long-Term Services & Supports (LTSS)

Millions of Californians live with a chronic illness or disability and depend on a wide range of personal, medical, and social supports – called Long-Term Services and Supports or LTSS – to assist with activities of daily living. As California’s population ages, the need for LTSS will continue to grow. California must enhance the current system of long-term care by 2030 to meet the impending demand for quality, life-sustaining LTSS.

Three Priorities for Action

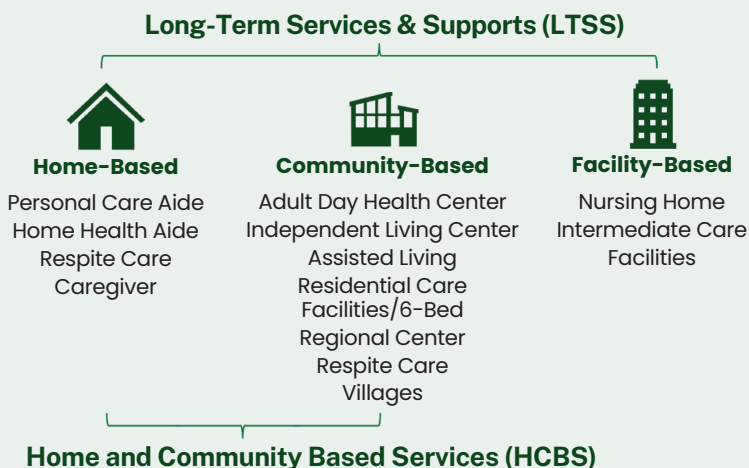
- 1 Expand Access to Long-Term Services and Supports
- 2 Address California’s Caregiver Crisis
- 3 Prioritize Older and Disabled Adults in Housing Policy

By taking action we can ensure that the quarter of California’s population which will be aged 60 and older by 2030 can live safely and independently, continuing to enhance family and community life throughout the state. As California’s population ages, access to LTSS will also help prevent costly medical and emergency room visits, unnecessary or premature institutionalization, and even homelessness.

WHAT are LTSS?

LTSS are primarily funded through medicaid, a joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs for people who have limited resources. They can receive LTSS at home, in the community, in residential care, or in an institutional setting.

Example of LTSS



Unprecedented Need

- By 2030, 1 million+ Californians will have self-care limitations (source: PPIC)
- Older adults turning 65 in 2023 have a 70% chance of needing long-term care in their remaining years. One in 5 will need long-term care for more than 5 years (source: ACL)
- The number of people living with Alzheimer’s Disease in California will more than double by 2040 (source: CDPH)
- 1 in 4 Californians live with a disability. Between 2015 and 2060, the number of older disabled Californians is set to increase by 160% (source: LAO)
- 1.3 million older Californians live alone. The number of individuals age 65+ living alone is growing (source: PPIC)

Expand Access to Long-Term Services and Supports



Issue

California has a fragmented and siloed service delivery infrastructure that is not equipped to meet the unprecedented need for LTSS, disparities in access to services, a need for coordination between healthcare, social services and housing, and a lack of affordable options for the “missing middle” (those with incomes between \$20,120 and \$94,770) who do not qualify for services.



By 2033, California is estimated to have 1.6 million older adults aged 75 and over who are part of the missing middle. A majority of California’s older adults will have mobility limitations and three or more chronic conditions.

(source: NORC at the University of Chicago)

Solutions

In alignment with the CA Master Plan for Aging (MPA), California is innovating new approaches to expanding access to LTSS and Home & Community-Based Supports (HCBS) through bold initiatives such as CalAIM, the expansion of the Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) program, a new No Wrong Door Leadership Council, and an HCBS gap analysis and roadmap.

Continued momentum is needed to build an equitable, cost-effective system of LTSS that can meet the increasingly complex needs of older and disabled adults, especially those who are falling through the gaps in care and into homelessness or repeated emergency and crisis response. We support the Administration’s efforts to explore long-term care financing solutions. Acting today would benefit 11 million Californians by 2060.



“The majority of older adults and people with disabilities want to live at home, even as their needs for care change, but California lacks an affordable, inclusive, and equitable system to support them.”

(source: CA MPA Stakeholder Advisory Report)

2024–25 Budget Requests

SUPPORT the Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) request to increase the ADRC Annual Allocation over two years, with an additional \$26 million allocated during FY 24–25, \$52 million in FY 25–26, and annually thereafter. ADRCs were established to provide trusted information sources that older adults and people living with disabilities can use to access the full range of long-term services, supports, and benefit options. The allocation increase will ensure ADRC’s continued development as a critical aspect of the Master Plan for Aging’s “No Wrong Door” strategy.

2024–25 Legislation

SUPPORT AB 2428 (Calderon) Medi-Cal: Community-Based Adult Services.	Requires Medi-Cal managed care plans to reimburse Community-Based Adult Day Service (CBAS) providers at a rate equal to or greater than the amount paid for the service by the Medi-Cal fee-for-service delivery system.
SUPPORT AB 1993 (Kaira) Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE): Maximum Number of Residents.	Aims to increase the maximum number of residents that can be served by a RCFE, from six to eight residents.
SUPPORT AB 2423 (Mathis) Developmental Services: Rates.	Aims to establish and maintain an equitable process for setting rates for non-medical care and supervision provided to individuals with developmental disabilities in their home, by regional centers.
SUPPORT AB 2685 (Ortega) Older Individuals: Case Management Services.	Establishes a demonstration program administered by the California Department of Aging (CDA) in multiple regions of the state with the purpose of expanding local capacity for supportive services, and providing case management services to individuals who need assistance to maintain health and economic stability.

Address California's Caregiver Crisis



Issue

California has a caregiver shortage in all care settings amidst a growing need for care. Families, communities, and the LTSS delivery network are stretched thin as they try to meet gaps in providing much needed support, especially for those who cannot afford LTSS benefits, individuals who live isolated and alone, and/or with severe disability, cognitive impairment, substance abuse, and issues related to being unhoused or previously unhoused.



"In the coming years, California will face a labor shortage of up to 3.2 million paid direct care workers."

(source: MPA LTSS Subcommittee Report)

Solutions

Build a strong and well-supported direct care workforce with liveable wages, benefits, and adequate training to ensure quality care. Provide support to the more than 4.4 million unpaid family caregivers in California.

In alignment with Master Plan for Aging Goal #4 "Caregiving That Works," continue to invest in training and support for the direct care workforce and unpaid family and friend caregivers.



"Almost 1.7 million friend and family caregivers are supporting someone with Alzheimer's disease or dementia, usually with little training or resources."

(source: January 2023 MPA Annual Report)

2024–25 Budget Requests

SUPPORT the SEIU/UDW request to extend the IHSS Career Pathways Program through December 2024 using existing federal funds and support a \$65 million general fund request to ensure statewide caregiver training through June 30, 2025, allowing hundreds of thousands more IHSS caregivers statewide to access critical training and support and improve care for medically fragile older adults and people living with disabilities.

OPPOSE the Governor's budget proposal to delay the rate implementation for developmental services from July 1 2024–July 1, 2025. The delay will cut a total of \$1 billion from community services providers and the direct support professionals, impacting the ability to provide critical services for individuals with developmental disabilities at a time when waitlists are growing.

2024–25 Legislation

SUPPORT AB 518 (Wicks)
Paid family leave: eligibility: care for designated persons.

Expands the definition of "family member" to include certain individuals related by blood, adoption, or affinity, as well as individuals who are in a domestic partnership with an employee.

SUPPORT AB 2123 (Papan)
Disability Compensation: Paid Family Leave.

Allows individuals to receive family temporary disability insurance (FTDI) leave concurrently with leave taken under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) or the California Family Rights Act (CFRA). Enables individuals to receive FTDI leave while providing care for a seriously ill family member.

SUPPORT SB 1090 (Durazo)
Unemployment insurance: disability and paid family leave: claim administration.

Aims to provide temporary disability insurance benefits to individuals who need to take time off work to care for a seriously ill child, spouse, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, or domestic partner. The bill requires employers to provide up to eight weeks of wage replacement benefits, with the amount of the benefit equal to one-seventh of the individual's weekly benefit amount.

SUPPORT AB 2131 (Valencia)
Certified Nurse Assistant Training Programs.

Requires CDPH to maintain an updated list of approved training programs on its website, including information on competency test pass rates aggregated by language, and to provide a nurse assistant certification examination in Spanish.

Prioritize Older and Disabled Adults in Housing Policy



Issue

California's housing crisis impacts older and disabled adults in increasingly higher proportions, yet these populations are not top of mind in policy solutions. Safe, accessible, and affordable housing serves as the foundation upon which LTSS can be effectively delivered, offering individuals the care and support they need.



"The affordable housing crisis disproportionately impacts people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) as the vast majority live in urban areas and on fixed incomes that are at or near poverty level thresholds."

(source: [CA Policy Center for IDD](#))



"Nearly half of California's homeless population is aged 50 or older."

(source: [UCSF Housing & Homeless Initiative](#))

Solutions

In alignment with Master Plan for Aging Goal #1, "Housing for All Ages & Stages," build capacity for housing with LTSS, and prevent homelessness for older adults and people with disabilities.

Access to suitable housing options with LTSS can prevent or delay the need for institutionalization in long-term care facilities, prevent homelessness, and support housing transitions. Additionally, supporting individuals to remain in their homes or within community-based housing options can reduce the strain on formal healthcare systems and public resources. Integration of services such as home health care, personal care assistance, behavioral health, and care coordination within housing settings ensures a holistic approach to meeting the diverse needs of individuals requiring LTSS.

2024–25 Budget Requests

SUPPORT Justice in Aging, Corporation for Supportive Housing, LeadingAge California, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, United Way of Greater LA request one-time funds of \$25 million that would fund a pilot housing stabilization program for older adults and persons with disabilities who are at imminent risk of, or currently experiencing, homelessness. The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) will oversee competitive grants to local housing, aging, and disability agencies. Grantees will administer rental subsidies to prevent homelessness for those who are at highest risk, offer housing stability to those most at risk of homelessness, and allow currently unhoused individuals to obtain housing in the private market.

2024–25 Legislation

SUPPORT SB 37 (Caballero) Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Housing Stability Act.

Provides funding for housing choice vouchers to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness to remain stably housed and access affordable housing. The grant recipient may use the funding for relocation costs, landlord incentives, and tenancy transition services. The bill also requires the grantee to collaborate with local agencies to coordinate a local homeless response.

SUPPORT AB 2498 (Zbur & Quirk-Silva) Housing: California Housing Security Act.

Aims to establish the California Housing Security Act, which would provide housing subsidies to eligible individuals who are at risk of homelessness or are already experiencing homelessness. The bill would prioritize individuals who are low-income, adults with disabilities, former foster youth, older adults, and those who have been incarcerated and are scheduled for release.

SUPPORT AB 1893 (Wicks) Housing Accountability Act: Housing Disapprovals: Required Local Findings.

Aims to increase the density of housing developments by providing a "density development bonus" for projects that include affordable housing.