



Department
of Aging

CALIFORNIA'S SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR OLDER ADULTS:

ENVISIONING THE IDEAL

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Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)

- AAAs were established in 1973 under the federal Older Americans Act, they represent a national network of 618 AAAs and 246 Title VI (Native American) programs
 - California has 33 AAA and 22 Title VI Programs
- There are two AAAs in the Los Angeles County region
 - City of Los Angeles Department of Aging
 - Los Angeles County Department of Community and Senior Services
- The Goal of AAAs: To provide a range of options that allow older adults to choose the home and community-based services and living arrangements that suit them best, AAAs make it possible for older adults to remain in their homes and communities as long as possible.

City of Los Angeles Department of Aging

Our mission is to improve the quality of life, independence, health and dignity of the City's older population by managing community based senior programs that are comprehensive, coordinated and accessible, and to advocate for the needs of older citizens.

We target serving those who are physically frail; at greatest economic need and greatest social need.

Our core functions are advocacy, strategic planning and supporting the develop of a services and systems of care.

Los Angeles Region

- 1,721,707 persons 60 years and older reside in the greater Los Angeles County region or 1 in 4 California Seniors.
 - Los Angeles is home to people from more than 140 countries, who speak more than 90 languages and dialects.
 - A geographic area of 88 cities spread over 4,000 square miles
 - Two designated Area Agencies on Aging

- The City of Los Angeles is the second most populous city in the United States, residents 60+ number an estimated 639,560.

	60+	Non-Minority	Minority	Low income	Medi-Cal	Geo. Isolated	SSI/SSP 65+	Pop 75+	Lives Alone	Non English
LA City	639,560	268,235	370,352	115,525	149,128	723	78,491	198,123	136,025	63,505
%		42%	58%	18%	23%	0.1%	12%	31%	21%	10%

60+ unless otherwise indicate.

Soucer: 2014 CDA Population Demographic Projections

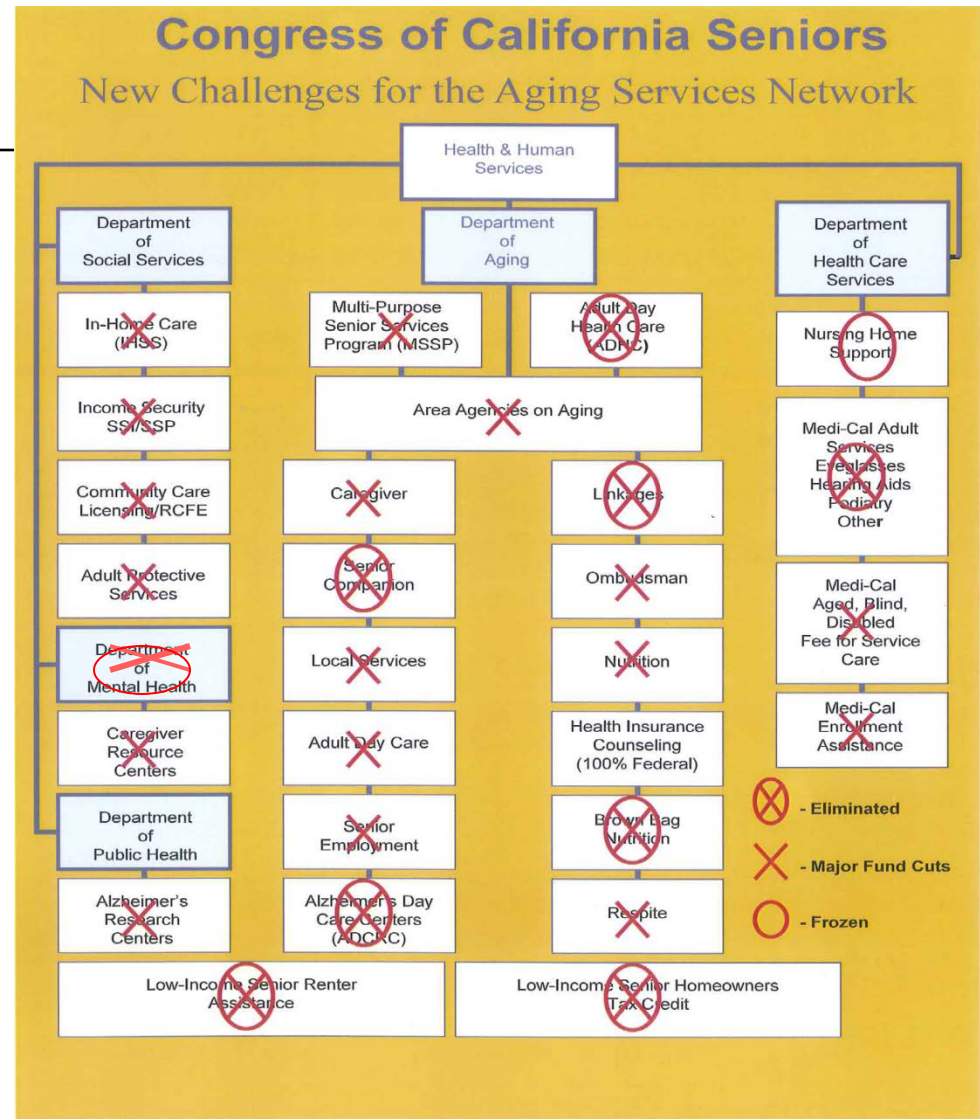
Barriers and Challenges

Some Examples:

- ❑ Older adult population is here, growing, increasingly diverse and require tailored approaches.
- ❑ Speed of change requires a flexible and quick responses.
- ❑ The last five years have seen a dismantling of senior services, among the most critical are:
 - A lack of affordable and accessible housing options.
 - A lack of transportation options.
- ❑ Gaps in labor force readiness.
- ❑ State-level policy changes consistently fail to see that transitions happens at the local level for consumers, not just at the payor source. As a result, AAAs have been consistently excluded as a major stakeholder.
- ❑ Funding For Aging Is No Ones Priority At This Time.

Impact of Economic Crisis on Senior Services

- ❑ Federal sequester cuts to senior services
- ❑ California has frozen, cut or completely eliminated senior services in recent years.
- ❑ Impact on local governments, private donations, and philanthropic foundations have further eroded the safety net services senior rely upon.
- ❑ Economic crisis assaulted the economic security of seniors.



City of Los Angeles

Economic Security

Measuring Economic Security Instead of Poverty

Poverty Measures Fall Far Short of Needs for L.A. City Seniors

L.A. City
Elder Index 2011
(single renter):
\$24,640

Median California
Supplemental
Poverty Measure
2011(single renter):
\$14,268

Federal Poverty
Guidelines 2011:
\$10,890

Elder Index Data Source: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.
The Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) is the weighted median threshold for single elderly renters in CA, based on US Census' methodology.
SPM Data Source: Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality and Public Policy Institute of California.

1 out of every 3 seniors in Los Angeles find some difficulty in paying monthly living expenses

1 in 3 food insecure seniors are disabled

From Acute to Chronic Conditions

70% of seniors in Los Angeles report having two or more chronic health conditions. With 48 % of seniors reporting that they have not set any goals to help manage their health in the past 12 months⁽¹⁾.

- Transition in the leading causes of death to chronic/degenerative illness.
- Chronic conditions can lead to severe disability.
- Aging population's challenge for public health.
 - Diabetes
 - Cost of health care for chronic diseases.
 - Alzheimer's Disease

Alzheimer's Disease - Los Angeles County⁽¹⁾:

- 5th leading cause of death overall and 4th among persons 75 years and older
- 147,000+ persons are living with Alzheimer's Disease
- 325,000+ baby boomers today are expected to develop Alzheimer's disease during their remaining lifetimes.
- More than one-third of family caregivers reported spending 20 or more hours per week.
- Among Latinos and Asians/Pacific Islanders, Alzheimer's disease will nearly triple during next 20 years.
- Alzheimer's disease is the most expensive condition in the nation today.



Values of the IDEAL System

- ❑ Age is appreciated as a stage of life, not treated as a social problem or disease-like state.
- ❑ Consumer/family focused
- ❑ Culturally competent and linguistically accessible
- ❑ Community based
- ❑ Staff trained in gerontology and geriatrics
- ❑ Systems support and encourage interagency cooperation, collaboration, and partnerships – requires effort and investments
- ❑ Outcome and data driven accountability (Ex: Evidence Based Health Promotion Programs)



Components

Components of a thoughtful response to those aging in place must address the health, social, mental health, spiritual, functional, economic and environmental needs of those who are aging.

According to the World Health Organization Age Friendly Cities project, areas that must be considered for the impact on the overall well being of seniors, include:

- Outdoor spaces and buildings
- Housing
- Respect and social inclusion
- Communication and information
- Transportation
- Social participation
- Civic participation and employment
- Community support and health services

What is the IDEAL?

- Reliable funding sources for senior services.
- Any ideal LTSS system must building on the AAA network.
- Implement some of the many recommendations that have been made to date, for example:
 - California's State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease: An Action Plan for 2011-2021
 - California Mental Health - Older Adult System of Care Framework
 - AARP - Listening to Family Caregivers: The Need to Include Family Caregiver Assessment in Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Service Waiver Programs

California needs a strategic and integrated approach to senior services.

- Build on the California Department of Aging expertise by authorizing them to lead and funding them to provide programmatic and policy recommendations to all levels of State government on issues impacting seniors and their family caregivers.
- The goal would be to ensure that California is implementing cost effective and outcomes driven policies, programs and services to meet the needs of California's seniors and their family caregivers.



How Do We Get There?

- We have the population.
- We have the expertise.
- We know the needs.
- We know the challenges.
- We know what has to be done.
- What we need is the will to do it!