

Older Michiganians Day Steering Committee

Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan

AARP Michigan

Alzheimer's Association

Michigan Association of Nutrition & Aging Services Programs

Michigan Directors of Services to the Aging

Michigan Senior Advocates Council

National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan

Senior Volunteer Programs of Michigan

What Can Advocates Do?

- ▶ Understand the issues facing older adults and individuals living with disabilities.
- ▶ Study Legislators' stands on related issues.
- ▶ Meet with your Legislators.



What Can Legislators Do?

- ▶ Attend Older Michiganians Day and meet with your constituents who traveled to the rally.
- ▶ Sponsor and support legislation that promotes this platform.
- ▶ Commit to government transparency and open dialogue in the legislative process.



OLDER MICHIGANIANS DAY

Presented by Area Agencies on Aging
and Aging Network Partners

May 17, 2017

PLATFORM for Legislative Action!

- ▶ Continue Progress to Make Michigan a No-Wait State
- ▶ Protect Medicaid
- ▶ Legislative Attention to Direct Care Worker Crisis
- ▶ Rebalance Michigan's Long Term Care Spending
- ▶ Prevent and Respond to Elder Abuse
- ▶ Increase Dementia Care and Support
- ▶ Approve Home Accessibility Tax Credit
- ▶ Improve Transportation Programs

Stay Updated!

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Continue Progress to Make Michigan a No-Wait State

Improve access to the MI CHOICE Medicaid Waiver program to help more older adults receive home and community-based services, instead of going to nursing homes.

MI Choice waiver (home-based services) = \$78 per day
Nursing Home costs = \$187 per day
(2016 average)

Increase funding for the Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA) by \$3.6 million for fiscal year 2018, as recommended by Governor Rick Snyder, to reduce the wait lists for home and community-based services delivered through Area Agencies on Aging.

The Silver Key Coalition estimates that some 7,000 older adults are waiting for essential in-home services.

Protect Medicaid

Oppose any federal proposal for changing Medicaid that would have the net effect of cutting services for low-income residents.

Legislative Attention to Direct Care Worker Crisis

Form a legislative committee to immediately act on addressing the shortage of direct-care workers in long term care. Difficulty in recruitment and retention of qualified staff is exacerbated by insufficient training and lack of a living wage.

The need for direct care workers is expected to grow by 32% - more than 30,000 workers - over the next 10 years.

Rebalance Michigan's Long Term Care Spending

Reduce reliance on high cost settings and honor choice by supporting more flexible funding. Create a unified long term care line-item in the budget to allow money to follow the person.

Prevent and Respond to Elder Abuse

Support the Governor's budget recommendation to add 95 adult protective services workers to address elder abuse, neglect and financial exploitation.

Reports of suspected elder abuse have doubled since 2011 to over 40,000 cases per year.

Increase Dementia Care and Support

Support the Alzheimer's Association's \$2 million funding request for the Michigan Dementia Care and Support Program in fiscal year 2018. This program serves families affected by dementia and saves taxpayers millions of dollars.

Today, someone in the U.S. develops Alzheimer's disease every 66 seconds. By 2050, someone in the U.S. will develop Alzheimer's every 33 seconds.

Approve Home Accessibility Tax Credit

Provide support for home modifications to improve safety and accessibility through a tax credit.

Transportation

Increase availability of accessible public transportation through protection of the Public Act 51 funding formula; coordination of non-emergency medical transportation; and allowing on-demand transit service across county borders.