



March 25, 2019

The Honorable Gavin C. Newsom,
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

The California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports (the Collaborative) represents 37 statewide organizations and 20 regional groups that advocate or provide essential services for older Californians, people with disabilities, and caregivers. Our membership reflects California's economic, cultural, and geographic diversity. The Collaborative is excited and appreciative of your commitment to create a Master Plan for Aging to address California's growing population of older adults. We stand ready to work with you to develop a plan that is person-centered and recognizes the important role of long-term services and supports (LTSS), age and disability-friendly communities, and ensures no segment of the population is disregarded.

The data on California's population trends supports the Collaborative's approach to a Master Plan for Aging that is person-centered to address the needs of older adults and those with a disability. By 2030 individuals over 65 will represent 20 percent of the state's population. Additionally, disability rates from birth to age 65 are under 10 percent, at age 65 they rise to 24 percent, and at age 75 exceed 50 percent.

As part of our commitment to the planning process, the Collaborative has established a Master Plan Workgroup. Besides being broadly representative of the Collaborative's membership (see Attachment A), members of the workgroup collectively offer decades of experience as aging, disability, and long-term care service providers, advocates, state agency staff, legislative staff, and community organizers.

The Collaborative works in partnership with many groups and supports complementary efforts to improve the lives of older adults and people with disabilities including the initiatives spearheaded by the California Aging and Disability Alliance (CADA) and LeadingAge California. Our shared membership and complementary goals enable exchange of information and coordination of activities.

The Collaborative embraces several fundamental principles to guide development of the Master Plan. We look forward to working with you and your team on bringing these four principles to life.

1. An essential goal of a Master Plan is to address aging and disability needs without regard to age by ensuring access to a robust and affordable LTSS system, caregiver resources, affordable housing, and mobility thus enabling older adults and people with disabilities to have the opportunity to age in the setting of their choice with dignity and respect.
2. The Master Plan must be equitable and address the high levels of senior poverty and prevalence of disabilities, and the socio-economic, racial, gender, sexual, cultural, ethnic, and geographic diversity of the state.
3. The Master Plan's development process should reflect invested leadership from both you and the Legislature, and include meaningful input from stakeholders representing consumers, providers, payers, advocates, and policymakers.
4. The Master Plan must be comprehensive, actionable, sustainable, funded, and have a designated leader with clear responsibility for development of the plan, ultimate authority for implementation, and accountability for progress and results.

Your commitment to a Master Plan for Aging, as articulated in your State of the State Address, has energized us. The economic and inhumane consequences of not meeting aging and disabled Californians' LTSS needs is evident and has been documented for over 20 years (see Attachment B). We look forward to working with members of your administration and would like to request a meeting to discuss our more detailed recommendations with your team. Please feel free to contact me at (213) 674-2901 or via email at achrist@justiceinaging.org if you have any questions or would like to discuss the items outlined in this letter in more detail.

We thank you for your leadership and look forward to being a valuable resource as you develop a Master Plan to meet the needs of both the aging and disabled populations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amber C. Christ". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Amber C. Christ, JD, *Vice Chair for Policy*
California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports

cc:

Ann O' Leary, Chief of Staff

Ana Matosantos, Cabinet Secretary

Richard Figueroa, Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Tam Ma, Deputy Legislative Secretary

Fiona Ma, State Treasurer

Mark Ghaly, Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency

Enclosures:

Attachment A: Collaborative Membership

Attachment B: Aging and Long-Term Care Publications

ATTACHMENT A: Collaborative Member Organizations (* indicates members of the Master Plan Workgroup)



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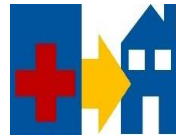
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ATTACHMENT B: Aging & Long-Term Care Reform Publications

1996	Little Hoover Commission	<u>Long-Term Care: Providing Compassion Without Confusion</u>
2003	California Health & Human Services Agency	<u>Strategic Plan for an Aging California Population</u>
2006	California State Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care	<u>Building an Aging Agenda for the 21st Century</u>
2009	Robert Mollica, Leslie Hendrickson	<u>Home and Community-Based Long-Term Care: Recommendations to Improve Access for Californians</u>
2010	Alzheimer's Association	<u>California's State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease: An Action Plan for 2011-2012</u>
2013	UC Berkeley's Division of Health Policy Management	<u>Will Boomers Bust the Budget?</u>
2015	California State Senate Select Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care	<u>A Shattered System: Reforming Long-Term Care in California</u>
2015	Congress of California Seniors/ California Commission on Aging	<u>The Changing Face of California</u>
2015	Public Policy Institute of California	<u>Planning for California's Growing Senior Population</u>
2018	California Taskforce on Family Caregiving	<u>Picking Up the Pace of Change in California</u>