

The Future of Aging is NOW

Every year, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, which represents America's national network of 622 Area Agencies on Aging and provides a voice in the nation's capital for the more than 260 Title VI Native American Aging Programs, develops a set of its top policy priorities that guide our legislative and administrative advocacy efforts for the year.

As a nation we are no longer preparing for an historic demographic shift—we are, in fact, deeply immersed in the challenges, realities, necessities and opportunities of a society with a rapidly growing number of older adults. And COVID-19's tragedies have only brought the varied needs of this population even more to the forefront. This demographic reality must inform policy debates and decisions across a spectrum of critical issues.

n4a's 2021 *Policy Priorities* reflect our targeted priorities and are based on our members' experience in directly supporting older adults and caregivers in their communities, including the urgent need to:

Build Better Policies for Our Rapidly Aging Nation Informed by COVID-19 Tragedies and Successes

Create Opportunities for Community Living and Healthy Aging

Invest in Cost-Effective Aging at Home and in the Community

While these are n4a's top priorities, we stress that in order for a rapidly growing population to age well at home and in the community, there are many more policy changes that must be made to reflect a cross section of needs that include, but are not limited to, accessible transportation, affordable housing and long-term care options, a well-trained caregiving workforce, a person and family-centered approach to providing services, and attainable and effective technology solutions.



Notes

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The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)

n4a's primary mission is to build the capacity of our members so they can help older adults and people with disabilities live well with dignity and choices in their homes and communities for as long as possible. We are a 501(c)(3) membership association representing America's national network of 622 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and providing a voice in the nation's capital for the more than 260 Title VI Native American aging programs.

Whether it is helping Washington set priorities, building the capacity of our members, raising the visibility of AAAs and Title VI programs nationwide, offering training and educational events, or working to drive excellence in the fields of I&R/A, transportation, business acumen, healthy aging, older adult engagement, livable and dementia-friendly communities, n4a is dedicated to supporting the success of its members.



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