

***Based on the survey findings and your own professional and personal experience, what are the priority actions Council on Aging should undertake to be better prepared to meet the challenges and take advantages of the opportunities of an aging population? List at least three priorities in order of importance.***

#1 Priority Action for Council on Aging
Expand Services – levy – to more people
Provide more transport to activities for socialization
Outreach efforts to identify and assist Seniors
Making community hubs for resources in the community
Advocacy for more funding/programs – I think there needs to be a system change at the state and federal level
Coordinate services & service providers – more home care options.
Develop financial education/support/counseling program to expand seniors ability to pay and plan
More advocacy
Ongoing work to improve the societal perception of the utility and value of aging individuals (i.e. public service, volunteer opportunities)
Strengthen connections and support from industry/local companies financially and with volunteers
Set strategic vision/direction to identify the key needs within our region. This will allow agencies to align servers to the greatest needs
Informing public about COA and what programs are available
Investigate partnerships with organizations that specialize in certain needed areas of concern. Example, Alzheimer’s Association for educational materials and classes, etc.
Policy changes to increase funding for in-home care.
Think about strategies to engage older adults who want to work/volunteer – possibly in provision of assistance to older adults who need it. Volunteer driver? Errand runners?
Communication of services available connecting with those in need
Educate families on services available. Where do you find people to educate? PSA for families who may not have the need yet



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#2 Priority Action for Council on Aging
Offer appropriate post -acute services . Transition of care services – get right care –right time – right location
Work with national chains to develop programs that will deliver food and meds to seniors living alone
Support efforts of senior centers who are working to provide preventive programming
Volunteer organizations for i.e. cut grass, shovel snow
Expand networks of communication and repair options to expand awareness, insure quality work, and fair price
More partnering – like groups collaboration in sharing best practices.
Advocacy work toward increasing amount of portion of dollars allotted to aging care through waivers and other sources of funding
Focus on contributions that older adults can make well into their later years
Gather funding/be leader in finding new funding instead of each group focus on funding COA can provide strategic direction/leadership to gain more regional funding
Helping people understand this is a service – not a charity
Reach out to program already in place to support seniors through community neighborhood groups and church ministry programs to highlight and communicate to senior and caregivers their existence
Workforce development for home health and home aides
Think about an “Angies List” of vetted providers who could be trusted to serve older adults
Community activation around priorities
Educate the public on the need to support services provided by COA. Show cost (tax) benefits. Levy?
Expand public transportation

## **#2 Priority Action for Council on Aging - Continued**

Innovative partnerships – look for partners and solutions for needs that may not be “normal” part of aging network

## Expand progress to improve health

The need for in-home caregivers will only become more challenging. Innovative caregiver solutions, i.e. tax breaks for family caregivers, respect for career

Explore differences between seniors and influences why obvious we don't know better as professionals but how to make the future more realistic – hope for the best, plan for the worst

### Funding across the board

## More support for seniors living at home

Aggregate/template for what services are needed

Household maintenance

Promote needs for senior to the region at large – public service message

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#3 Priority Action for Council on Aging
Offer/cover more health care related services, supplies, meds, etc.
Develop more organizations that will modify, adopt, and maintain homes, “partnering”
Decentralize some things
Increase education on the importance of future planning and financial planning
Continue to pursue how to share data gathered from home health visits with local hospitals, PCP’s, payors, etc.
Connect agencies to better leverage current community resources. Many agencies are competing with each other
Offer referral service when called for help
Formalize an extensive network of home maintenance providers that specialize in senior housing re-modification of kitchens, bathrooms, ramps, etc.
Transportation in suburban/rural areas: Patient to services, and bringing services to patients (nurses, dentists, pharmacists, physical therapy, meals, cooking, haircuts, etc.
Assessment of needs and POA for future needs
Continue to provide in-home care
Organize seminars about financial education
Tell stories – talking about aging does not always resonate. Take time to find new ways to frame the story and needs to more successfully have an emotional attachment
Promote community connections and livable communities

### **#3 Priority Action for Council on Aging - Continued**

### Increase community awareness of services available

“Flexible” funding sustainable listing – standardize credentialing don’t make providers continually go RFP, audit consolidate and work with other funders for say a vetted group of providers

Reduce competition environment with providers enough work for all especially transportation

## More funding for senior support services

### Lead the regions providers

Transportation/Access

Establish family support groups

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<u>Priority Actions for Council on Aging/Other Responses</u>
Technology
Helping senior centers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How to help healthy seniors stay healthy</li> <li>- General volunteers</li> </ul>
Develop literacy financial education to help plan adult/children
University for volunteers
Expand affordable housing options
Availability and pay for home care aides
Community education – on-going
Partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aging in place – report card</li> <li>Communication plan</li> <li>Template big picture</li> </ul>
Community report card:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengths and weaknesses assessment of individual communities</li> <li>Aging in place</li> </ul>
Uber for seniors