

Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging

Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2018

Participants: Karen Brown (chair), Jayla Sanchez Warren, Christian Itin, John Emerson, Maureen McDonald, Natalie O'Donnell Wood, Jean Nofles, Jim Collins, Steve Grund, Coral Cosway, Chris Lee, Josh Laipply, Mindy Gates, Karin Stewart (phone), Gabriel Kaplan (phone), Steve Child, (phone), Sarah Elliott (phone, Kathleen Hall (phone) and Jarett Hughes

Not in attendance: John Barry, Tony Tapia, Jim Riesberg, Dave Norman, and John Zabawa (vice chair)

Public Participants: Jerry McIlroy (CGS), Karen Willis, Lindsay Parsons (Boulder AAA), Wade Buchanan (Governor's Office), Rich Mauro (DRCOG), and Andrea Kuwik (Bell Policy)

Action Items

- Nominations Committee to create Executive Committee slate by October 26
- Edit Nominations Committee bylaw language for November vote
- Finalize recommendations for Action Plan update
- Provide feedback on Transportation insert for Action Plan update
- Provide feedback on CHI LTSS research

Meeting Notes

Welcome, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes

- Meeting called to order by Karen Brown at 12:00pm with a quorum present
- September meeting minutes approved
- October agenda approved

Nominations Committee Approval

Jayla Sanchez Warren made a motion that was seconded by Natalie O'Donnell Wood for an approval vote on the Nominations Committee consisting of Jim Riesberg (as chair), Mindy Gates, and Jean Nofles. The committee was approved unanimously.

Karen Brown suggested a change in language to the Nominations Committee bylaw that would allow any current Executive Committee member not seeking reelection to serve on the Nominations Committee. Current bylaw allows for an Executive Committee member not seeking reelection to serve on the Nominations Committee only in the role of chair. An amendment to the bylaw will be presented at the November meeting for a vote.

Update on Colorado Work Force Development Committee

Phil Nash, Executive Director at Boomers Leading Change, has been appointed by the Governor to the CWDC. Tony Tapia and Christian Itin, of SAPGA, along with Frank Waterous and Wade Buchanan, Governor's Office, presented to the Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC) regarding the changing demographics of the labor market and older Coloradans in the workforce. The CWDC has created a subcommittee to explore the following recommendations:

- Establish a collaborative “Workforce and Aging Steering Committee” within the CWDC.
- Create and fund a “Workforce and Aging Statewide Coordinator” position on the CWDC staff.

These recommendations are intended to be broad and non-prescriptive, allowing for flexibility and tailoring to the direction CWDC sees fit. Wade Buchanan will be meeting with CWDC to follow-up on the recommendations under consideration.

Housing Recommendations and Goals

SAPGA members were given a range of tactical recommendations tied to broader goals which were all discussed at the September 2018 meeting. These tactical recommendations were generated through the regional Conversations on Aging meetings held by SAPGA and from The Highland Group housing report done in 2016.

Discussion centered around the broader recommendations and tactics. Several members felt offering specific tactics was too prescriptive while others felt that policy makers look to these recommendations to inform legislation, making specificity important. There was also discussion about potentially prioritizing the tactical recommendations. This was appealing to some but it was brought up that SAPGA members represent a wide range of organizations that work with different groups of older adults with varying needs, making prioritization difficult.

Senior Property Tax Exemption

SAPGA members were asked to consider potential changes to the Senior Property Tax Exemption. Members had a tough time deciding between whether to approach the tax benefit from the perspective of an advocate or policy making. One, felt that they did not have enough information or data on the tax benefit to make a clear decision. However, some felt that SAPGA, as a policy planning group, must make tough choices and take a position. Members were asked to vote on five potential options:

- Keeping the benefit as is;
- Reducing the benefit and redirecting money to other senior services;
- Eliminating the 10-year residency requirement;
- Allowing portability when downsizing;
- Means testing/income cap.

Given the choices offered, x SAPGA members supported reducing the benefit and redirecting to other senior services, x supported means testing the benefit and x support portability.

Transportation and Mobility Insert

John Emerson shared that he felt the connection between lack of mobility or transportation to social isolation and loneliness may be overstated. He proposed making a comment about the dynamic, multi-faceted nature of social isolation and loneliness.

CHI Overview of LTSS Research – Emily Johnson, Director at Colorado Health Institute

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) examined five questions for SAPGA:

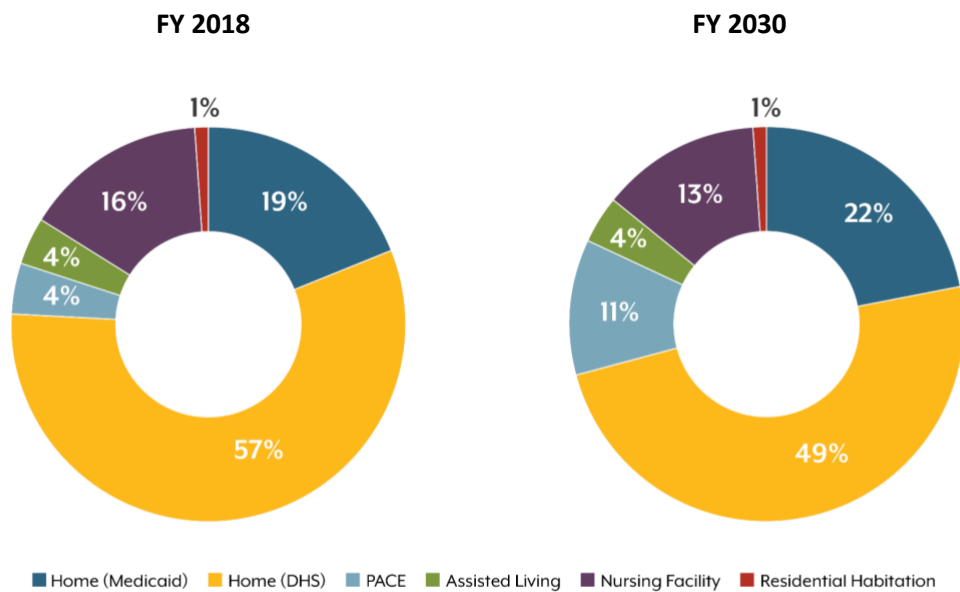
1. What are the expected state LTSS expenditures, now through 2030?

2. What is the LTSS service mix that makes up these expenditures?
3. What is the expected state LTSS revenue, now through 2030?
4. What is the expected gap between state LTSS revenue and expenditures, now through 2030?
5. What changes to state-funded LTSS demand, care settings, and workforce may reduce or eliminate this gap?

State LTSS expenditures fall into various care options and settings. Home-based care (through traditional Medicaid, HCBS waivers, and Area Agency on Aging services), Program of All-Inclusive Care of the Elderly, skilled nursing (traditional and rehabilitation), and assisted living were all explored.

CHI found that total LTSS costs to Colorado were \$604 million in 2018 or only 3.1% of the state budget. By 2030, the anticipated dollar-demand for LTSS will total about \$1.3 billion with only \$987 million is expected to be available in the state budget. This creates an LTSS funding gap of \$357 million by 2030.

Below is the anticipated LTSS service mix:



CHI also looked at demonstrations from other states that may result in LTSS costs savings. CHI suggested exploring Arizona and Texas (HUD Section 811 Support Housing waivers), Tennessee (capitated payments for Medicaid), and Washington (tiered rates for assisted living).

SAPGA Questions

- How were independent living settings classified in this research? Considered home-based care
- Were CDPHE regulatory costs for skilled nursing and assisted living taken into consideration?
 - o Were ombudsman costs taken into consideration?
- Did CHI take into account changing funding demands in other social sectors? Yes, education funding was expected to increase.
- Could percentages of LTSS service mix be broken down in real numbers and per capita? Yes

- How much of the funding shortage is attributed to DHS, Medicaid, HCBS vs. skilled nursing vs. assisted living, etc.?
- Can models to run to see if, for example, what impact a greater percentage shift to PACE than expected would do to the funding gap?
- Can age cohort be separated out? How much LTSS service mix will those 65-74 or 75-84 or 85+ make up?
- Can links to other state examples be included?
- What is the capacity to offset funding or worker shortages with evidence-based practices versus innovation?

[Lifelong Colorado](#)

AARP, DRCOG, and the Governor's Office have partnered together to launch a new, statewide age-friendly initiative. Colorado became the third state to join the AARP Age-Friendly Network, behind New York and Massachusetts. Lifelong Colorado will be co-chaired by Lt. Governor Donna Lynne and Colorado Springs Mayor John Suthers. The goal is for Colorado to add 20 age-friendly communities in 2019 and 100 in the next 5 years.

Retreat Planning

SAPGA will have a strategic planning session with Janine Vanderberg at the December 10, 2018 meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 pm