



Executive Summary

Master Plan for Aging State Agency Council

Virtual via WebEx

Monday, May 8, 2023

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Council Members and Representatives Allison Gold, Andrew Griffin, Barbara Guinn, Brett Hebner, Christopher Smith, Courtenay Loiselle, Elizabeth Cronin, Elizabeth Furth, Emily Steinbach, Janet Ho, Joanne Fernandez, Katie Egglefield, Kate Seaward, Kim Hill, Laura Gonzalez-Murphy, Noah Rayman, Patricia Zuber-Wilson, Paul Beyer, Rachel Baker, Thomas Brooks, Vivian DeCohen

Governor's Chamber: Alyson Grant Tarek, Aloaye Al-la-why Tisor, Meghan Parker

NYSDOH and NYSOFA Staff Present: Abigail Guisbond, Adam Herbst, Adriana Haas, Alicia Saure, Andrew Lebwohl, Angela Davis, Barbara Stubblebine, Carol Rodat, Carrie Lindemann, Charles Williams, Colleen Scott, Crystal Collette, Daniel Hammond, John Cochran, Karen Meier, Karisa Capone, Kerrin Moon, Lisa Weber, Maribeth Gnozzio, Mark Furnish, Michael Roy, Monica Pomeroy, Nancy Angelo, Roger Noyes, Tianna Pettinger, Valerie Deetz

Other NYSDOH Staff Present: Amanda Lothrop, Jennifer Alhart, Kate Smith, Mark Schweitzer, Maureen Spence, Michael Ogborn, Dr. Ursula Bauer

NYSTEC Staff Present: Fatima Hussain, Pearl Ha, Timothy Schmehl

Introduction

The State Agency Council convened on the 8th of May 2023 to discuss the:

- I. Landscape Document
- II. Overview of Provider Survey Results
- III. Subcommittee Updates
- IV. Outreach Efforts
- V. Preliminary Report
- VI. Problem Statement Exercise
- VII. Next Steps

Meeting Topics

Landscape Document

The majority of State agencies on the Council responded to the request for input to the landscape document. Responses from the remaining Council members are needed to identify the landscape of the aging and disability services system in its entirety so that the subcommittees can make recommendations for long-term sustainable change to the service system.



The Landscape document will help to inform where there are opportunities for collaboration to build on existing efforts and identify gaps in programs and services. This information will assist with defining the priorities for the Master Plan for Aging.

Surveys

A survey was sent out to government and private sector service providers across New York State.

The survey results identified the top three priorities among providers to be:

- Home care and personal care
- Transportation
- Housing

The top three least accessible services across all populations identified by providers are:

- Housing
- Home care
- Transportation

Responses were not reflective of the entire state as most were from the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes region and the least amount of responses were from the downstate area. The goal is to spread more awareness around the State about the Master Plan to get a more uniform and comprehensive response.

Subcommittee Updates

Six of eight subcommittees have met:

- Economic Security
- Home and Community Based Services
- Housing, Community Planning, and Development
- Informal Caregivers
- Formal Caregivers
- Safety and Security

Kickoff meetings for two other subcommittees have been scheduled.

Diversity, equity and inclusion across the subcommittees has been identified as a significant cross cutting issue.

A SharePoint Site has been set up with access given to all Subcommittee members so that they may share information with each other.

Outreach Efforts

Town Halls:



Six in-person town halls and additional hybrid town halls will take place across the State to engage the public and understand their needs. The in-person town halls will take place in:

- Capital Region
- New York City
- Plattsburgh
- Syracuse
- Rochester
- Buffalo

The Department of Health will look to the Council to identify locations and available space for these Town Halls.

Data Lead Communication:

The Department of Health and State Office for the Aging data leads have been working with other State agency partners to develop high level data to inform the subcommittee and workgroup discussions.

There will also be periodic requests for information through the subcommittee process. Please provide point of contact information for data leads within your respective agencies so the team can set up a meeting to discuss this.

Private Sector Outreach:

The Department of Health is reaching out to private companies, foundations and think tanks to engage their thoughts and garner their support to ensure a strong public-private partnership.

Preliminary Report

The subcommittees and workgroups will identify priorities and challenges for this report which is due July 9, 2023. Over the next year, the Department of Health and the State Office for the Aging will build upon the initial challenges identified in this report to develop comprehensive recommendations for the final report and the implementation phase of the Master Plan.

Problem Statement Exercise

The Department of Health team guided the Council members through an exercise outlining the workforce crisis. The Council was asked to provide responses regarding those affected by this challenge, ideal goals, and barriers to resolution. Some responses included:

- **Affected:** Persons with disabilities, people who need home-based services, family members, paid caregivers, employers.
- **Ideal goal:** Adequate supply of trained workers who are paid sufficiently, adequate transportation services, fair compensation in caregiving, sustainability.
- **Barriers to resolution:** Lack of adequate compensation and incentives to join this field, lack of understanding of the role caregivers play, racism and sexism, no career ladder, lack of technology to address these issues.



Department
of Health

Office for
the Aging

This problem statement exercise will be completed at subcommittee meetings to identify priorities and recommendations to address challenges.

Next Steps

Ahead of the next State Agency Council meeting, the members were asked to consider the following:

- I. Identify other opportunities/venues to spread the word about the Master Plan
- II. Identify data leads for each of the state agencies and send contact information to MPA@health.ny.gov.
- III. Respond with relevant information for the Landscape Document.

The next meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee will be held on August 8, 2023.