

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON AGING AND LONG-TERM CARE

Dr. Jasmeet Kaur Bains, Chair

INFORMATIONAL HEARING

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

California Master Plan for Aging

BACKGROUND

Executive Order Creating the California Master Plan for Aging: On June 10, 2019, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-14-19, calling for a Master Plan for Aging (Master Plan).

The Executive Order required the Master Plan to serve as a blueprint for state and local government, the private sector, and philanthropy to implement strategies and partnerships that promote healthy aging for all Californians and prepare the state for the coming demographic changes. It recognized the growth, diversity, and value of California’s older population, and the critical role of caregivers, paid and unpaid. Additionally, the Executive Order identified the need for an “age-friendly” state that supports independence and choice, highlighting California’s leadership on supporting a wide range of home- and community-based services. The Master Plan was required to include recommendations to better coordinate federal, state, and local government programs and services. It also required key data indicators with 10-year targets to support implementation.

The Executive Order directed the Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) Secretary to convene the following committees to advise the development and implementation of a Master Plan:

- Cabinet-level Workgroup for Aging with representation across state agencies
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) representing a broad array of stakeholders that includes two subcommittees (Research and Long-Term Care Subcommittees)

The Executive Order directed the Secretary and these committees to deliver the following items:

- March 2020: Report from the Long-Term Care Subcommittee, focusing on the growth, stability, and sustainability of the long-term care infrastructure; access to and quality of long-term care programs; system financing; and workforce capacity
- October 1, 2020: Final Master Plan submitted to the governor

Between June and September of 2019, , the Newsom Administration identified members of the various committees and created a work plan to guide the Master Plan efforts laid out in the Executive Order.

Structuring the Master Plan Workload: Building a California for All Ages required the engagement and expertise of residents from across the state, in a range of inclusive and interactive ways. The Master Plan’s development reflected this same approach, including more than a year of public engagement, stakeholder outreach, community roundtables, and alignment with the Governor’s Task Force on Alzheimer’s Prevention, Preparedness & Path Forward.

Between September 2019 and October 2020, the Department of Aging oversaw the Together We Engage campaign, which collected input from the public, stakeholders, and partners through pledges, surveys, meetings, webinars, and community roundtables.

As called for in the Governor’s Executive Order, a Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC), a Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Subcommittee (reframed from the Executive Order Long-Term Care Subcommittee) , and a Research Subcommittee were formed in August 2020. In total, they comprised of seventy-eight members from local government, healthcare providers, health plans, employers, community-based organizations, academia, researchers, and consumers.

Recognizing the diversity of California’s population – both the strong and varied cultural traditions around aging as well as the need to address life-long disparities and inequities faced by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+), and other Californians – the SAC formed an Equity Work Group (EWG) in December 2020 tasked with ensuring that equity is fully incorporated into the Master Plan.

The SAC was comprised of 35 diverse stakeholders with varying expertise and experience whose input informed the work of the Health and Human Services Agency and the Cabinet-Level Workgroup on Aging. From September 2019- September 2020, the SAC met nine times to develop a set of formal recommendations to the Administration and shared its final recommendations to the Administration in mid-October 2020.

The LTSS Subcommittee provided input including institutional and home and community-based services, including In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS); LTSS access and quality; workforce labor supply and retention; family caregivers; information & referral systems; LTSS financing; and recommendations to stabilize LTSS. A report from this Subcommittee was reviewed and approved by the SAC in March 2020.

The Research Subcommittee developed measurable indicators, with baseline data, goals, and a dashboard, to measure the state's progress on the Master Plan; identified disparities and strategies to measure progress to address those disparities; identified local best practices and promising practices; identified new research findings with significant impact to the Master Plan and goals.

The EWG advised on Master Plan deliverables through an equity lens, in keeping with the Master Plan vision, mission, and values and the changing demographics of aging.

The Release of the Master Plan for Aging: On January 6, 2021, after more than a year of collaboration with our state partners and stakeholder and public engagement, CHHS and CDA officially launched the Master Plan for Aging via a press briefing, which included remarks from key MPA Stakeholders and legislative leaders. This event was followed a week later by a public Virtual MPA Summit highlighting the Five Bold Goals for 2030 where we were joined by Secretary Su of the Labor & Workforce Development Agency; Secretary Castro Ramirez of the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency; and several key legislative leaders and stakeholder partners. The MPA includes five bold goals and 23 accompanying strategies

The MPA's Five Bold Goals for 2030 are:

Goal One: Housing for All Ages & Stages

Goal Two: Health Reimagined

Goal Three: Inclusion & Equity, Not Isolation

Goal Four: Caregiving That Works

Goal Five: Affording Aging

The first years into the Master Plan for Aging: On January 21, 2022, in a First Anniversary Summit, CHHS and CDA brought together key stakeholders, legislators and partner to reflect on the first year of the MPA, and share priorities moving forward. There are more than 100 initiatives launching during the first two years of the plan, to work toward achieving the MPA’s five bold goals for 2030.

Working toward 2030: Midway through 2021, the Implementing the MPA in California Together (IMPACT) Stakeholder Committee was announced, with membership representing diverse areas of expertise in aging, disability and racial justice programs, operations, services and policy. This committee with advise CHHS on the implementation of the MPA focusing on accountability, outcomes and continuous improvement toward 2030 and reaching the five goals.

On September 20, 2022, CDA, hosted a California for All Ages and Abilities Day of Action bringing together state leaders, legislators, advocates and stakeholders. Continued collaboration across aging, disability and equity groups continues the work of the MPA moving forward.

On January 20, 2023 CDA held a virtual Kick-Off to celebrate MPA accomplishments to-date and shares plans for the next two years of progress. Speakers included leadership from the Governor’s Office, the Legislature, CA Health & Human Services Agency, and the CA Department of Aging. The MPA’s second Annual Progress Report, the 2023-2024 MPA Initiatives, and the new MPA Implementation Tracker were also released on the same day.

Extensive information about the MPA can be found on the Department of Aging’s website at www.mpa.aging.ca.gov