



**Department
of Health**



**Office for
the Aging**

A Master Plan for Aging for New York

State Agency Council Meeting #2

JANUARY 11, 2023

Recap of State Agency Meeting #1

- At our December 7th meeting, we discussed:
 - An overview of the Master Plan process established in Executive Order No. 23
 - Master Plans implemented in Massachusetts and California
 - Sample focus areas and guiding principles
- As a follow up to this discussion, we asked for an Issue Brief that describes:
 - Challenges or barriers that your agency is facing or may face when working with aging or disabled New Yorkers
 - Highlighting obstacles that may impede the successful implementation of the Master Plan for Aging

Recap of Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting #1

- On January 9th, we held the first meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee.
- Conversation focused on priorities for aging with emphasis on the individual.
- Many priorities overlap with the State Agency Council's recommendations.

Overlapping Themes

- Need for affordable and accessible **housing**
- **Economic Security**
- Informal/Family **Caregivers**
- The benefits of and access to **technology**
- A call for **collaboration** among various local agencies and entities
- Addressing **social isolation**
- Increases in state **funding**

State Agency
Council
Subcommittee
Recommendations

- Workforce
- Aging Successfully at Home
- Behavioral health
- Sustainable community planning and development/aging in place
- Vulnerable populations
- Digital fluency and equity

Themes: Governor Hochul's 2023 State of the State

- **Housing:** zoning and planning, mixed use development, home repair, tenant protections
- Expanding **mental health services**
- **Investments in the workforce,** use of stipends and other strategies for loss of volunteers
- **Protecting consumers** from medical debt and making costs transparent
- Improving **transportation**
- **Affordable energy**
- Indexing the **minimum wage** to inflation

Proposed Subject Focus Groups

- Long Term Care Services and Supports*
- Community-Based Services*
- Caregivers (*Formal/Informal; Paid/Unpaid*)*
- Community Planning and Development (Inclusive of housing and transportation)
- Economic Security (Inclusive of tax credits, employment, entitlements, and public benefits)
- Health and Well-being
- Safety and Security (Neighborhoods, Emergency Preparedness, Abuse and Neglect)

Cross-cutting all subcommittees: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

****Mandated in the Executive Order***

MPA Guiding Principles: Suggested Changes From Both Groups

- Support individuals to live in the most integrated **community** setting most appropriate to their needs
- Support the development of a seamless system of care across settings, emphasizing prevention over institutionalization
- Secure the role of **business as well as** non-profit, religious and other community organizations **with an emphasis on public-private partnerships** to support aging in place
- Ensure person-centered planning
- Provide for fair pay and appropriate working conditions **for older persons in the workforce and for staff** in all long-term care settings
- Utilize State authority – licensing, regulatory and payment – to ensure quality of **life in communities as well as when in licensed care**
- Ensure that long term care providers and plans receive funding consistent with their service obligations and allow for access to quality care **(concern for Medicaid focus)**
- Achieve meaningful budget predictability, **sustainability** and savings through Medicare alignment and acute care savings

Key Considerations

- Aging is a nexus of concerns that includes physical and behavioral health, logistical support, fundamental needs, and quality of life
- Aging is a lifelong journey and supports and interventions for families across systems improve outcomes for individuals as they enter their older years
- The majority of health care costs are attributable to personal behaviors and choices, the built environment, poverty, and therefore working to strengthen community infrastructure will positively impact individuals of all ages (i.e., social determinants of health affect aging for individuals)
- Geography, race, ethnicity and language all present barriers to equitable access and quality of care, and must be considered to prevent disparate impacts in communities across the State (include race and ethnicity in data collection and presentation)
- Family, friends and neighbors play a critical role in preventing social isolation, providing care, and recognizing and supporting them relieves stress on formal systems of care
- Systems, programs and agencies need to work together as the myriad of programs create problems in navigation

Group Discussion

Discussion: Next Steps for Focus Groups

Consider the general topics proposed and how to move the work forward using a sample of one of the topics:

Housing, Community Planning and Development

1. Leads and co-leads
2. Participants
3. Charge of this subject focus group
4. Resources, data, background needed to facilitate the work
5. Develop workplan, including areas of inquiry
6. Meeting cadence and timeline
7. Identify organizations, agencies, individuals with interest
8. Identify sub-topics that may need separate subject focus groups

Next Meeting of the State Agency Council

The next meeting of the State Agency Council will be held:

- **Date:** Monday, February 6 – 2-4 PM
- **Location:** Albany, New York

A remote option will be available for those unable to attend in-person.