

REPORT ON THE MARYLAND COMMISSION ON CAREGIVING
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Completed pursuant to Human Services Article § 7-305 (b)

October 1, 2020

REPORT REQUIREMENT

This report is hereby submitted in response to the following reporting requirements found under Human Services Article § 7-305 (b):

The Maryland Commission on Caregiving shall report annually on its activities and recommendations regarding family caregiver support services to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

Source: Human Services Article § 7-305 (b).

BACKGROUND

The Maryland Commission on Caregiving (MCC) is the State's formal voice for the informal caregiver. An informal caregiver provides a family member, friend, or neighbor with supportive care when that person is unable to care for themselves. Activities the informal caregiver may offer include personal care, housekeeping, medication assistance, coordination of services, and assistance in accessing the community for various reasons. The purpose of the MCC is to coordinate statewide planning, development, and implementation of family caregiver support services for all ages, especially respite care.

The MCC was created during the 2017 session of the General Assembly, established through legislation enacted in Senate Bill 215/HB 769 and signed into law by Governor Larry Hogan on April 11, 2017. The new Commission took effect on October 1, 2017 and includes 19 commissioners including a legislator from the House of Delegates and one from the State Senate. In addition, five commissioners are appointed as family caregivers/consumers to ensure that the "Voice of the Caregiver" is fully represented.

For a full list of Commission members for the term July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020, please refer to Appendix A.

ACTIVITIES

The MCC is pleased to provide this annual report covering the activities of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. The MCC continues with the ongoing Strategic Planning Process which includes a continued focus on the Commission's legislative mandates:

1. Solicit and gather concerns of caregivers
2. Develop and distribute to interested parties a handbook of current respite care and other family caregiver services available in the State
3. Review successful respite care programs in other states
4. Develop a model family caregiver support program that incorporates best practices from existing programs in this and other states
5. Coordinate activities of existing and proposed family caregiver support services among State and local units
6. Research available funding sources and explore possibilities for additional funds
- 7.

Identify unmet needs and priorities for additional funds 8. Provide ongoing analysis of best practices in family caregiver support programs in this and other states 9. Monitor implementation of the Commission’s recommendations. Through this continued examination of the legislative mandates, the MCC focused on three main areas: outreach, accessibility and inclusion, and intentional partnership building.

The MCC held eight (8) meetings this year. At each meeting, Commissioners and community partners joined together to hear and network with speakers, discuss Commission matters and activities, learn about how proposed legislation may impact the caregiving community, and exchange information on community events and funding opportunities. Meeting speakers this year included: MD Association of Community Services, Parents’ Place of MD, Disability Rights Maryland, MD Family Network, and the MD Department of Health’s Post-Acute Care Work Group. All of the speakers provide essential knowledge to MCC, caregivers, and partners and have contributed to a valuable network of resources.

The MCC continues to focus on “information sharing” through both an email distribution list containing approximately 140 committed partners and through its monthly meetings. Through the partnership distribution list, the MCC has been instrumental in cross-sharing of information relevant to caregivers and the organizations supporting them. Conferences, funding opportunities, legislative efforts, and state and national reports are disseminated to an email distribution group of 140 recipients. This establishes the MCC as a central repository of information pertinent to families and organizations. The MCC has also developed state-specific materials for distribution which includes information collected from various sources as they pertain to family caregiving. Additionally, the monthly meetings are open to the public which allows for new community partners and caregivers to join and participate. The monthly meetings also encourage partner sharing as outside entities come to present and exchange information.

With the assistance of several committed partners such as AARP Maryland, Elizabeth Cooney Personal Care Agency and the Alzheimer’s Association, the MCC identified and recruited four family caregivers to serve on the Commission. These family caregivers not only provide care to family members across the lifespan, but also represent diverse communities throughout our State such as the African American community in Prince George’s County and Baltimore’s Jewish community.

OUTREACH

The MCC engaged in a wide array of outreach activities during the reporting period. The MCC presented or exhibited at thirteen events. The total number of attendees for these events was 2,030 individuals. The MCC also partnered with several organizations during their legislative outreach events during the 2020 General Assembly, including United Seniors of MD and the Alzheimer’s Association. Please refer to Appendix B for a list of events.

The MCC also conducted outreach to legislators during the 2020 General Assembly. The MCC provided a letter of support for HB341/SB500 “Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program” (see Appendix C). The “Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program” would help caregivers to better support their loved ones in times of need without worrying about the financial ramifications of losing employment or resorting to unpaid leave. The MCC also provided a letter of support for HB456/SB725 “MD Department of Health Public Outreach Programs – Cognitive Impairment, Alzheimer’s Disease and Other Types of Dementias” (see Appendix D). This bill would create greater awareness and understanding of dementias as well as promote their early detection, thereby giving caregivers more time to plan for the loved one’s medical and care needs. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the MCC partnered with the Alzheimer’s Association, Maryland’s Area Agencies on Aging, and Johns Hopkins Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program to deliver three webinars to provide family caregivers with information about COVID-19, tips for keeping their loved ones safe and engaged during the pandemic, and self-care strategies (refer to Appendix E).

Maryland’s long-standing commitment to family and informal caregivers has attracted national attention. On April 30, 2020, the MCC’s Senior Staff member and Chairperson participated in a virtual meeting aimed at developing a unified strategy to support family caregivers. Organized by the National Alliance for Caregiving, Maryland was one of only seven states to be invited to share information on its policies, programs, efforts, and initiatives aimed at supporting caregivers. The introductory April meeting was only the first of what will become ongoing discussions to develop a model family caregiving strategy which is aligned with key global, national, state and local priorities (see Appendix F).

PRIORITIES FOR 2020-2021

The MCC continues to evaluate its strategies and approaches to fulfilling its mandates and making the best use of its resources. The COVID-19 pandemic has put a spotlight on the integral role family and informal caregivers serve for children and adults with disabilities and older adults particularly as schools, senior centers, and day programs for both adults and children have limited access or remain closed. Utilizing virtual platforms has shown to be a promising strategy to connect caregivers with information and support as demonstrated by the interest in the webinars delivered in partnership with the Alzheimer’s Association. The MCC will continue to support virtual platforms as a tool for supporting and connecting caregivers by developing content, securing speakers, and conducting outreach for these events.

In June 2020, the Maryland Department of Aging launched the Caregiver Services Corps (CSC), which connects volunteer caregivers to older adult care recipients whose primary caregivers are unable to care for them due to an illness due to an exposure to or illness brought about by COVID-19. As part of its mission, the MCC will continue to explore new opportunities to assist caregivers

such as the CSC during the pandemic as well help coordinate efforts among state agencies to deliver these programs that address the needs of caregivers.

The MCC plans on participating in existing and new activities to carry out its mandates. In FY2021, the MCC plans to review successful respite care programs in other states and analyze caregiver support programs in other states, the MCC Chairperson and Senior Staff will continue their participation in the National Alliance for Caregiving's initiative to develop a unified strategy to support family caregivers progresses. In addition, the Department of Human Services (DHS) has applied for the Lifespan Respite Enhancement Grant from the Administration for Community Living. If DHS receives this grant, the MCC and its partners will assist DHS in coordinating its outreach activities to generate awareness of emergency respite services provided by the grant, thereby carrying out its mandate to coordinate activities of existing and proposed family caregiver support services among State and local units.

Appendix A: Maryland Commission on Caregiving Member Roster

July 1, 2019- June 30, 2022

Senior Staff to the Commission:

Dorinda A. Adams, LMSW

Public Agencies:

Jennifer Eastman, Commission Chair Director, Community Living Policy Maryland
Department of Disabilities *Represents- Maryland Department of Disabilities*

Mary Chaput Program Director, Respite Care Referral & Family Caregiver Support Programs
Represented- Area Agencies on Aging

Christina Church Two-Generation Program Officer, *Represents – DHS*

Lynette Fisher Program Director, Family Caregiver Support Programs *Represented- Area
Agencies on Aging*

Florence Harvey Program Administrator, Office for Genetics & People with Special Health
Care Needs, Prevention & Health Promotion Administration *Represents- MDH*

Mary Anne Kane-Breschi Director of Family Supports *Represents- Maryland Department of
Health*

Angela Sittler Parent Resource Coordinator Office for Genetics & People w/Special Health Care
Needs Prevention & Health Promotion Administration *Represented – MDH*

Joan Smith Director, Promotion & Wellness Child, Adolescent, & Young Adult Services
Behavioral Health Administration *Represents- MDH*

Chris Stewart Manager, National Family Caregivers Support Maryland Department of Aging
Represents- MDoA

Family Caregivers:

Terri Johnson *Represents- Family Caregiver*

Patricia Morris *Represents- Family Caregiver*

Ann Squire *Represents- Family Caregiver*

Theresa Robertson *Represents- Family Caregiver*

Esther Ward *Represents- Family Caregiver*

Private Agencies:

Larry Bram Easter Seals Serving DC/MD/VA *Represents- Agency with Respite Experience*

Connie Marth Delmarva Community Services, Inc. *Represented- Agency with Respite Experience*

Christine Schoenberger Kennedy Krieger – Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities
Represented- Agency with Respite Experience

Linda Ramsey *Represented -- Maryland Respite Care Coalition*

State Legislators:

State Senator: Vacant

State Delegate **Karen Lewis Young, District 3A**

Appendix B - Maryland Commission on Caregiving Annual Report - Outreach Activities for FY 2020

Event	Date	Location	Attendees
DHS Kinship Navigator Retreat	9/16/19	Linthicum, MD	60
Frederick County Caregiver Conference	10/1/19	Frederick, MD	170
Coffee, Tea & Me Family Caregiver Event	10/5/19	Baltimore, MD	75
Social Security Administration's Work Life Fair	10/21/19	Baltimore, MD	250
Johns Hopkins Called to Care Faith Champions Celebration	10/21/19	Baltimore, MD	40
Inner City Church of Christ Caregiver Workshop	11/5/19	Baltimore, MD	50
AARP Volunteer Event	11/19/19	Linthicum, MD	15
Baltimore Gas & Electric Women's Caregiver Group	12/11/19	Baltimore, MD	45
United Seniors Advocacy Day	1/14/20	Annapolis, MD	175
Sisters Together and Reaching (STAR) Caregiver Resources Info Session	1/16/20	Baltimore, MD	35
Alzheimer's Association Advocacy Day	1/30/20	Annapolis, MD	170
Washington County Senior Expo	2/4/20	Hagerstown, MD	150

Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Day	2/12/20	Annapolis, MD	500
NAMI Maryland Legislative Reception: Hearing Voices Event	3/10/20	Annapolis, MD	75
Alzheimer's Association & MCC Virtual Webinar: Caregiving During COVID-19	4/20/20	Virtual	110
Alzheimer's Association & MCC Virtual Webinar: Caregiving During COVID-19	4/22/20	Virtual	65
Alzheimer's Association & MCC Virtual Webinar: Caregiving During COVID-19	4/24/20	Virtual	45



Maryland Commission on Caregiving

“The Voice of the Caregiver”

February 24, 2020

Chairman Dereck E. Davis
House Economic Matters Committee
House Office Building
Six Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Davis:

The Maryland Commission on Caregiving is pleased to submit **this letter of support for HB839 “Labor and Employment - Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program - Establishment”** also known as the “Time to Care Act.” This bill would establish a Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) program through which employees may take up to 12 weeks of paid leave from their jobs to care for new children, other family members¹ with serious health conditions or disabilities, or themselves. The proposed legislation results from the efforts made by the members of the 2016 Task Force to Study Family and Medical Leave Insurance which took careful consideration, research, and substantial input from relevant stakeholders when issuing its report and recommendations.

Supervised by the State Department of Labor and administered by the Division of Unemployment Insurance (DUI), this program would establish an insurance pool funded by a modest 50/50 contribution of both employers and employees and offer temporary wage replacement during the leave period ranging from \$50 to \$1000 per week. This is based on the employee’s weekly wage and the State’s average weekly wage with low-income employees receiving up to 90% of their weekly pay. It would also protect employees from retaliation from their employer in the form of discharge, discrimination or an adverse action.

Serving as “the voice of the Maryland caregiver,” the Maryland Commission on Caregiving is charged with recommending policies that positively impact family caregivers, soliciting and responding to their concerns and acknowledging their contributions. Family caregivers provide the majority of care and financial support for their loved ones who are unable to care for themselves due to an illness, injury or disability. The passage of HB839 would better support

¹ The definition of “family member” mirrors the definition in the Maryland Healthy Working Families Act of 2017 and includes: a child, parent, spouse, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling. (Adoptive, foster, guardianship, in loco parentis, and step-relationships are included in these categories.)

Maryland's family caregivers by providing them with financial support and job protection in a time of need.

In 2014, there were an estimated 547,000 informal caregivers in the State of Maryland who provided an estimated 587 hours of caregiving services. The role is typically unpaid, and requires a great deal of physical, emotional, and financial sacrifice. The economic value of this unpaid care was estimated to be about \$5.8 billion.ⁱ The passage of HB839 would provide employees who take on these roles with some compensation to allow them to provide adequate care to themselves and their loved ones with diminished financial impact. Furthermore, it would align Maryland with eight other states and the District of Columbia which have already passed similar Family and Medical Leave Insurance Programs and solidify its place as a caregiver-supportive state.ⁱⁱ

The Maryland Commission on Caregiving works to ensure that caregivers across the lifespan are equipped with the resources needed to provide safe care to their loved ones across the state of Maryland. Passage of HB839 would support such efforts which is why the Commission respectfully urges a favorable report.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Eastman, Chair
Maryland Commission on Caregiving

ⁱ Caregiving Across the States: 50 State Profiles (3014). State of the States in Family Caregiver Support. Retrieved from <https://www.caregiver.org/caregiving-across-states-50-state-profiles-2014>

ⁱⁱ Comparative Chart of Paid Family and Medical Leave Laws in the United States. A Better Balance. Retrieved from <https://www.abetterbalance.org/resources/paid-family-leave-laws-chart/>



Maryland Commission on Caregiving *“The Voice of the Caregiver”*

February 12, 2020

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
House Health and Government Operations Committee
House Office Building, Room 241
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairwoman Pendergrass:

The Maryland Commission on Caregiving is pleased to submit **this letter of support for HB456**, “Maryland Department of Health – Public Outreach Programs – Cognitive Impairment, Alzheimer’s Disease, and Other Types of Dementia.” If passed into law, HB456 would bring about more effective outreach among healthcare providers and the public by leveraging and coordinating the resources of the Maryland Department of Health, the Maryland Department of Aging, the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Council, and the Alzheimer’s Association.

HB456 is designed to benefit individuals in Maryland through creating greater awareness and understanding of dementia, promoting the value of early detection and diagnosis of dementia, and reducing the risk of cognitive decline among diverse communities who are at increased risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia. Early diagnosis of dementia can provide individuals affected by dementia and their caregivers with better access to medical treatments and more time to plan for future care needs. Moreover, HB456 would bring about more targeted outreach to the African American and Latino communities who experience a 50% greater risk for developing Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias.

Serving as “the voice of the Maryland caregiver,” the Maryland Commission on Caregiving is charged with recommending policies that positively impact family caregivers, soliciting and responding to their concerns and acknowledging their contributions. Family caregivers provide the majority of long-term care for their loved ones who live with dementia, which involves hands-on personal care and financial support and often lasts for multiple years due to the progressive and chronic nature of the disease. Passage of HB456 would reduce the burden placed upon caregivers who assist the 110,000 individuals affected by dementia through greater awareness of the disease and its early diagnosis.

The Maryland Commission on Caregiving works to ensure that caregivers across the lifespan are equipped with the resources needed to provide safe care to their loved ones across the state of Maryland. Passage of HB456 would support such efforts which is why the Commission respectfully urges a favorable report.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Eastman, Chair
Maryland Commission on Caregiving



WEBINAR SERIES CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19): TIPS FOR DEMENTIA CAREGIVERS

The Maryland Department of Human Services, along with community partners such as the Alzheimer's Association and Johns Hopkins University, are hosting a webinar series to communicate about dementia caregiving during this unprecedented time.

Dementia-related behaviors, increased age, and common health conditions that often accompany dementia may increase risk of COVID-19. For example, people with Alzheimer's disease and all other dementia may forget to wash their hands or take other recommended precautions to prevent illness. In addition, diseases like COVID-19 and the flu may worsen cognitive impairment due to dementia. Join for this webinar series to learn about caregiving strategies to help better manage care for those in need.

MONDAY, APRIL 20 11 A.M. - NOON

- Lylie Fisher, Coordinator of the Caregiver Support Program, Montgomery County, Department of Health and Human Services
- Dr. Esther Oh, Co-Director, Johns Hopkins Memory and Alzheimer's Treatment Center

Click [HERE](#) to join the meeting on your computer

Join by phone: 855.203.2730

Meeting ID: 820 543 431

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 2-3 P.M.

- Mary Chaput, Program Director, Caregiver Support, Anne Arundel Co. Dept of Aging & Disabilities
- Yolanda Wright, Greater Maryland Chapter, Alzheimer's Association

Click [HERE](#) to join the meeting on your computer

Join by phone: 855.203.2730

Meeting ID: 593 797 082

FRIDAY, APRIL 24 3:30-4:30 P.M.

- Kathy Wehr, Caregiver Program Support Manager, Howard County Government
- Dr. Panagis Galiatsatos, Co-Director, Medicine for the Greater Good

Click [HERE](#) to join the meeting on your computer

Join by phone: 855.203.2730

Meeting ID: 180 905 018



alzheimer's 
association

Developing a Unified Strategy To Support Family Caregivers

State Caregiving Task Force/Plan Participants

Advisory Meeting

April 30, 2020, 2:30-4pm EDT



Meeting Agenda

Please unmute your line to speak and mute when not speaking.

Mute/Unmute Instructions

Web/app: Tap mute (mic) icon

Phone: Dial *6

- I. Welcome
- II. Project Overview
- III. Group Discussion
 - Respite/Caregiving Service Delivery
 - Caregiver Entry Points/Assessments
 - TBD
- IV. Reflections & Next Steps
- V. Adjourn

Developing a Model 50-State Family Caregiving Strategy

A Project of:



Underwritten by:

**EMD
SERONO**



PROJECT GOAL

Develop a model family caregiving strategy aligned with key global, national, state/local caregiving policy priorities

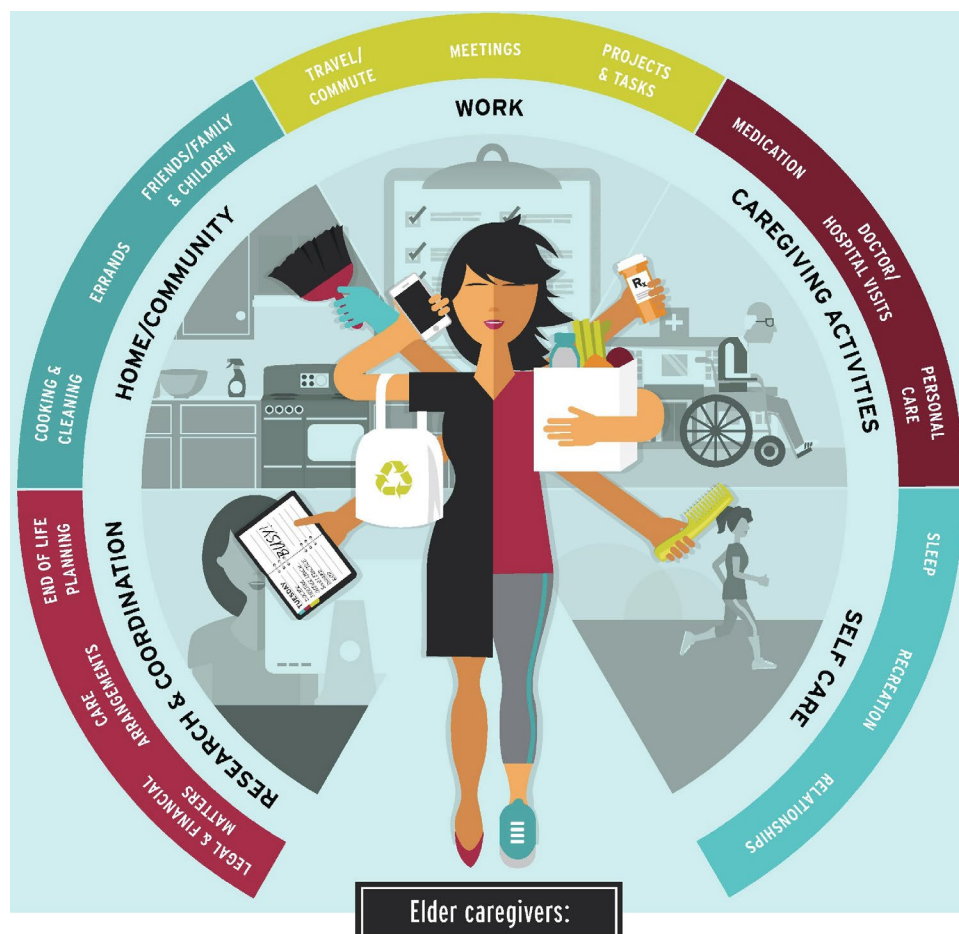


National Alliance for Caregiving

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

Model strategy aligned with multi-jurisdictional family caregiving policy priorities across key person-centered domain areas

Implementation guidance from case studies of existing state plans



Example person-centered framework, developed by the ReACT Coalition



National Alliance for Caregiving

POLICY DOMAINS

SUBJECT AREAS GUIDING THE PROJECT AND EXAMPLES OF POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS



Caregiver Entry Points and Assessments

e.g., including caregiver components in current assessments, standardized assessment tools, research and data development



Financial Security and Caregiver-friendly Workplaces

e.g., paid leave, flexible workplaces, tax credits for caregivers, tax incentives for employers, workplace assistance programs



Person-Family Centered Care/Shared Decision Making

e.g., improved care coordination, informed care transitions, identifying family caregivers in care plans



Caregiver Education, Training and Well-being

e.g., adoption of evidence-based practices, improved access to supports - including use technology platforms



Respite and Caregiving Service Delivery

e.g., range of respite options, public-private partnerships, engagement of faith and community-based organizations, Medicaid home- and community-based waivers, social determinants of health, direct care workforce



National Alliance for Caregiving

ADVISOR BIOS



Alabama

Della Sanchez, LGSW has served the Area Agency on Aging of South Alabama Regional Planning Commission for 18 years. Since coming to Area Agency on Aging she has worked as Case Manager, Ombudsman, and Disaster Preparedness Coordinator. She is currently working as the Alabama Cares Coordinator. She earned a master's degree in Social Work from University of Alabama and undergraduate degree from University of South Alabama with a Certificate in Gerontology.



California

Donna Benton, PhD, is a research associate professor of gerontology. She is the director of the USC Family Caregiver Support Center at the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology. She just finished as co-chair for the California Taskforce on Family Caregiving, which led to a report which outlines recommendations for supporting family caregivers throughout the diverse communities in CA. She has worked in the field of aging for over 30 years. She is committed to promoting collaborative partnerships that enhance service delivery for families caring for older adults with long-term memory and health problems.



Hawaii

Gary Simon is the State President of AARP Hawaii and President of the Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition. He also is the Vice Chair for the State of Hawai'i Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs. Before his retirement from St. Francis Healthcare System in 2019, Simon was the Director of Corporate Affairs and Advocacy for St. Francis and previously served as Executive Director of St. Francis Hospice."



National Alliance for Caregiving

ADVISOR BIOS

continued



Idaho

Pam Oliason is a Program Specialist with the Idaho Commission on Aging. She has over forty years of experience in planning, developing, and coordinating human service programs across the lifespan. Her responsibilities include project management, grant writing, project partner development, and coordination with co-workers to ensure compliance and improvement in ongoing statewide programs administered by the agency under the Older American's Act and Idaho Senior Services Act. She is also a Program Specialist for the National Family Caregiver Support Program in Idaho.



CHANGING
Maryland
FOR THE BETTER

Maryland

Jennifer Eastman is the Director of Community Living Policy at the Maryland Department of Disabilities, the only cabinet-level department in the nation that represents people of all disabilities. Her work focuses on developing programs and policies aimed at empowering people with disabilities to self-direct their services and supports and to live meaningfully within their communities. She represents the Department on the Maryland Commission on Caregiving and serves as its Chair.



Maryland

Dorinda Adams, LMSW, MSW has worked professionally in the field of Social Work for 3 decades. She has been employed with the State of Maryland Department of Human Services within the Office of Adult Services at the Social Services Administration for over 20 years. She is currently serving as the Director of the Office and has administrative responsibility for five statewide programs which provide protection and support to vulnerable adults and their families. Ms. Adams serves as the Executive Staff to the Maryland Commission on Caregiving. Additionally she provides legislative coordination for the Office of Adult Services. Lifespan Respite Care has been a passion for over two decades and she has been an active advocate in many different roles.



National Alliance for Caregiving

ADVISOR BIOS

continued



Mississippi

Spencer Blalock was born and raised in Mississippi. He was educated at Delta State, Jackson State, University of Southern Mississippi, and completed his doctorate in Health Administration at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. He has worked in Hospice Care, Child Protection and Foster Care, The Youth Court, Mental Health (Youth, Adult, Acute, Long-term, Community), Nursing Home Care, and Home Health Care. He has served on The Mississippi Board of Examiners for Social Workers and Marriage & Family Therapists since 2011, appointed by Governor Haley Barbour and reappointed by Governor Phil Bryant. He is currently the chair of the board. In 2014, Governor Bryant appointed Mr. Blalock as chair of the Mississippi Caregivers Task Force. He is also president of the Behavioral Health Society of the Mississippi Hospital Association, an advisory council member of the Area Agency on Aging for East Central Planning and Development District, an advisory council member at Mississippi State University – Meridian Campus – Social Work Program, and served as a committee member of the Regulations and Standards Committee of the Association of Social Work Boards. He is an employee of Rush Health Systems in Senior Behavioral Health.



Wisconsin

Jane Mahoney has worked in the aging network for over 25 years as a Social Worker, Caregiver Coordinator, Elder Benefit Specialist and Older American's Act Consultant. Her most recent position is with the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources working as a Caregiver Support Specialist to oversee the National Family Caregiver Support Program and Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program for 70 counties and 11 tribes in Wisconsin. Jane serves on the steering committee for the Wisconsin Family and Caregiver Support Alliance, the Advisory Board for the Wisconsin Dementia Resource Network and is a member of the Governor's Task Force on Caregiving.



National Alliance for Caregiving

Today's Objective



Initiate an on-going dialogue with key state actors about policy recommendations and implementation efforts across project domains

Domain: Respite/Caregiving Service Delivery

EXAMPLES POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM VARIOUS STATES



- Leverage Medicaid and state programs to deliver services and supports, including respite
- Statewide respite registry
- Increase number of respite providers and expand access to affordable respite services
- Ensure access to support services (e.g., home modifications, assistive tech, transportation)
- Strengthen direct care workforce (particularly in rural areas)
- Remove impediments to telemedicine delivery
- No Wrong Door

Domain: Caregiver Entry Points/Assessments

EXAMPLES POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM VARIOUS STATES



- Data collection infrastructure to determine number of caregivers and individuals in with long-term chronic decisions
- Regular collection of data (including caregiver/recipient demographics, caregiver's health and financial wellbeing)
- Identify an assessment tool and process to determine caregiver needs and competencies
- Modernize and standardize caregiver assessments for use/comparison across organizations
- Leverage OAA Title III funding for caregiver assessment
- Leverage Medicaid and state programs to identify and assess caregivers

Domain: Caregiver Education, Training and Well-being



EXAMPLES POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM VARIOUS STATES

- Strengthen training and capacity of health care & social service providers/case managers to provide evidence-based support
- Accessible, tailored resources and training, provided in culturally competent and relevant ways
- Ensure opportunities for adequate training to perform complex medical tasks
- Skill-building classes for caregivers in direct care, decision making and management of difficult behaviors
- Support deployment of programs for youth who are caregivers for parents or grandparents

Reflections & Next Steps

- Comments/Questions
- Addressing Remaining Domains
- Engaging Additional Stakeholders
- Discussion Draft

Thank you!

Contacts:

Mike Wittke, Senior Director, Public Policy & Advocacy (mike@caregiving.org)

Karen Marshall, Director, Advocacy & Engagement (karen@caregiving.org)

Lisa O'Neill, Health & Aging Policy Fellow (loneill@aging.arizona.edu)

