



# Products and Services of ADvancing States

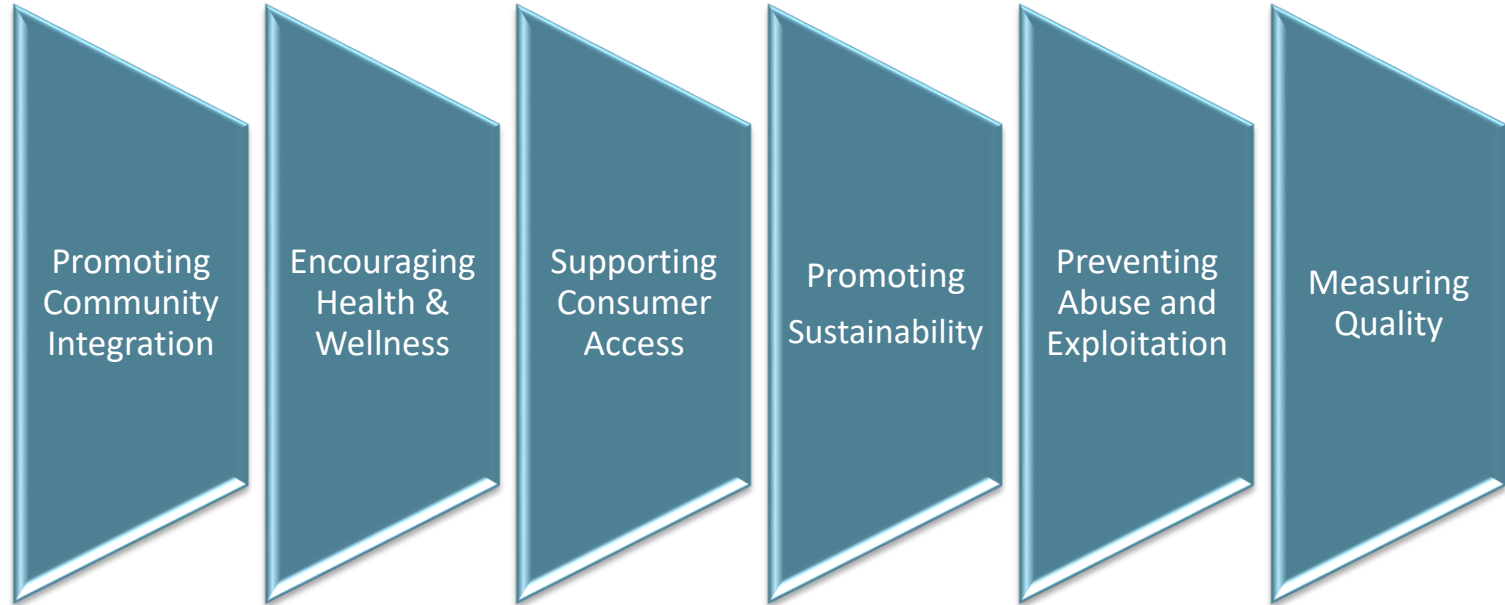
# About ADvancing States

## **Our mission:**

*To design, improve, and sustain state systems delivering long-term services and supports for older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers.*

- Represents the nation's 56 state and territorial agencies on aging and disabilities.
- Supports visionary state leadership, the advancement of state systems innovation, and the articulation of national policies that support long-term services and supports for older adults and people with disabilities.

# Providing Leadership, Technical Assistance, and Policy Support to State LTSS Systems in the Following Areas



# ADvancing States helps states



# Lead



Curtis Cunningham  
President, WI



Kathleen Dougherty  
Vice President, DE



Nels Holmgren  
Secretary, UT



Kari Benson  
Treasurer, MN



Bea Rector  
At-Large, WA



Dr. Alexis Travis  
At-Large, MI



Abby Cox  
At-Large, GA



Jess Bax  
At-Large, MO



Duane Mayes  
Past President, AK

# Engage with ADvancing States

- Seek leadership opportunity on our board
- Participate in public policy and ad hoc committees
- Participate in the MLTSS institute
- Participate in the Alumni club

# Innovate

Helping states to change and design systems  
to support their LTSS

# National Core Indicators – Aging & Disability (NCI-AD)

## NCI-AD Provides:

- Service recipient quality of life and outcomes survey
- Focused on seniors and adults with physical disabilities receiving publicly-funded services
- Offers an overview of state program performance
- State and national results available on
- Interested states can enroll now!



National Core Indicators  
Aging and Disability Adult Consumer Survey

2015-2016 National Results







ConnectToCareJobs.com



## What is ConnectToCareJobs.com?

ConnectToCareJobs.com is a free, national website that provides individuals looking for jobs with an easy way to connect with potential employers. The tool uses a matching algorithm to pair licensed and/or trained workers with employers that are in need of their specific skills. This website was created by ADvancing States, in partnership with participating States/Territories, through the support of Centene Corporation.

**Interested in learning more about ConnectToCareJobs.com? Visit the website or email [info@connecttocarejobs.com](mailto:info@connecttocarejobs.com) with additional questions.**

# Infographics on Aging, Disability, Caregivers, Oral Health, and Medicare

**PROGRAMS SUPPORTING LOW-INCOME BENEFICIARIES**

**Medicaid and the Medicare Savings Programs**



**More than 20% are enrolled in Medicaid**  
Medicaid helps with Medicare costs through the Medicare Savings Programs

**Help with Prescription Costs**

**HELP WITH PRESCRIPTION COSTS**  
is available through the Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy/ Extra Help and State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs



**Challenges**

A significant proportion are **NOT ENROLLED** in **MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAMS** because the application process can be complex

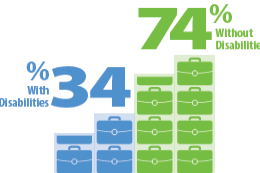


ADVANCING STATES

**WORKING AGE ADULTS**  
WITH DISABILITIES AND WITHOUT DISABILITIES

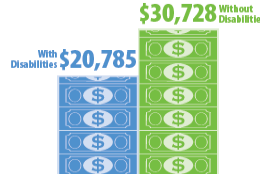
**Employment Rate** Ages 18-64

**74%** Without Disabilities  
**34%** With Disabilities



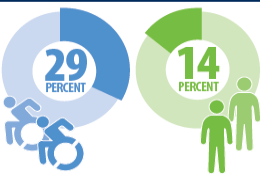
**Median Earnings** Ages 18-64

**\$30,728** Without Disabilities  
**\$20,785** With Disabilities



**Poverty Rate** Ages 18-64

**29 PERCENT** Without Disabilities  
**14 PERCENT** With Disabilities

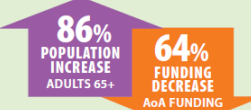


© 2015 www.NASUAD.org

**FUNDING FOR SENIORS NOT KEEPING PACE**

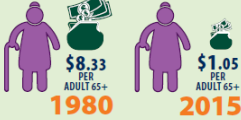
From 1980 to 2015

**86%** POPULATION INCREASE ADULTS 65+  
**64%** FUNDING DECREASE AoA FUNDING




**Current Funding Levels Unable to Meet Increased Need**

**\$8.33** PER ADULT 65+  
**1980**  
**\$1.05** PER ADULT 65+  
**2015**



**Percent of Seniors Continues to Grow**

**ONE IN EIGHT** Adults 65+  
**ONE IN FIVE** Adults 65+



© 2015 www.NASUAD.org

**CAREGIVERS: THE STRESSORS**

**Emotional**

**55% FEEL OVERWHELMED** BY THE AMOUNT OF CARE FAMILY MEMBERS NEED



**Health**

**1 IN 5** REPORT PHYSICAL STRAIN DUE TO CAREGIVING DUTIES



**Financial**

**FAMILY CAREGIVERS ARE 2.5 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO LIVE IN POVERTY**



**1 IN 5** RETIREES LEFT WORKFORCE EARLY TO CARE FOR FAMILY



**\$303,880** LOST INCOME and BENEFITS ON AVERAGE OVER LIFETIME FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS 50+



© 2016 www.NASUAD.org

**WHAT HAPPENS AS A RESULT?**

**Gum Disease Occurs In...**

**70%** of older adults  
**80%** of adults with disabilities



**Periodontal Disease is Associated With...**

**OTHER HEALTH RISKS**  
Diabetes • Stroke  
Cardiovascular Disease  
Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes



**EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS** Over a 3 year period, \$2.7 billion were spent in dental-related hospital emergency department visits in the United States



**Tooth Loss**

More than **1/3** of adults 65 years or older have lost all of their teeth



**Poor Nutrition Occurs When...**

Older Adults have changes in chewing ability, untreated tooth decay, or missing teeth, making it more difficult to consume a healthy diet



© 2017 www.NASUAD.org

# Collaborate

ADvancing States believes that collaboration with partners is the key to success

# Some of our partners



advocacy | action | answers on aging



# Advocate

Engaging with states to develop a strong public policy platform that supports state flexibility and funding support in LTSS

Representing states before Congress and the administration

# Public Policy Committees



**Medicaid LTSS**  
**Aging and Disability**  
14

# Public Policy Reports & Letters

241 19th Street S  
Suite 403  
Arlington, VA 22202  
202-698-2578  
advancingstates.org

**Curtis Cunningham**  
PRESIDENT  
Wisconsin

**Kathleen Dougherty**  
VICE PRESIDENT  
Delaware

**Nels Holmgren**  
SECRETARY  
Utah

**Kathy Bond**  
TREASURER  
Connecticut

**Karl Benson**  
AT LARGE  
Minnesota

**Kevin Hancock**  
AT LARGE  
Pennsylvania

**Bea Rector**  
AT LARGE  
Washington

**Duane Mayes**  
PAST PRESIDENT  
Alaska



March 20, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
U.S. Capitol Building, Room 5-230  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. Capitol Building, Room: H-232  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
Hart Senate Office Building, Room: 419  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Minority Leader  
U.S. Capitol Building, Room: H-204  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressional Leadership:

On behalf of Advancing States, I am writing you regarding the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Advancing States is a nonpartisan association of state government agencies that represents the nation's 56 state and territorial agencies on aging and disabilities. We are writing to stress three main priorities for our members during this challenging time:

- 1) **Make sure that older adults and people with disabilities are able to eat,** by temporarily waiving the prohibition from providing three meals a day in Medicaid home and community based services (HCBS) and by ensuring that OAA has sufficient funding and flexibility to provide 21 meals a week for individuals served.
- 2) **Provide clear, consistent, verifiable information:** Aging and Disability Resource Centers and No Wrong Door systems are receiving substantially increased call volume due to and No Wrong Door systems and require support to ensure that individuals have accurate fears about COVID-19 and require support to ensure that individuals have accurate information.
- 3) **Delay federal requirements to allow states to focus on disaster response:** state agencies are currently operating under challenging deadlines to implement Electronic Visit Verification and the settings requirements in the 2014 Medicaid HCBS final rule. Both of these mandates should be delayed by no less than one year.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Damon Terraggi at [dterragi@advancingstates.org](mailto:dterragi@advancingstates.org) or 202-674-8982.

Sincerely,

*Melissa A. Baker*  
Melissa Honery  
Executive Director  
Advancing States

Cc: Members of the U.S. Senate  
Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

Leadership, innovation, collaboration for state Aging and Disability agencies.



## Aging and Disabilities Information Technology Systems: What You Need to Know



241 19th Street S  
Suite 403  
Arlington, VA 22202  
202-698-2578  
advancingstates.org

**Curtis Cunningham**  
PRESIDENT  
Wisconsin

**Kathleen Dougherty**  
VICE PRESIDENT  
Delaware

**Nels Holmgren**  
SECRETARY  
Utah

**Karl Benson**  
AT LARGE  
Minnesota

**Bea Rector**  
AT LARGE  
Washington

**Duane Mayes**  
PAST PRESIDENT  
Alaska

August 31, 2020

Administrator Lance Robertson  
Administration for Community Living  
330 C St., SW  
Washington, DC 20001

Comments submitted electronically via: [ACLFramework@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:ACLFramework@acl.hhs.gov)

Dear Administrator Robertson:

On behalf of Advancing States, I am writing you to provide feedback on the Administration for Community Living's (ACL) Strategic Framework for Action: State Opportunities for Older Adults and People with Disabilities. We support visionary national policies that support home and community-based services for older adults and people with disabilities. Our members administer a wide range of services and supports for older adults and people with disabilities, including Older Americans Act (OAA) programs and services. Together with our members, we work to design, improve, and sustain state systems delivering long-term services and supports for people who are older or have a disability and for their caregivers.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this important document that represents a prodigious amount of work and time. We agree that encouraging and supporting state aging and disability agencies to enhance the sustainability and reach of their programs is of critical importance as the population of older adults continues to increase rapidly. We have organized our comments by the topical areas set out in the framework and, where comments apply to multiple areas, have also included general comments regarding the approach.

### General Feedback

Based on our conversations with state leaders, we are pleased to provide the following overarching feedback on the framework.

- The top priority for states remains preserving OAA and disability services for individuals who need them. States want to ensure that individuals with the



Leadership, innovation, collaboration for state Aging and Disability agencies.



# Inform

Providing timely, accurate information and resources to states



# Friday Update

**Friday Update**  
October 23, 2020



## Sections in this newsletter:

From ADvancing States

HCBS Clearinghouse

From the Administration

From Other Organizations

Job Opportunities

Funding Opportunities

## About the Friday Update

The Friday Update is a free weekly newsletter from Advancing States that contains federal, state, and local policy updates on a broad range of topics pertaining to aging and disability services. View archived versions of previous Friday Updates [here](#).

You can see an overview of the sections included in this Friday Update in the left-hand column. Some highlights from this week's edition include:

- The 2020 Virtual HCBS Conference agenda;
- An Advancing States issue brief on nutrition initiatives during COVID-19;
- A report from CHCS and Speire Healthcare Strategies about COVID-19 response efforts from states and health plans that offer integrated care programs for dually eligible individuals; and
- A GAO study on FLSA home care rule impacts.

[Click here](#) to subscribe to the weekly Friday Update.

- Free weekly e-newsletter
- National, federal and state updates on a broad range of topics pertaining to aging and disability policy and services
- Over 12,000 recipients!
- Sign up at [www.advancingstates.org](http://www.advancingstates.org)

# COVID-19 Resources

- **ADvancing States Resources:** Advocacy letters to Congress and ideas for addressing social isolation.
- A list of **CMS Waiver Approvals**.
- **Federal guidance** from our partners, including ACL, CMS, and the CDC.
- **State Materials** produced by health departments and agencies.
- **Business Solutions** to help support state agencies during COVID-19

# COVID-19 Reports & Letters



## COVID-19 Legislative Updates

To: State Aging and Disability Directors  
From: Martha Roherty, Executive Director & Damon Terraghi, Senior Director  
Re: COVID-19: Third Disaster Relief Package Update  
Date: April 2, 2020

### Background

On Friday, March 27, President Trump signed the CARES Act, which included a wide range of funding and policy to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Advancing States sent out a [memorandum](#) last week outlining the items in the legislation that are directly applicable to State Aging and Disability agencies. In addition to those provisions, there are a number of other items in the law that, while outside of our usual area of policy and programmatic work, we felt would be useful for you and the nonprofits and providers you work with. Below, we have included a brief list of provisions that may be helpful as well as links for additional information, deferrals, and grants included in this memorandum. We offer this list as a reference and encourage you and your network members to research any of these interactions thoroughly before applying. Please let anyone on the Advancing States team know if you have any questions or need assistance finding more detail.

### Support for Small Businesses, Non-Profits, and Community Based Organizations

- **Paycheck Protection Program:** These are small business loans available to certain entities with fewer than 500 employees, including 501(c)(3) nonprofits. Please note that nonprofits organized under 501(c)(10) authority are not eligible. The amount of the loan can be up to the lesser of 2.5 times the monthly payroll expenses of the business or \$10 million with a maximum interest rate of 4%. Importantly, loan applicants who maintain loan forgiveness levels that were in place as of February 15<sup>th</sup> through June 20<sup>th</sup> can request loan forgiveness. The amount forgiven can be the amount spent on payroll, mortgage interest, rent, and utilities over an 8 week period. This essentially means that at least a portion of the loan can be forgiven and not repaid. Applications can begin on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. More information is available at: <https://www.sba.gov/lending-programs/loan-paycheck-protection-program-ppp>
- **Employee Retention Credit:** This credit provides a refundable payroll tax credit for 50 percent of wages paid by employers to employees during the COVID-19 crisis. The credit is available to

Advancing States [www.advancingstates.org](http://www.advancingstates.org)



## Addressing Social Isolation for Older Adults During the COVID-19 Crisis

Updated as of 5/29/2020

## Reopening the Aging & Disability Network: Considerations for State Leaders



### Introduction

After several months of strict sheltering-in-place orders, the number of reported COVID-19 cases has begun to decline. State leaders and decision makers are considering next steps and taking phased approaches to reopening businesses and governments. While the general population gradually becomes more engaged in day-to-day activities and re-entering society, vulnerable populations will most likely need to continue strict social distancing practices in the coming months. It will be imperative for networks serving aging and disabilities populations to give careful thought to best practices and prevention methods to limit spread of the disease to those it affects most.

The purpose of this document is to assist state aging and disability leaders in thinking through a wide range of considerations for people served by long-term services and supports programs as states reopen. Considerations have been grouped by state administration, specific aging network and long-term services and supports programs, community engagement, and lastly, considerations for post-pandemic service delivery. These considerations are drawn from state sources (e.g. reopening plans, guidance, resources) and from conversations with and among state agency leaders. This list is by no means exhaustive, but hopefully provides a useful framework for state leaders as communities move forward with reopening within the broader context of federal guidelines and governors' reopening plans. For more state materials and information, visit [Advancing States](http://www.advancingstates.org/covid-19) at <http://www.advancingstates.org/covid-19>.

### Considerations for States

Across the areas identified below, there are factors that may shape decision points in regards to reopening aging and disability network programs. These factors may include, for example, the effectiveness and availability of treatments for COVID-19 and/or a vaccine; access to and accuracy of rapid testing; the availability of personal protective equipment (PPE); flexibility in service delivery (e.g. whether services can be provided remotely, whether activities can be offered inside or outside); and access to safe transportation options. Additionally, depending on when disasters are declared and ended, states will have different flexibilities regarding program operations.

### State Administration

#### Financing

- Are your state policies aligned with ACL guidance related to COVID-19, including financing and reporting protocol for Families First and CARES expenditures? ACL guidance is consolidated at: <https://acl.gov/covid-19>

June 2020



[www.advancingstates.org](http://www.advancingstates.org)

# Conversation Tips Toolkit

## About the Toolkit

This toolkit is a collection of tips for people volunteering with older adults. These tips are designed to be shared with volunteers over a period of time to support the abilities of a volunteer.



### **Building Trust**

Tips for building trust and rapport with seniors



### **Engaging Conversation**

Tips for creating engaging conversation



### **Access to Information & Resources**

Tips for accessing information and resources and setting expectations about their roles



### **Caring for Yourself**

Self care tips for volunteers

# Convene

Save the date!



**ADvancing States  
Spring Meeting 2021**



Coming May 2021

For more information, contact [info@advancingstates.org](mailto:info@advancingstates.org)

Save the date!



**HCBS  
CONFERENCE**  
Home & Community-Based Services

**HCBS Conference 2021  
Washington, DC  
Aug. 26 - Sept. 3, 2021**



More info coming soon

[info@advancingstates.org](mailto:info@advancingstates.org)

# Consult

ADvancing States staff are subject matter experts in long-term services and supports and offer consulting services under separate contractual arrangements intended for larger scale work such as:

- Older Americans Act and State Agency Operations
- Organizational Transformation
- Medicaid Managed Long-Term Services and Supports (MLTSS) and LTSS System Redesign

# HCBS Clearinghouse



ADVANCING STATES HCBS CLEARINGHOUSE IQ ONLINE HCBS CONFERENCE SUBSCRIBE

ABOUT HCBS CLEARINGHOUSE SEARCH CLEARINGHOUSE SUBMIT RESOURCES GLOSSARY COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES MY LIBRARY

HCBS.org is the premier clearinghouse promoting the development and expansion of home and community based services by gathering resources and tools for research, policymaking and program development into a one-stop online library.

Quick Search

Advanced Search

Browse Clearinghouse

Welcome to the HCBS Clearinghouse

Default is for ALL words you enter. If you want ANY of the words, place an OR between each of your terms. For exact phrase "put quotes around search terms"

Search Terms

Quick search



HCBS.org is the premier clearinghouse promoting the development and expansion of home and community based services by gathering resources and tools for research, policymaking and program development into a one-stop online library.

## HCBS New and Notable

### Falls Prevention: National, State, and Local Solutions to Better Support Seniors

This report was released by the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging. The report notes that one in four Americans 65 and older falls each year, leading to lasting health and economic consequences. Falls are preventable and not necessarily a part of the normal aging process. The report also includes a list of recommendations from the committee.

### Information Sharing to Improve Care

Coordination for High-Quality Care

## Advancing States Publications

Advancing States regularly releases new publications on topics across the aging and disability spectrum. We highlight all of these publications, along with webinar materials and HCBS Conference presentations, on our [publications and webinars page](#). See below for an overview of some of our recent additions.

**HCBS Conference 2019- Presentations:** The Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Conference is hosted annually by Advancing States (formerly known as NASUAD). This event highlights best practices from across the country in home and community-based...

## Advancing States Newsroom

- 8/30** Advancing States Honors Three Leaders in Aging, Disability, and Caregiver Services  
[Read more](#)
- 8/28** Aging & Disabilities Technology Workgroup Launched  
[Read more](#)
- 8/27** NASUAD Announces New Name and Election of New Officers  
[Read more](#)

# ADvancing States iQ



## **IQ ONLINE LEARNING CENTER**

Online Courses about Aging  
and Disability Programs,  
Resources and Services

[AdvancingStatesIQ.org](http://AdvancingStatesIQ.org)

ADVANCING  
STATES



### **Courses Now Available**

- Adult Protective Services
- Affordable Housing for Older Adults and People with Disabilities
- Certification for Community Resource Specialists in Aging/Disabilities (CRS-A/D) Training
- CRS-A/D Train the Trainer
- Developing Cultural Competence to Serve a Diverse Aging Population
- Disability for I&R Specialists
- Essential Components of the Aging I&R/A Process
- Introduction to Elder Abuse
- Introduction to the Independent Living Movement
- Medicaid 101: What You Need to Know
- Medicaid Managed Care 101
- The Role of MIPPA: Helping Older Adults and Individuals with Disabilities Afford Medicare
- Strengthening Cultural Competence in I&R/A Work with Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Older Adults
- Strengthening Disability and Cultural Competence in I&R/A Work with People with I/DD and their Families

### **Benefits to Advancing States iQ**

- Free online courses that help strengthen participants' knowledge of aging and disability networks, systems, and services
- Complements and enhances training for new staff, and helps seasoned staff stay up-to-date on program developments and trends in the field
- Provides professional development opportunities to meet training requirements
- Assists aging and disability professionals to prepare for and maintain their credentials



# National Information & Referral Support Center

## Services

- Technical Assistance Webinars: free monthly
- Training: Online training; AIRS certification training; and Train the Trainer
- Distribution lists: sharing information and resources
- National surveys: Aging and Disability I&R/A Networks
- National training events: including the Aging and Disability Symposium at the annual AIRS I&R Conference

## Goal

- To build and promote continuing development of aging and disability information and referral sources nationwide.



**NATIONAL  
INFORMATION  
& REFERRAL  
SUPPORT CENTER**

# HCBS Business Acumen Center

Consulting and Resources to Sustain Disability Organizations

## Resources

- Webinars
- Documents and guides
- Promising practices
- Peer-to-Peer exchanges
- Telephone and e-mail assistance
- Customized consulting services

## Share Your Expertise!

- Access and contribute resources to the HCBS Business Acumen Center
- Share experiences developing or growing your community-based organization such as:
  - Developing relationships with payors, partners, and others
  - Creating operational efficiencies
  - Navigating organizational change

# Business Acumen Toolkit



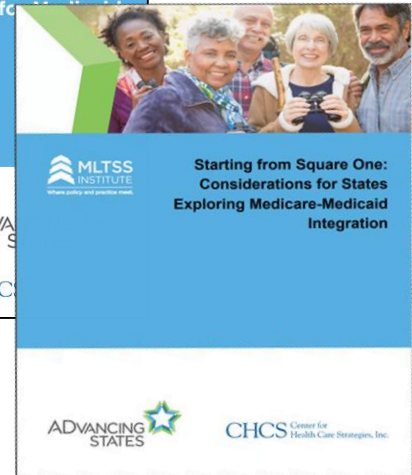
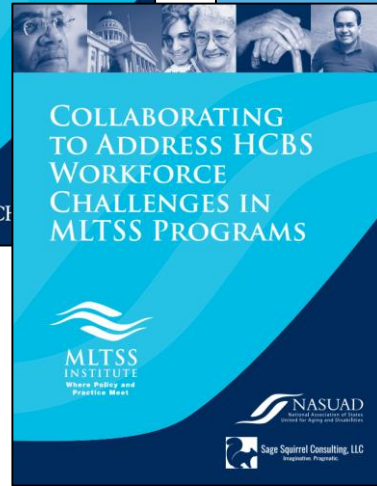
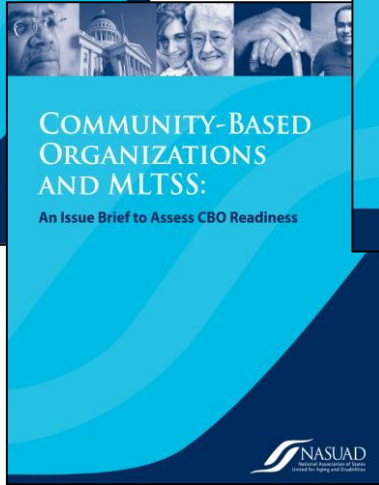
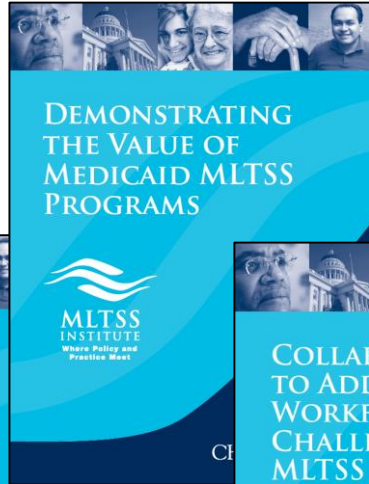
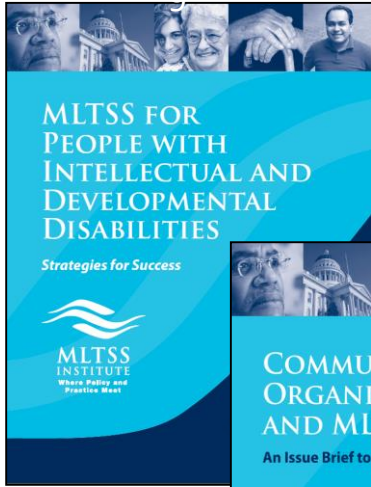
# MLTSS Institute

A collaborative effort between states and health plans to:

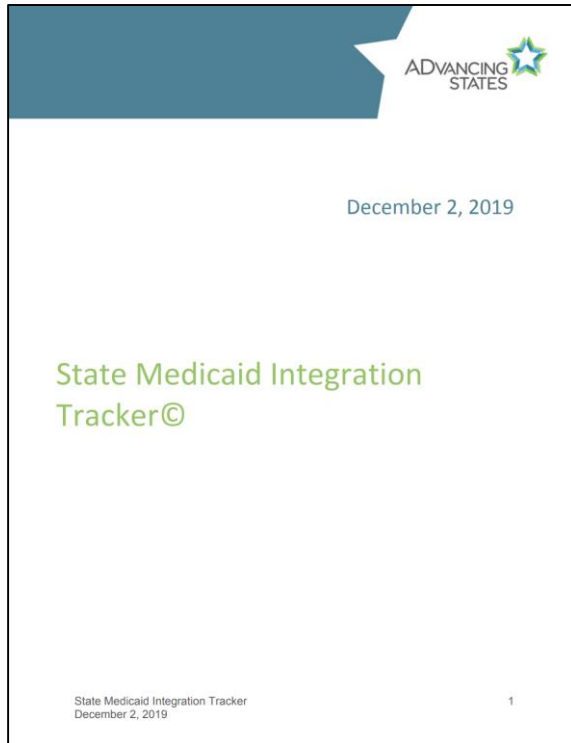
- Drive improvements in key MLTSS policy issues,
- Facilitate sharing and learning among states, and
- Provide direct and intensive technical assistance to states and health plans.



# Resources on Managed Long-Term Services and Support



# Medicaid Integration Tracker



## Focuses on the status of the following state actions:

- Managed LTSS
- Duals Demonstrations
- Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Initiatives
- Balancing Incentive Program (BIP)
- Medicaid State Plan Amendments under 1915(i)
- Community First Choice Option under 1915(k)
- Medicaid Health Homes

# Long-Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center



# MIPPA Initiative

## Issue briefs related to COVID-19:

- *Benefits Access and Enrollment During COVID-19: Findings from State Aging and Disability Agencies*
- *Process and Application Changes to Benefit Enrollment Systems During COVID-19: Findings from State Aging and Disability Agencies*
- *Nutrition Initiatives During COVID-19: Findings from State Aging and Disability Agencies*







## Alumni Leadership Network

Join ADvancing States as we pull in the best and brightest former LTSS and HCBS state and federal staff!

- Join in professional networking opportunities
- Stay involved and utilize your expertise in public programs and policies
- Provide a support network for alumni transitioning from public sector life

**Want to learn more? Contact**

### *ADvancing States Alumni Leadership Network is for former:*

- ADvancing States board members and general members
- State aging agency staff
- State disability agency staff
- State Medicaid agency staff
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services staff
- Administration on Community Living staff
- Administration on Aging staff
- ADvancing States staff

# ADvancing States Staff



Martha Roherty  
Executive Director



Camille Dobson  
Deputy Exec. Director



Pearl Barnett  
Deputy Dir. Of Operations



Samantha Gardner  
Sr. Policy Associate



Erica Lindquist  
Sr. Dir. Business Acumen



Adam Mosey  
Dir. of Aging Policy



Nanette Relave  
Sr. Dir. I&R Support Center Comm. & Outreach Coord.



Jillian Salmon

# ADvancing States Staff cont'd.



Elaine Sawyer  
Policy Associate



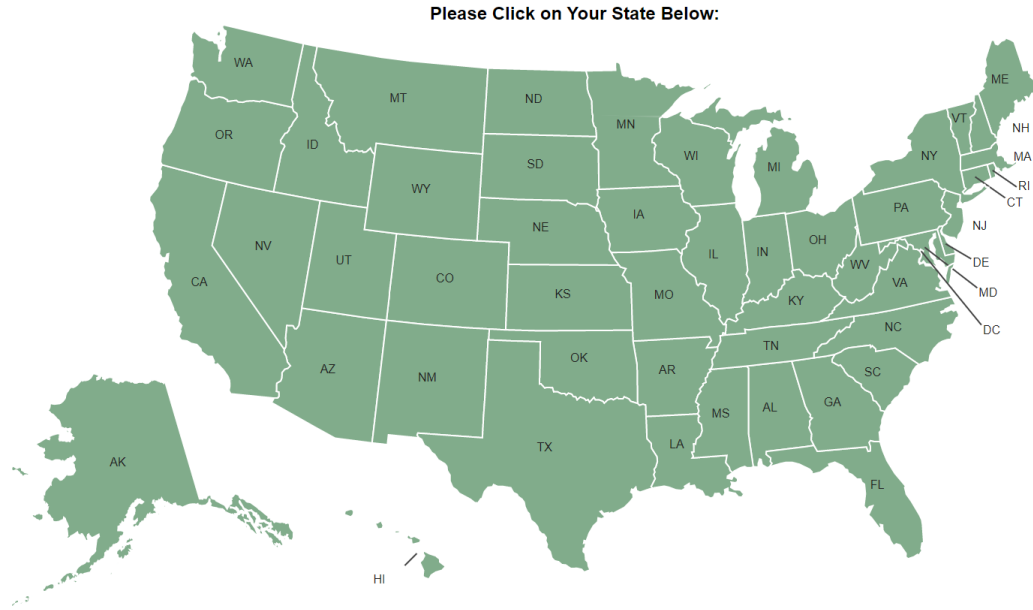
Damon Terzaghi  
Sr. Dir. LTSS Policy



April Young  
Sr. Dir. NCI-AD

# Aging Policy and Programs

## Map of State Plans on Aging



# “Binders” for New Aging & Disability Directors

Includes resources such as federal agency information, a list of key acronyms, state plan resources, and more!



Virtual “Binders” for New Aging & Disability Agency Directors

# Agenda for the Day

- Overview of Advancing States
- Overview of the Older Americans Act
- An Informative and Interactive Session with ACL
- Break – transition to part 2
- The SLTCOP
- CBO Partners
  - NCIL
  - N4a
- Break
- Aging & Disability Director Panel



Leadership, innovation, collaboration  
for state Aging and Disability agencies

**For additional info: [info@advancingstates.org](mailto:info@advancingstates.org)**