



## ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING (ACA)

**Agenda**  
**Monday, March 8, 2021**  
**9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**

### **Zoom Video Conference Call**

**Please join Advisory Commission on Aging meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://zoom.us/j/98852242048>

Meeting ID: 988 5224 2048

Dial by your location  
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)  
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The Commission welcomes you to its meetings and your interest is appreciated. Public comment is permitted, for items not on the agenda, please wait until the Chair calls for public input; for comments on items on the agenda or for general public announcements, please wait until the Chair calls for announcements from the public at the end of the meeting. If you wish to speak on a matter on the agenda or during public input. We request that individuals raise their hand limit their comments on any single item on the agenda to three minutes. The chosen spokesperson for a group may speak for five minutes.

<b>9:30-9:35</b>	<b><u>Call to Order/Introductions</u></b>	<b>Howard Kirsch</b>
	<b>Review of Agenda</b>	
	<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	
<b>9:35-9:40</b>	<b>Comments from the Public for Items not on Agenda</b>	<b>General Public</b>
<b>9:40-9:45</b>	<b>Comments from Chair</b>	<b>Howard Kirsch</b>
<b>9:45-9:50</b>	<b>AAA Director's Report</b>	<b>Jennifer Stephens-Pierre</b>
<b>9:50-10:00</b>	<b>Introduction of New Commissioner</b>	<b>Florence "Flo" Raskin</b>
<b>10:00-10:15</b>	<b>Public Hearing of CWAP 21-22</b>	<b>Delbert Walker</b>
<b>10:15-10:25</b>	<b>FY 20-21 Amended One-Time-Only Funding Allocation</b>	<b>Delbert Walker</b>

<b>10:25-10:35</b>	<b><u>Commission Subcommittee Reports</u></b>	<b>Committee Members</b>
	<b>A. Executive</b>	
	<b>B. Legislative Advocacy</b>	
	<b>C. Public Relations/Senior Update</b>	
	<b>D. Health &amp; Safety</b>	
	<b>E. ADRC Advisory Council</b>	
	<b>F. Recruitment</b>	
<b>10:35-10:45</b>	<b>Oral Communications/Announcements</b>	<b>Commissioners Staff Public</b>
<b>10:45-12:00</b>	<b>Retreat Agenda (Part Two):</b>  <b>Master Plan on Aging (MPA)</b>  <b>Introduction</b>  <b>Five Bold Goals for 2030</b>	<b>Facilitators:</b>    <b>Jennifer Stephens-Pierre</b>  <b>Christine Sevier/Jennifer Stephens-Pierre</b>
	<b>Retreat (Part Three): Monday, April 13, 2021</b>	

**Adjournment**

**Note: The next Advisory Commission of Aging meeting will be Monday, March 8, 2021 at 9:30 am via Zoom Video Conference Call. Please check [Advisory Commission of Aging](#) website for more details.**

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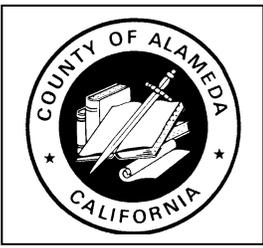
**Notes**

**Note: The next Advisory Commission of Aging meeting will be Monday, April 12, 2021 at 9:30 am via Zoom Video Conference Call. Please check [Advisory Commission of Aging](#) website for more details.**

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**Notes**



## MINUTES

### **ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING Monday, February 8, 2021 via Zoom**

**Commissioners Present:** Howard Kirsch, Laura McMichael-Cady, Regina Silbert, Christine Sevier, Sylvia Stadmir, Royce Johnson, Donna Griggs-Murphy, Eric Eisenberg

**Commissioners Excused (Absent):** Carlos Londono, Dom Filardo, Sarah Kim-Lee, Barbara Price, John Miller

**Staff Present:** Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, Mariana Austin, Charles Jones, Diarra Piggue, Hema Patel, Maaza Michael, Shakura Reynolds, Sonya Frost, Faith Battles, Mary Louise Zernicke

#### **A. Call to Order**

Acting-Chair Kirsch called meeting to order at 9:34

#### **B. Consent Calendar**

A. Review of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

(M) Laura McMichael -Cady

(S) Royce Johnson

Approved.

B. Approval of minutes– Motion to approve the minutes as presented.

(M) Christine Sevier

(S) Royce Johnson

Approved.

**C. Comments from the Public for Items not on Agenda—**No Items from the public.

#### **D. Comments from Howard Kirsch, Acting-Chair**

The Vietnamese American Community Center of the East Bay (VACCEB) had about 30% of their building was damaged after an overnight fire on February 9<sup>th</sup>. To help there is a GoFundMe page created. <https://gofund.me/50332596>

Commissioner Silbert is resigning as she is moving to Palo Alto. There will be a discussion about her possibly staying until a new replacement is found using a waiver.

Commissioner Kirsch will be working on a needs assessment survey specially for the unincorporated areas of the county to better understand and address the digital divide.

The Center for Elder's Independence has created a video to create awareness regarding the importance of the COVID 19 vaccine. [Seniors & the Coronavirus Vaccines - YouTube](#)

**E. City of Dublin Senior Center, Liz Elliott, Recreation Coordinator, City of Dublin Senior Center**

Liz Elliott presented the 2020 Annual Report, initially shared with their Senior Center's advisory committee. Due to COVID and subsequent facility closures many activities were canceled or modified. Prior to the shelter in place orders, they had an average of 302 seniors, of 27 hours of volunteer work, and 33 meals a day. Once the shelter in place order started, they converted the lunch service to drive-through and walk up take away. In partnership with Open Hearts Kitchen the Senior Center did not miss any lunch service even with the closures. The numbers of served lunches skyrocketed to more than 140 meals a day, from 20-40 meals pre-COVID. With the center closed to the public, Alameda County used the facilities to host meetings and trainings for the Fire Department, Polling Location (for both training and voting) and cooling center during the summer. Between March and December 2020 22,622 meals were served. They also started doing drive through resource events once a month. There was an average of 206 participants per event. They have also pivoted to a weekly activity packet distributed on Thursdays during lunch service or available online. Due to the closures they were able to do repairs, maintenance work and deep cleaning.

### Q & A Section

Lorna Van Ackeren asked for more information on how to be a sponsor. Liz provided her with her email for further conversation.

Commissioner Sevier asked if the increase in attendance for events and lunches was due to isolation or fear. Liz said she believes it was a mix of both, starting with the initial fear of going to the stores or purchasing food elsewhere, but now it seems the seniors also look forward to seeing the staff and attending the events. It gives them a purpose, and something to do. She used the example of a senior whose daughter used to drive him for lunches, but he eventually just took the initiative to walk and pick it up on his own.

At this time, Liz also let know that most part time staff has been furloughed since March due to budget constraints and closures.

Commissioner Sevier also asked about how they bridged the digital divide. Liz said that they have not been as successful as other places have been. What has been popular in Dublin are the drive through events, while the city of Livermore has been more successful with socially distant in person events and Pleasanton is their virtual coffee hour. She also highlighted that they have been successful in reaching more people who are home bound.

Commissioner Johnson asked about how she has been able to reach these seniors, both pre and during COVID. Liz answered that they make use of the regular city of Dublin advertising channels, which include a news flash on the city website, Facebook events, Facebook posts and emails. One strategy that has been proven effective in bridging the digital divide is to reach out to their adult children to engage them. The number one way to reach seniors, however, have been the weekly activity packets. In her opinion, consistence is the key, and to pair their resources with fun activities, drawing them in through their lunch program and events.

Psay Phinith asked about how to engage the seniors who does not speak English. Liz said that Open Hearts (the service they partnered with to provide meals) has been good about handing out their fliers with resources in many different languages, including Mandarin, Simplified Chinese, and Spanish. Psay followed up asking if there are any activities in other languages. Liz said that all activities are volunteers led, and many of them teach their classes in both English and Mandarin. To assist with tech support, Liz has found some simple tutorials online, and those have been great help to assist the seniors with getting on Zoom. They are emailed and printed and distributed with the weekly activity packets.

## **F. Commission Subcommittee Reports**

### **A. Executive**

The subcommittee met and discussed some items such as the RFQs and contracts. The subcommittee also focused on the upcoming Virtual Retreat, reviewing the mission statement and the goals for 2021. They also discussed the need for recruitment. ACA will work with the City of Oakland and the Board of Supervisors on how to fill those positions.

### **B. Legislative Advocacy**

During a meeting with the Age Friendly Council the subcommittee discussed several bills of interest, three in particular. SB-107 is a bill introduced by Senator Scott Wiener that would simplify Cal Fresh applications for disabled and 60+ old adults. SB-56 that would expand Medi-Cal eligibility regardless of immigration status. SB-48 would require all general internists and family physicians to complete at least 4 hours of mandatory continuing education on the special care needs of patients with dementia.

### **C. Public Relations/Senior Update:**

Commissioner Silbert has attended a zoom meeting about the upcoming Senior Update newsletter. It will focus on the vaccination efforts and an article highlighting Older Americans Month, with the theme is “Communities of Strength”. The Senior Update is a quarterly newsletter and now they have an email blast in addition to that called Senior Update Bulletin.

### **D. Health and Safety Committee**

The subcommittee did not meet last month and are currently looking for a new chair.

### **E. Member Recruitment**

The recruitment committee will have their first meeting today, after the commission meeting. Their focus is on membership recruitment for the upcoming year.

### **F. ADRC Advisory Council**

Commissioner Sevier will be the new chair of the council. AAA were approved to proceed as emergency ADRC on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020. They were able to provide the council with updates on what they have been working on: addressing the digital divide, the website, and Senior Updates. They met with Cindy Kauffman, Deputy Director of Community Services, Department of Disability and Aging Services of San Francisco and got some suggestions on how to access data and making services more seamless across all platforms.

### **G. Countywide Area Plan Update: Hema Patel, Program Financial Specialist, AAA**

The 2020 Countywide Area Plan on Aging was approved on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The main thing that needed for it to be approved was the removal of object 3.9 which talked about the holiday baskets. AAA made the changes, and the area plan was approved.

### **H. AAA Director’s Report: Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, AAA Director** Countywide Area Plan

Now that the Countywide area has been approved they are working with CDA to align the objectives.

#### Reconfiguration

Currently AAA sits within Adult and Aging Services (AAS), more specifically inside the Division of Adult and Aging Protection (DAAP). All staff is currently located in one place, but in an effort to streamline the process the Contract Staff, supervised by Delbert Walker, will move to Central

Contract/ Finances in Downtown Oakland. They will continue to support AAA, and the move will take effect on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Budget

AAA is currently waiting on CDA to provide the amended budget. They will need to look at the new budget to address and target.

**I. Oral Communications/Announcements**

**A. Commissioners/Committee Members-**

Commissioner Griggs-Murphy

Human Good Affordable Housing community just had their first vaccine drive with CVS. The second clinic will happen on February 17<sup>th</sup> and the third clinic on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Contact Donna directly for more information.

Commissioner Silbert

Lifelong clinics are also offering vaccines.

**B. Staff-none**

**C. Public**

Mercel Amin

Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley will be offering seated fitness classes online. It will run Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30am, starting on 2/23.

**Adjournment 10:47am for 3 minutes**

**Commissioners Present: Howard Kirsch, Regina Silbert, Christine Sevier, Donna Griggs-Murphy, Royce Johnson, Sylvia Stadmire, Eric Eisenberger**

**Retreat Part One**

**A. Introductions: What your goals for the ACA?**

Christine Sevier

Her purpose to be on the commission is to drive home the point for the people who need care but cannot afford it. She wants to support both the seniors and the caregivers, so one feels left out.

Commissioner Griggs-Murphy

Her passion is to make sure that older adults who are on the fringe have access to all the resources that the county has to offer. To make sure they have equitable access to all resources and services that they need to live independently in our county.

Commissioner Stadmire

Her goal is a lot like what has been said. Her purpose is to look at those who are underserved and how to assist them.

Commissioner Silbert

She is leaving the commission to live in a low-income housing in Palo Alto. She is in the fringe of accessibility as someone who has too much income to be eligible for county services

and too low of an income to live in the Bay Area. She was a housing services coordinator to low income housing and her passion is to help seniors who have no savings and no financial resources to have access to the help they need.

#### Commissioner Johnson

He wants the commission to be as inclusive as possible. He wants people to know that there are benefits being paid with their tax dollars that many don't even know exist or take advantage of. He also wants to know what can be done to bridge the digital divide.

#### Commissioner Eisenberg

The pandemic will be with us for the rest of the year. The goal should be to figure out how to get the seniors in our county back to where they were before COVID. More immediately, the goal is to convince people to get vaccinated and trust the science. Any way the commission can figure out how to get vaccinated and why they should get vaccinated. Once people are vaccinated, see how we can get the lives of Alameda County Residents to where it used to be.

#### Howard Kirsch

His number one goal is to get new members to revitalize the commission and the committee. To collaborate with the city of Oakland and the Age friendly council to bridge the digital divide. Also maybe set something up with the city of Oakland to both distribute and educate the seniors on how to use them.

AAA is working on putting a handout called "Know your Benefits". It will be circulated online and in person through their programs, such as meals-on-wheels.

### **B. Advisory Commission on Aging 101, Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, Director, AAA**

AAA does not walk alone. They all must coordinate and work together with ACA. The main reason why the ACA exists is because AAA is mandated to have an advisory council. They advise but not govern. One of the commitments that AAA has is to bring the information early and be transparent, so the ACA knows what is happening. ACA and the programs are also vital to give AAA visibility. For example, while many will not know who AAA is, they will know who Meals-on-Wheels are.

### **C. The Brown's Act**

There is an annual training given by the County Counsel regarding the importance of the Act.

### **D. Older American's Act: Maaza Michael, Program Financial Analyst, AAA**

The Older America's Act was enacted July 14, 1965 under the Great Society Program. Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act was enacted in 1980 to comply with the federal act. The purpose of the commission is to advise AAA on four major things: developing and administer the county wide plan; representing the interest of older persons; revising and commenting on anything regarding older persons.

### **E. Role of committees and committee leaders**

There are 4 committees including the newly formed committee for membership in addition to: Legislative, Health & Safety, PR, Advocacy, and Executive. Since Commissioner Kirsch represents the ACA on the AFC meetings he can report back and that can be added as a standing agenda items but no need for an actual subcommittee. He reminded that to be in the subcommittee one does not have to be a commissioner.

Commissioner Silbert suggested that they focus their efforts into getting people are still actively working within the older community as they will be able to further the ACA agenda. Commissioner Stadmire also noted that many companies and organizations will allow for commissioners to work on the ACA while on the clock, as it also helps them.

#### **F. Review of Mission Statement and Goals: 2019-2020 Accomplishments, Commissioner Kirsch and Jennifer Stephens Pierre**

##### Mission statement

The Advisory Commission on Aging promotes de independence and well-being of older adults through:

- Improved access to information and services and programs for older adults.
- Support of family members and caregivers.
- Advise and provide leadership to Board of Supervisors and Area Agency on Aging.
- Advocate for, protect and care of vulnerable adults.
- Community empowerment and outreach.

Charles Jones is going to send out the proposed mission statement shared by Commissioner Kirsch for a review period. They will work on it during the second part of the retreatment and bring it to the general meeting in April.

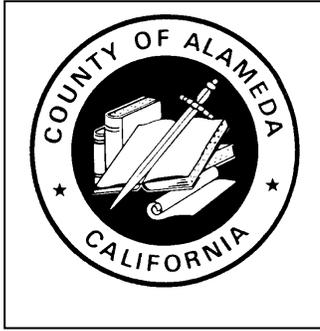
##### Goals and Accomplishments

There were 3 goals that the commission believe were important for 2020:

1. Ombudsman service: AAA participated in a 3-day event on The Alameda County Fairgrounds. AAA was able to promote the program, give out literature for the program and worked out with other county cohorts to put out announcements at malls.
2. Drafting the countywide area plan: AAA was able to collaborate with partners on the fairgrounds event; promote the countywide area plan through a survey at the same event, as well as attending other events and public forums
3. Host a signature event: AAA was not able to achieve this goal as the pandemic started at the same time as planning begun. However, AAA was still considering a success the fact that they can start planning an event around estate planning, as the need for such documents was inflated during the pandemic. The main issue is how to get the word out and reach to the community, so they are aware of the event.

**Adjournment 12:01pm.**

**Note: The next Advisory Commission on Aging meeting will be Monday, February 8, 2021 at 9:30 am via Zoom Video Conference Call. Please check [Advisory Commission on Aging](#) website for more details.**



## Meeting

### **ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING**

**Executive Committee Meeting  
Monday, March 8, 2021  
8:45am**

#### **Zoom Meeting**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98852242048>

Meeting ID: 988 5224 2048

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

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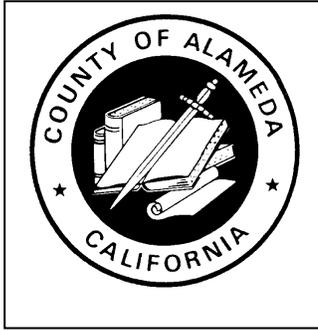
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- 1. Review of Executive Committee Agenda/Approval of Minutes**
- 2. Program Updates**
  - A. RFQ Contracts
  - B. Amended Budget
- 3. Membership Updates**
  - A. Retreat Part II
  - B. Retreat Part III
  - C. Mayoral Conference (Candidate Introduction)
- 4. Future Discussion Items**

## **Adjournment**

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**Next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held Monday, April 12, 2021 at 8:45 AM via Zoom. Please check [Advisory Commission on Aging](#) website for more details.**



## ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING

### Executive Committee Meeting Minutes Monday, February 8, 2021 8:45am

#### Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98852242048>

Meeting ID: 988 5224 2048

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

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Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abzuOleRu4>

#### 1. Review of Executive Committee Agenda/Approval of Minutes

#### 2. Program Updates

##### A. RFQ Contracts

- AAA updated Executive on contracts awarded since last month

##### B. Amended Budget

- Discussed the one time only/amended budget released on 2/5/21. AAA agreed to provide updated information on the allocations

##### C. Program Reconfiguration

- AAA informed the group on changes to contracts and staff

#### 3. Membership Updates

##### A. Retreat Part II

- Reviewed the agenda for today's portion of the retreat and Part II of the retreat scheduled on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Agreed to give Commissioners an overview on the MPA and to finalize ACA goals.

##### B. Mayoral Conference (Candidate)

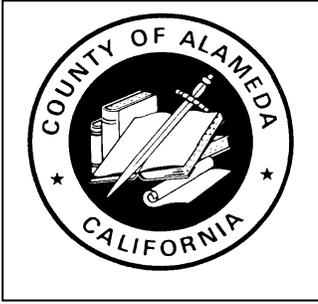
- Discussed appointment by the mayoral conference. The candidacy will be vetted and voted on next week and once appointed AAA will forward the candidate information to the ACA Chair.

#### 4. Future Discussion Items

## Adjournment

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Next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held Monday, April 12, 2021 at 8:45 AM via Zoom. Please check [Advisory Commission on Aging](#) website for more details.



**ALAMEDA COUNTY ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING**

**Legislative Advocacy Committee  
Monday March 1, 2021  
9:30 Via Zoom**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89217574351>

Meeting ID: 892 1757 4351

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,89217574351# US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 892 1757 4351

**Agenda**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of Minutes/ Items not on Agenda**
- 3. Legislative Bills for California**
  - a. Update by Lorena**
- 4. Council for Age Friendly Communities-- Wendy**
- 5. Updates/Master Plan on Aging—Wendy and Howard**
- 6. CSL Update and Follow up —Sylvia and Liz**
- 7. Updates on Bills-All**
  - a. Stimulus Bill and OAA**
- 8. City of Oakland Senior Services**
- 9. Senior Services Coalition Update—Wendy**
- 11. Other, Announcements**



**MINUTES**  
**Legislative Advocacy Committee (LAC)**  
**Monday, March 1, 2021**  
**Via Zoom**

**Commissioners Present:** Sylvia Stadmire

**Members Present:** Liz Breshears, Wendy Peterson, Ashok Desai, Tanya Washington

**Staff Present:** Mary Louise Zernicke

**CSL Members Present:** Liz Breshears, Sylvia Stadmire

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:36 AM. The March agenda was reviewed and approved. Howard was unable to attend so Mary Louise led the meeting.
2. February (Breshears/Stadmire) minutes were approved.
3. Lorena was not present at the meeting. Wendy did see her at a meeting and Lorena has a new role. She may assign someone else to support the LAC and Age Friendly Council.
4. There was continued discussion about the overlap in advocacy efforts and the importance of working collaboratively, as the group discussed the Council for Age Friendly Communities and Age Friendly Alameda County and the efforts of the LAC. Howard and Wendy are key in coordination.
5. Wendy shared the Justice in Aging sheet on bills to follow related to older adults. It was also decided to review the list again in April after members have had more time to review the list in more detail. Go to:  
<https://justiceinaging.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/2021-Legislative-Bills-CA.pdf?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=30d69cc0-93ed-4ebd-a747-270fe582f8e9>

The group reviewed and selected the following bills as priorities.

10. AB 470 (Carrillo) • Eliminate the Medi-Cal asset limit for seniors and people with disabilities.  
(Sponsors: Western Center and Justice in Aging)

13. AB 848 (Calderon) • Increase Medi-Cal monthly maintenance need for long-term care from \$35 to \$80 per month.

20. SB 48 (Limón) • Require professional training to create dementia-friendly workforce. (Sponsor: Alzheimer’s Association)

21. SB 56 (Durazo) • Expand Medi-Cal to undocumented older adults 65 and over. (Sponsors: CA Immigrant Policy Center and CPEHN)

31. SB 107 (Weiner): • Simplify CalFresh applications for older adults 60 or over and people with disabilities.

In addition, Sylvia will find out more about CSL SB56, and AB 695, which includes a budget request, (Note from Mary Louise: There is no bill on the list addressing an increase in SSI/SPP payment in any way.)

6. The Master Plan on Aging –no updates.
7. The CSL has a list of their proposed top twelve bills for support (two have no bill number yet). SB 107, SB 48 and SB 56 above are CSL sponsored bills. Liz noted that California has allocated many dollars to social services related issues.
8. Mary Louise and SSC are working with Mercy Brown Bag to create funding opportunities.
9. Our next meeting will be on April 5, at 9:30, contingent on whether or not this works for Lorena. Howard or another member will lead the group as Mary Louise will be unavailable.

Meeting ended at 10: 40 PM.

<u>Priorities 2020 for ACA-LAC</u>
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- Support policies, funding and programs that preserve, support and expand services and opportunities for older adults, with a focus on:
  - Increasing funding for Older Americans Act programs
  - Increasing food security
  - Housing support
  - Reducing income disparity
- Support policies and funding for enhanced coordination of services for older adults, including those with disabilities, to promote independent living—healthy aging, aging in place, protect against financial and physical abuse, safeguard against neglect and exploitation.
- Support inclusive engagement opportunities: support employment opportunities and reduce barriers for disabled adults, veterans, and older adults.