### Leveraging Lived Experience Data to Inform Multisector Plans for Aging

#### ASA OnAging

4/23/2025

Rosa Plasencia Senior Director NCI-AD, ADvancing States Stephanie Giordano Co-Director NCI, HSRI Divya Venkataganesan Section Chief, Planning - Division of Aging, NC Department of Health and Human Services











NATIONAL CORE INDICATORS--AGING AND DISABILITIES®

### Abstract

As states develop multisector plans for aging, they create a blueprint for the next 10 years of crucial service delivery. Data plays a vital role in informing these plans, enabling creation of a coordinated system aligning with local needs and ensuring plans effectively address the state's requirements. Regularly measuring indicators provides critical insights, allowing states to track progress over time, benchmark changes, and assess the quality of impact. This data-driven approach not only helps in adjusting strategies and improving service delivery, but also in making informed decisions that lead to better outcomes for older adults. Using NCI-AD and other sources, states can leverage the voices of people with lived experiences.





### Welcome and Who's Here

## What would you like to hear about today?

#### National Core Indicators: People Driven Data

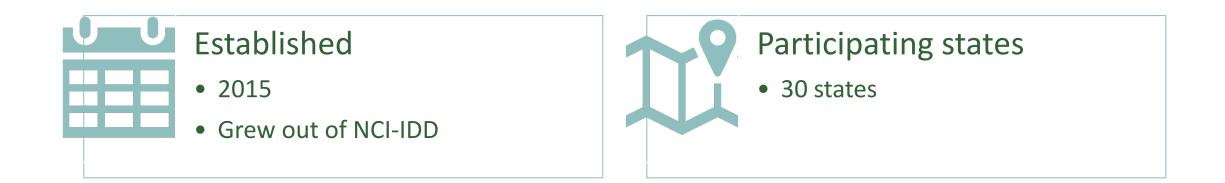
National Core Indicators is an initiative designed to **benchmark and track** performance that support **quality improvement efforts** in state systems supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (NCI-IDD) and older adults and people with physical disabilities (NCI-AD).

Our goal is to **support states in their quality improvement** efforts using valid and reliable data collection efforts that hear directly from the people using and supporting systems.





### **NCI-AD: An Overview**



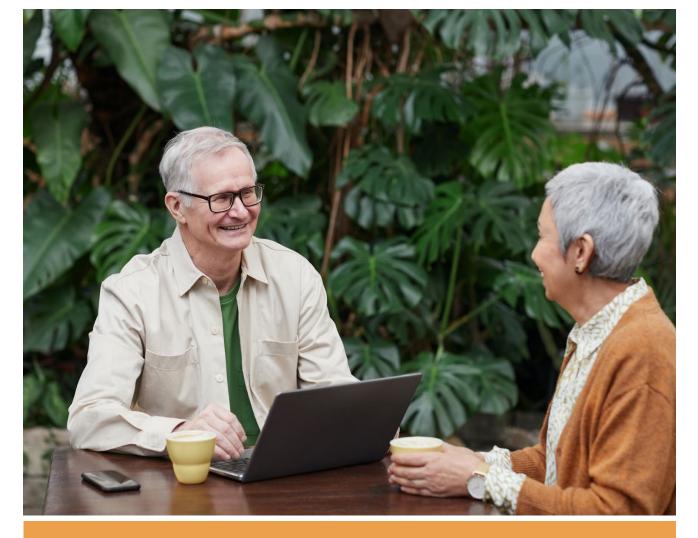
#### Population addressed

 Older adults and people with physical disabilities receiving LTSS services

#### Covers multiple domains

- AD domains and indicators
- New State of the Workforce Survey – Aging and Disabilities





### Adult Consumer Survey (ACS) A Person-Centered Approach

### • Standardized survey with a sample of individuals receiving services

• No pre-screening procedures

#### • Survey includes:

- Demographic and service-related characteristics typically from existing records
- Main survey section conducted with person receiving services
- Some questions may be answered by a proxy respondent
- Survey conducted in-person, via video conference, over the phone
- Standardized surveyor training
- Allows questions to be reworded or rephrased using familiar names and terms
- Survey portions take 50 minutes on average
- Minimum sample ~400

### NCI-AD Domains

Community participation	Choice and control
Relationships	Satisfaction
Service coordination	Care coordination
Access to community	Access to needed equipment/modifications
Safety	Health care
Wellness	Medications
Rights and respect	Self-direction
Work	Everyday living
Affordability	Person-centered planning module (optional)
Access to technology	Self-direction (optional)

# Data can help measure differential access and experience with services

Individual characteristics of	Where people live Gender
people receiving services	Race/Ethnicity Disability
The nature of their	Interaction with staff and case managers
experiences with services	Self-direction
	Choice and Control
The context of their live	Involvement with family and friends
	Access to community involvement
	Safety
Health and well-being	Utilization of health services
	Ability to manage chronic conditions
	Mental healthcare

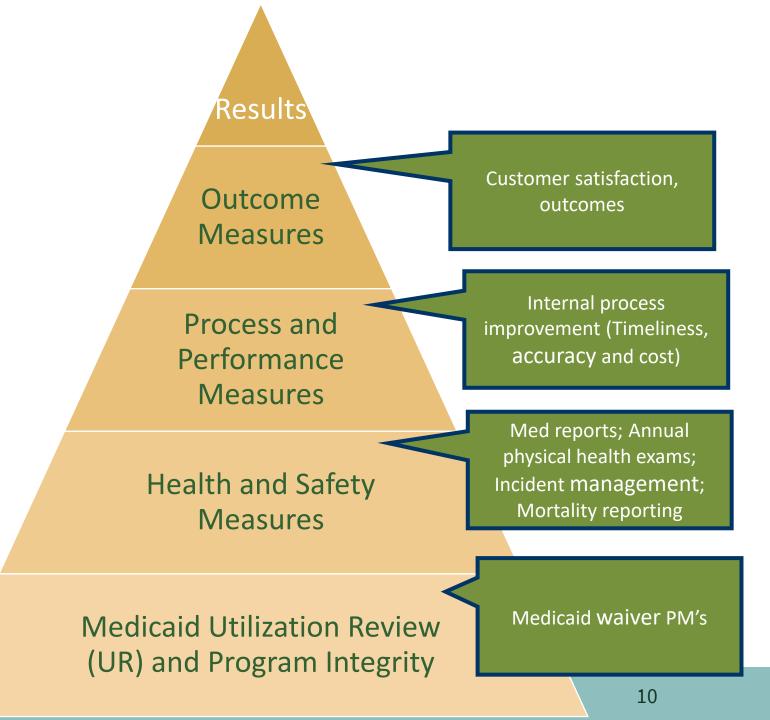


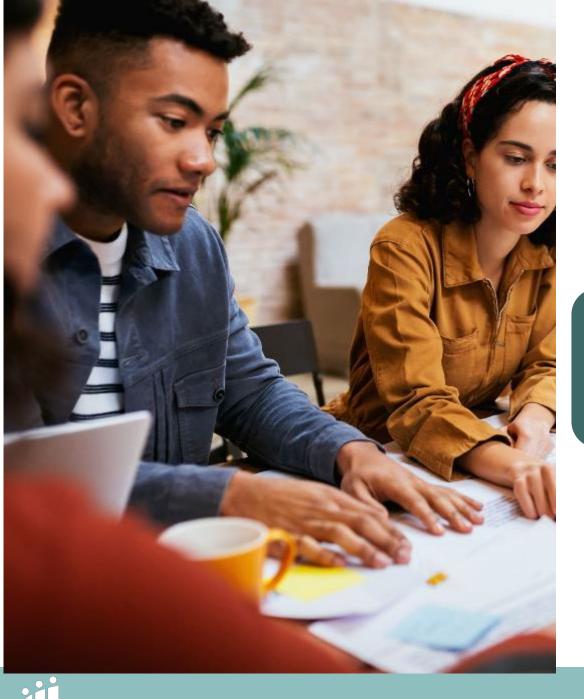
## Why data are important to understanding quality

**Using Quality Framework** 

### Each Quality Strategy Requires Data

From the base to the top- all measures matter





Compliance with minimum standards punches your ticket to get in the game

Meeting these standards is the floor, not the ceiling Go beyond for systemic improvement

11

### Why Focus on Older Americans Act (OAA) and Multi-Sector Plans on Aging (MPA)

To date few states include specific experience of care (EOC) measures to understand, benchmark, and track progress toward meeting state plan goals	
<ul> <li>Measures are tested for the population</li> <li>Allows for benchmarking and tracking within state OAA, against other state programs,</li> <li>Provides opportunity for states to sample by AAA for further comparison</li> </ul>	, OAA norms across states
OAA Final Rule includes guidance for using data for:	
<ul> <li>Developing state and area plans</li> </ul>	
Evidence-based practice	

#### NCI-AD measures track to many common state plan and MPA goals

- States may add questions to target goals not captured in the standard survey
- Data can be incorporated into state Multi-sector plans on aging

### Sample\* ACS Questions by Common State Plan and MPA Goals

Access to	Gets enough support for everyday activities (if needs at least some assistance)	62% OAA
Services and		82% NCI-AD
	Services and supports help them live the life they want	88% OAA
		88% NCI-AD
Wellness, and         falling or being unstable)	Has worked with someone to reduce risk of falls (if someone has concerns about them	74% OAA
		81% NCI-AD
	Ever has to skip meals due to financial worries	13% OAA
		13% NCI-AD
Preparedness	Has an emergency plan in place in case of widescale emergency	76% OAA
		79% NCI-AD
	Knows who to talk to if they are mistreated, hurt, disrespected by others	79% OAA
		81% NCI-AD
Caregiving	Paid support staff change too often*	27% OAA
		28% NCI-AD
	Has a backup plan if people who are paid to help them do not show up	63% OAA
		73% NCI-AD
Community Access & Participation	Takes part in activities with others as much as they want to (in-person or virtually)	71% OAA
		66% NCI-AD
	Has transportation to do the things they want outside of home	76% OAA
		72% NCI-AD

\*This is <u>not</u> exhaustive, Rosa and Steph can work with states to align with State Plans and MPAs 😳

### Sample State Questions

### Technology

- In the last year, have you ever been given the option to attend a telehealth appointment instead of an inperson appointment by a doctor or other healthcare provider?
- How frequently did you opt for telehealth services for your healthcare when they were offered by a doctor or other health provider?
- Do you use any enabling technology such as an automated medication dispenser, a video doorbell, remote support, environment control system, etc.?
- Does enabling technology help you live more independently

### **Sample State Questions**

#### **Rights and protection from abuse**

Can you access your bank accounts and financial resources (like a qualified income trust or special needs trust) when you want?

The State has an Adult Protective Services program to help people who are mistreated, hurt, disrespected, or neglected by others. Are you aware of this Adult Protective Services program?

Has someone talked to you about your individual rights (like the right to lock your bedroom door, the right to open your own mail, or the right to see a doctor if needed)?

Do you understand the "Rights and Responsibilities" that were reviewed with you?

If someone else administers your prescription medication, is that your choice?

Can you take a shower or a bath when you want to?

During the service plan meeting, were you informed of your rights as an individual receiving services? For example, roles and responsibilities of case manager and participant, how to file a complaint, choice of available long term care programs and services, right to change providers?

#### **Dementia Services**

Have you discussed forgetting things with your doctor, nurse, or other healthcare professional?

Likert Scale: How much does forgetting things disrupt your ability to complete daily tasks and activities.

Would you reach out to your local area agency on aging to find resources related to memory loss or brain health?

Likert Scale: How often do you participate in activities aimed at helping brain health and memory function, such as puzzles, reading, socializing, learning new things, community health screenings, or health fairs?

Are you aware of the potential role that managing chronic conditions (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, blood pressure) and practicing healthy habits (e.g., smoking cessation, nutrition, sleep) plays in risk of developing dementia

Do you provide unpaid care for a family member or friend that has significant memory loss or a dementia diagnosis

Are you aware of available respite care options including caregiver support and resources offered by your area agency on aging for individuals caring for a family member or friend living with dementia or significant memory loss?

## Older Americans Act & Medicaid Outcomes

Select NCI-AD Adult Consumer Outcomes 2023-24



### For this analysis...

#### Data are from 2023-24

21,000+ people

20 states

#### Analysis criteria (NCI-AD and OAA):

- People 60 and older
- Those not receiving nursing facility services

#### **Programs represented:**

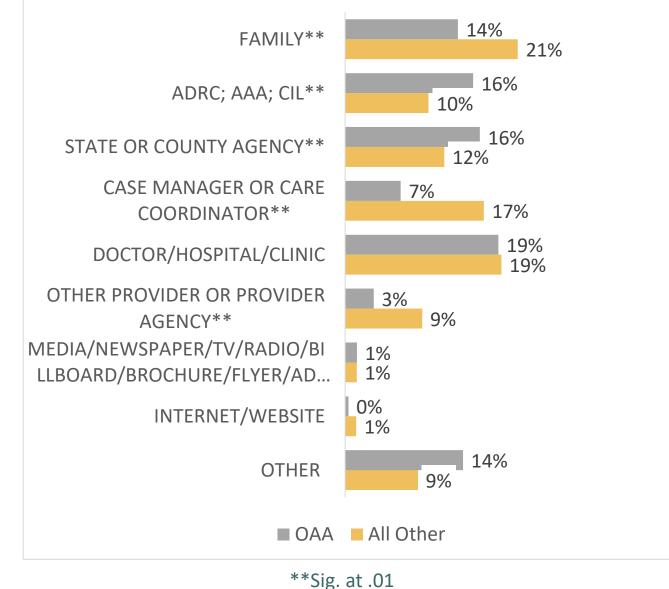
- OAA 865 respondents
- All Other– 10,172 respondents
  - PACE- 304
  - MLTSS-5,581
  - Combined Medicaid-3,161
  - Aging Medicaid-1,048
  - PD Medicaid-78





OAA participants were informed about services and supports from the **ADRC/AAA** and state/county at higher rates and from family, case managers, and other providers at lower rates.

How first found out about services they can get



OAA recipients whose preferred language was not English were more likely to report they got information about services in their preferred language\*\*

- 98% OAA
- 93% All Other



### OAA respondents had higher rates of living in individual homes or apartments

\*Sig. at .05

#### Lives in own home or apartment\*\*

- **91%** OAA
- **75%** NCI-AD
- Lives alone\*
- **55%** OAA
- **51%** NCI-AD Average

\*\*Sig. at .01

#### OAA respondents...

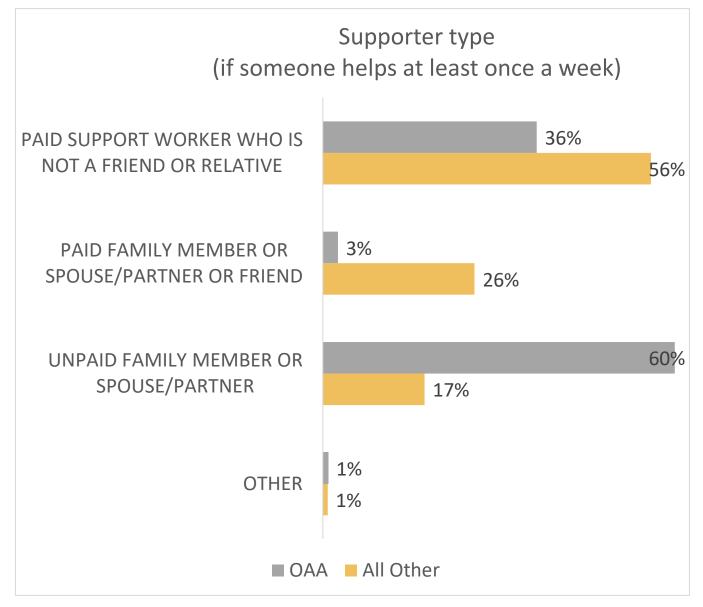
had **lower rates of reporting they have someone who helps** them on a regular basis (at least once a week)\*\*

- 63% OAA
- 89% NCI-AD

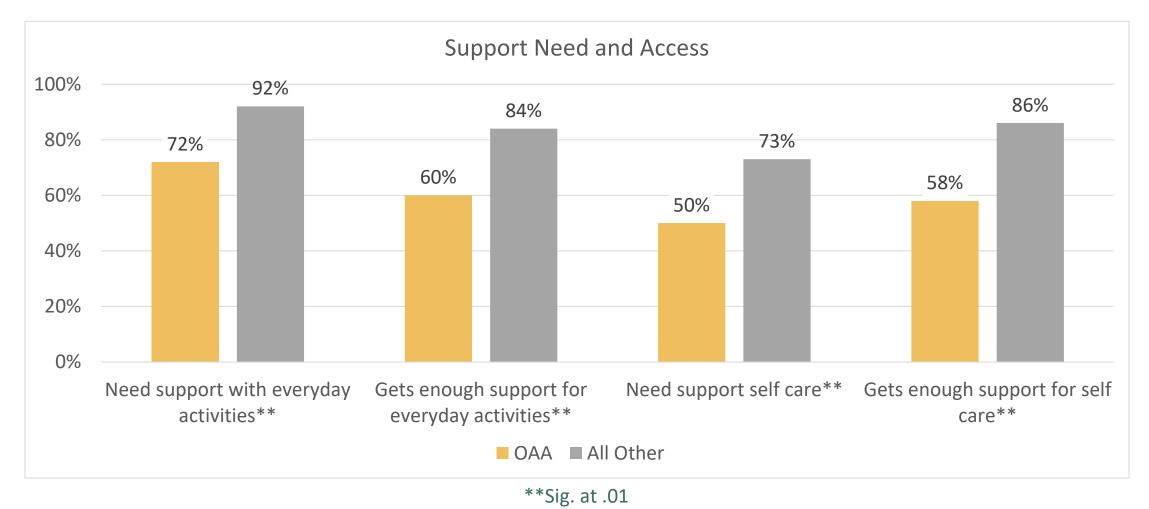
And were more than *three times* as **likely to rely on unpaid** family/friends to provide that support\*\*

They were also less likely to **have back up plan** if their paid support did not show up\*\*

- 56% OAA
- 70% NCI-AD



## OAA respondents reported lower ADL/IADL support, but also had lower rates of getting the support they need.



#### OAA respondents had higher rates of receiving home delivered meals compared to all other (70% v 20%)\*\* however...

Higher rates of OAA respondents **had to skip meals** due to financial worries \*

- **13%** OAA
- **10%** All Other

And fewer people reported they **have access to healthy foods** when they want them\*\*

- **83%** OAA
- **88%** All Other

\*\*Sig. at .01 \*Sig. at .05



### **Emergency planning**





CAN GET TO SAFETY QUICKLY IN AN EMERGENCY\*\*

81% OAA

88% ALL OTHER

HAS AN EMERGENCY PLAN IN PLACE\*\*

69% OAA

79% ALL OTHER

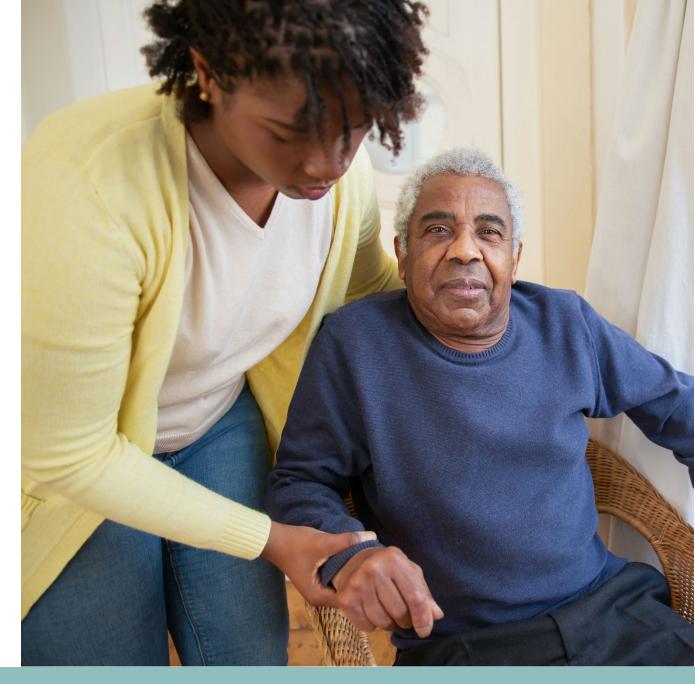
\*\*Sig. at .01



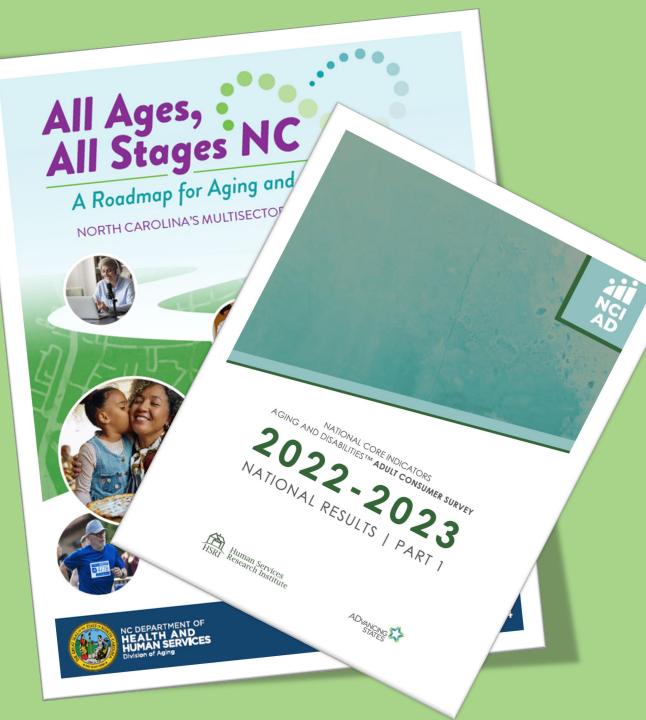
Fewer OAA respondents reported services meet their needs and goals\*\*

• **61%** OAA

• **76%** NCI-AD

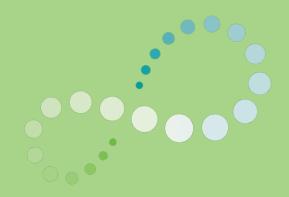


\*\*Sig. at .01



Leveraging Lived Experience to Inform Multisector Plans for Aging Insights from NC

> Divya Venkataganesan Caylee Weaver





### **Desired Results:**

- 1. Consider how data may inform quality of OAA service deliver and how a state may track their progress over time.
- 2. Understand the role of data dashboards in monitoring and improving multisector plans.
- 3. Examine best practices for integrating survey results into strategic planning and policy development.
- 4. Recognize the importance of regularly measuring indicators to provide actionable insights and guide continuous improvement in aging services.



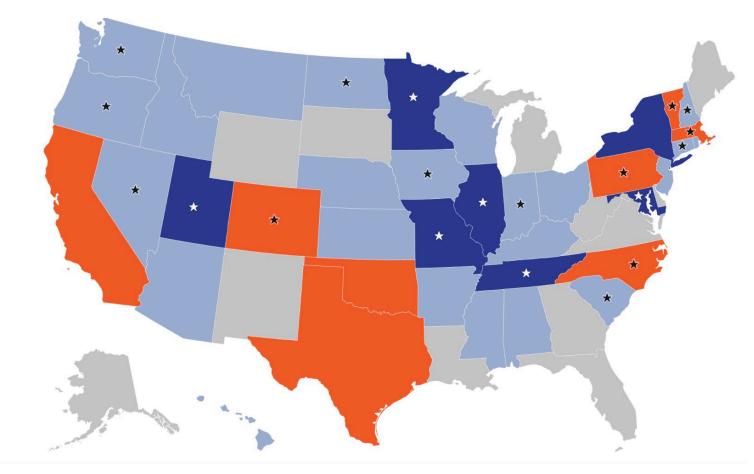
### **Multisector Plan for Aging**

A cross-sector, state-led strategic planning resource that can help states transform infrastructure and coordination of services for their rapidly aging population, and people with disabilities.





### **MPA Activity Across States**



Interested or Actively Planning
 Legislation/Executive Order
 Implementing or Refreshing an MPA
 MPA Learning Collaborative
 Participant
 Not Actively Engaged

### **Data-Driven Decision Making**

Data is needed before and throughout the MPA development process in the following ways:

- **Before** developing can begin on an MPA, compiling data allows plan creators and state leaders to learn about their populations. For example, understanding a population's demographic makeup provides a snapshot of the state and can help identify gaps and opportunities for the MPA to consider. This step also can uncover challenges that may affect certain demographics/communities, indicating how they are being served and what their needs are.
- **During** MPA development, data is needed to provide baseline measurements and indicators for the plans' goals and recommendations.
- Ongoing: Because MPAs are 10+ year plans, data needs to be used continuously, even
- after the plan is developed, to track progress over time.

*'BECAUSE MPAS ARE 10+ YEAR PLANS, DATA NEEDS TO BE USED CONTINUOUSLY, EVEN AFTER THE PLAN IS DEVELOPED.'* 



### NC'S MPA Data Framework

#### Planning

#### **Development**

#### Implementation

Before (2022/2023): Age My Way Survey & MPA Focus Groups **During (2024):** Analyzing Current State of NC's Data Landscape;

State and County Aging Profiles Dashboard

I'm Still Here Campaign and Statewide Survey Ongoing/Now (2025): Dashboards for Each Goal, Implementation Tracker, & Aligning NCI-AD Survey



### 2022 Planning: Age My Way NC

- North Carolina is Aging. Will We be Prepared?
- Age My Way NC is collaborative effort between NC and AARP NC to identify priorities for making communities great places for all ages
  - Surveyed people 45+ statewide to identify priorities (i.e., safe and walkable streets, agefriendly housing and transportation options, access to services, opportunities for residents to participate in community life)
    - 3,306 completed surveys, 1.8% margin of error
  - Results were augmented with other data to provide input to future planning



Age My Way NC Survey - We Want to hear from you.



### Age My Way Key Findings

- People want to stay in their communities and not relocate
- People want to age in their own homes
- Individuals worry about when they won't be able to drive
- People worry about becoming socially isolated
- Employment for older and disabled adults is important issue that needs to be addressed moving forward

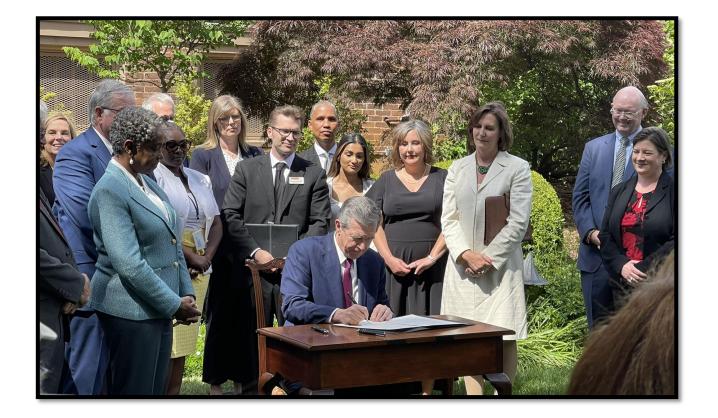
#### Explore our findings!

Take a few minutes to engage with the findings of our "Age My Way" survey, presented to help your policymakers understand and focus on projects that help make North Carolina Livable for people of all ages.

**Explore the Results** 



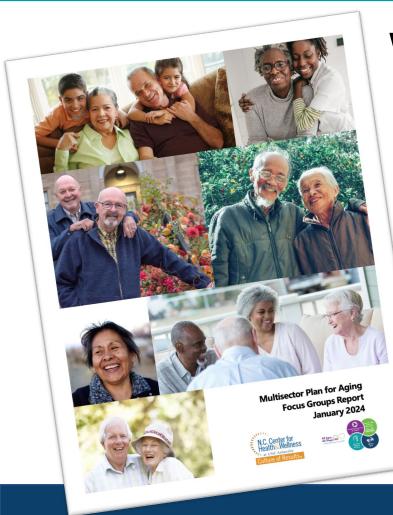




On May 3, 2023, Governor Cooper directed NC to build an age-friendly state through the multiple initiatives including developing the Multisector Plan for Aging.

### 2023/2024 Development: All Ages, All Stages NC Focus Groups





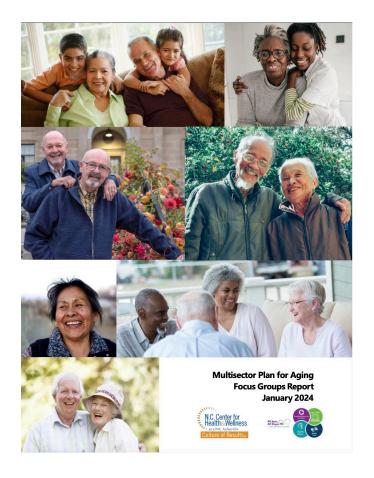
What are the experiences and conditions most deeply affecting key **older adult populations (60+)** in North Carolina?

African Americans	Hispanic/Latinos	LGBTQ+ individuals
Native Americans (Lumbee)	Holocaust survivors	Asian Americans



### **Findings**

- Theme #1 Confusion and lack of awareness about available resources and services:
- Theme #2 Challenges, inconsistency and need for expansion in transportation access supports
- Theme #3 Barriers to aging in place
- Theme #4 Affordability of aging and longterm care options:
- Theme #5 Additional supports needed for social connection
- Theme #6 Additional opportunities needed to share wisdom and expertise and to connect intergenerationally
- Inclusion and Equity (Equal Opportunity, Access and Representation)



# 2024 Development: I'm Still Here Campaign & Survey

- Methodology online survey distributed via email link
- Timing August and September 2024
- Survey Recipients
  - Adults across the state of NC
    - Focus: Aged 60+
- Length 26 questions
- Responses 2,000+
- Completion rate 72%

Reinforce NC's Commitment to the Mission of Being a State Where Aging Adults Can Thrive

- Communicate the importance of addressing the needs of an aging population.
- Foster positive perceptions by promoting a positive view of aging, highlighting the strengths, experiences and contributions of older adults.

Increase Awareness of the All Ages, All Stages Initiative.

- Improve knowledge and understanding of domains
- Promote community engagement to mobilize individuals, organizations and policymakers to actively participate
- Provide information on topics such as healthcare, long-term care, housing, social services, etc

# **Campaign Research Highlights**



Paid media effort delivered 72M impressions between April–November 2024; Total users to the website, during the campaign, was 29K. Targeted digital media encouraged people to learn more about the All Ages, All Stages initiative

- 1. Respondents <u>expressed satisfaction with the resources and programs available</u> for NC's aging population and demonstrated a level of awareness of All Ages, All Stages NC.
- 2. This is a well-informed and engaged population. The <u>internet and social media are their go-to</u> <u>sources</u> for information.
- 3. Many indicated that they only <u>"occasionally" encountered advertising related to aging population</u> <u>services</u>, with the effectiveness of those messages rated as "somewhat effective."
- 4. Aging resources (and support) deemed important are affordability and comprehensive care.
- 5. Most respondents did not report experiencing or witnessing discrimination against older adults.

Illuminate the opportunities (and challenges) of supporting an aging population

## Inspired Calls-to-Actions:

- Change behavior
- Plan for own aging
- Seek out services
- Practice healthy living
- Support policy
- Create inclusive communities

## NC's Data Dashboard Phase 1 – State, Regional & County Aging Profiles

2%

1%

2%

US %

100%

2%

77%

NC %

Asian

Total

Some Other Race

Two or More Races

Age 65+ Ethnicity

White Non-Hispanic/Latino

Hispanic/Latino



North Carolina Aging Population Profile Entire State Navigate to County Profile Region Profile							People People 65+ 10,705,403 1,876,55		as % of Total <b>18%</b>		
Populatio	n Growth					Projected Growth in Next	20 Years		65+ Projected Growth by Region		
	2022 Est.	2042 Proj.	2022 Est. 204	12 Proj.	Proj. Growth	Year ● 2022 ● 2042			Area Agency on Aging		2042 Proj.
Age 0-17 Age 18-44 Age 45-59 Age 60-64 Age 60+ Age 65+ Age 85+ Total	2,265,759 3,839,982 2,055,771 667,336 2,543,891 1,876,555 202,169 10,705,403	2,651,547 4,556,697 2,500,794 760,985 3,533,490 2,772,505 432,551 13,242,528	21% 36% 19% 6% 24% 18% 2%	20% 34% 19% 6% 27% 21% 3%	17% 19% 22% 14% 39% 48% 114% 24%	1.4M 0.7M 0.8M 0.7M 0.8M Age 60 to 64 Age 65 to 74		0.4M 2M Age 85+	<ul> <li>A - Southwestern Commission</li> <li>B - Land of Sky Regional Council</li> <li>C - Foothills Regional Commission</li> <li>D - High Country COG</li> <li>E - Western Piedmont COG</li> <li>F - Centralina COG</li> <li>G - Piedmont Triad Regional Council</li> <li>J - Central Pines Regional Council</li> <li>K - Kerr Tar Regional COG</li> <li>L - Upper Coastal Plain COG</li> <li>M - Mid-Carolina Regional Council</li> </ul>	55,440 110,015 49,454 47,149 76,023 351,160 323,703 319,028 46,378 60,158 79,238	149,795 58,682 55,111 100,272 619,179 423,307 602,533 68,105 61,621
Age 65+ Race						Social and Economic Characteristics Population Age 65 and Older		N -Lumber River COG O - Cape Fear COG P - Eastern Carolina COG	47,054 115,325 108,639	56,257 181,932 123,802	
Race		NC %	þ	US %		NC %	US %	Q - Mid-East Commission R - Albemarle Commission	50,107 37,684	57,079 47,907	
White78%79%Black or African American17%9%		9%	0-99% Poverty 0-199% Poverty	10% 29%	10% 27%	Total	1,876,555	2,772,505			
American Indian and Alaska Native 1%			1%	Speaks English Less Than Very V	Vell 2%	9%					

Veterans

Living Alone

Has a Disability

In Labor Force

Less Than Highschool Education

Highschool Graduate (No College)

5%

3%

4%

9%

75%

100%



15%

26%

13%

30%

32%

19%

16%

27%

13%

30%

33%

17%

Age 60+ Grandparents responsible for Grandchildren

36.335



### Age 60+ Moved from Other States or Abroad

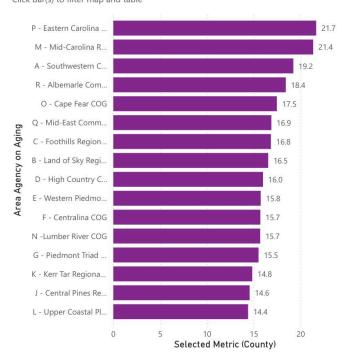


## **Demographic Deep Dive**

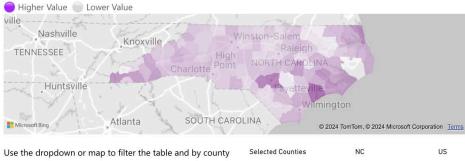
Demographic Dive by County Dive into a specific demography metric using the selector on the right Choose a demography metric from the list

Age 65+ Veterans (County %)

Age 65+ Veterans (County %) by Aging Region Click bar(s) to filter map and table



## Age 65+ Veterans (County %) by County



All	$\sim$	16.4	16.4	15.4
Age 65+ Veterans (County %) by County				

County	Area Agency on Aging	Selected Metric	# of People 65+	65+ % of Total Pop	
Alamance	G - Piedmont Triad Regional Council	16.4	29,084	20%	
Alexander	E - Western Piedmont COG	14.6	7,430	23%	
Alleghany	D - High Country COG	15.7	3,079	26%	
Anson	F - Centralina COG	18.3	4,339	19%	
Ashe	D - High Country COG	16.1	7,112	28%	
Avery	D - High Country COG	14.2	4,007	25%	
Beaufort	Q - Mid-East Commission	18.4	10,927	26%	
Bertie	Q - Mid-East Commission	11.1	4,253	20%	
Bladen	N -Lumber River COG	16.9	6,801	19%	
Total		16.4	1,747,359	19%	

1.	Age 60+ Grandparents Responsible for Grandchildren (County %)
2.	Age 60+ Grandparents Responsible for Grandchildren (County)
3.	Age 60+ Moved from Other States or Abroad (County %)
4.	Age 60+ Moved from Other States or Abroad (County)
5.	Age 65+ 0-199% Poverty (County %)
6.	Age 65+ 0-199% Poverty (County)
7.	Age 65+ 0-99% Poverty (County %)
8.	Age 65+ 0-99% Poverty (County)
9.	Age 65+ High School Graduate (County %)
10.	Age 65+ High School Graduate (County)
11.	Age 65+ In Labor Force (County %)
12.	Age 65+ In Labor Force (County)
13.	Age 65+ Less Than High School (County %)
14.	Age 65+ Less Than High School (County)
15.	Age 65+ Living Alone (County %)
16.	Age 65+ Living Alone (County)
17.	Age 65+ Median Household Income (County)
18.	Age 65+ Speak English Less Than Very Well (County %)
19.	Age 65+ Speak English Less Than Very Well (County)
20.	Age 65+ Veterans (County %)
21.	Age 65+ Veterans (County)
22.	Age 65+ With Disability (County %)
23.	Age 65+ With Disability (County)

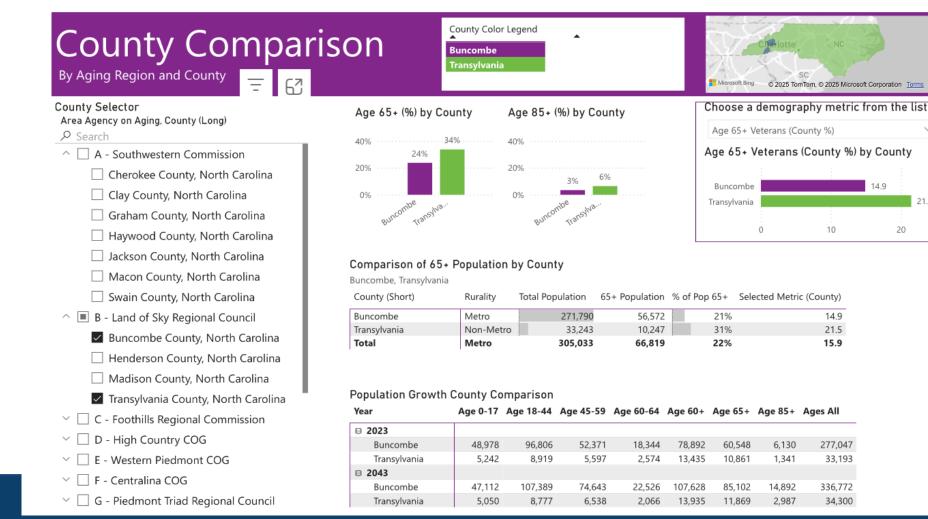


 $\sim$ 

21.5

20

# **County Comparison Tool**





# **Data Sources**

### Estimates/projections:

- NC Office of State Budget and Management, Standard Population Estimates, Vintage 2023;Population Projections, Vintage 2024 www.osbm.nc.gov/facts-figures/population-demographics.
   Race/Ethnicity:
- US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B01001A Sex by Age White alone https://data census gov/
- US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B01001B Sex by Age People who are Black or African American alone
- US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B01001D Sex by Age People who are Asian alone
- US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B01001C Sex by Age People who are American Indian or Alaska Native alone
- US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B01001F Sex by Age People who are Some Other Race alone
- US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B01001G Sex by Age People who are two or more races
- US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B01001H. Sex by Age. White, not Hispanic or Latino.
- US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B01001I Sex by Age People who Hispanic or Latino

### Socio-economic characteristics:

+US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B17024 Age by ratio of income to poverty level in the past 12 months

•US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B16004 Age by language spoken at home by ability to speak English for the population 5 years and over

+US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B21001 Sex by age by Veteran status for the civilian population 18 years and over

- •US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B09020 Relationship by household type (Including living alone) for the population 65 years and over
- +US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B15001 Sex by age by educational attainment for the population 18 years and over
- +US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table C18108 Age by number of disabilities
- +US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B23001 Sex by age by employment status for the population 16 years and over
- •US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B07001 Geographical mobility in the past year by age for current residence in the United States

•US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table B10051 Grandparents living with own grandchildren by responsibility for own grandchildren by presence of parent of grandparent

+US Census Bureau (2024) 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Table S1903 Median Income by Household Age

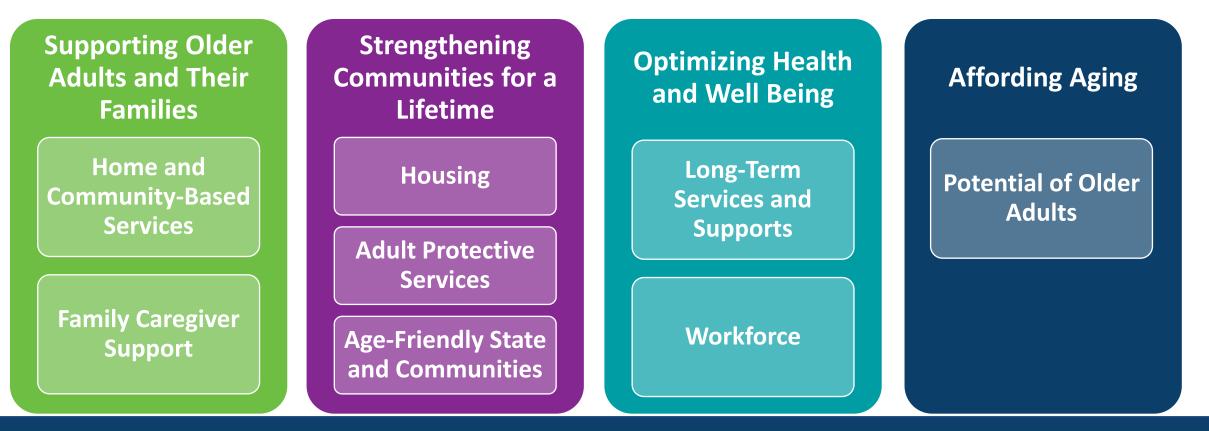
### **County-Level Rurality Classifications:**

· Health Resources & Services Administration (2022-2023) Area Health Research Files (AHRFs)



# Phase 2 – Coming in 2025/2026

In future phases, new **metrics/dashboards** and an **implementation tracker** will be added that align with the four goals and eight priorities of All Ages, All Stages NC.





## **Goal: Strengthening Communities for a Lifetime**

## Housing Cost Burden - Age 65+ by State

Percentage of households with one or more adults age 65 and older for which housing costs are 30% or more of household income



- 29.2% of households with adults aged 65 and older in North Carolina spend 30% or more of their income on housing. <u>americashealthrankings.org</u>
- There is a shortage of rental homes affordable and available to extremely low-income households, with only 40 affordable and available rental homes for every 100 such households. <u>nchousing.org</u>

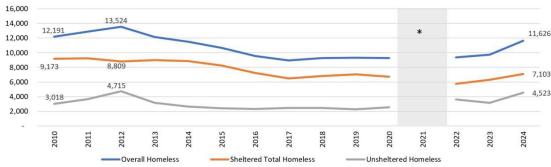
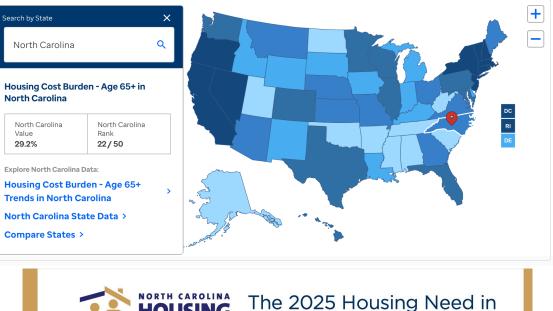
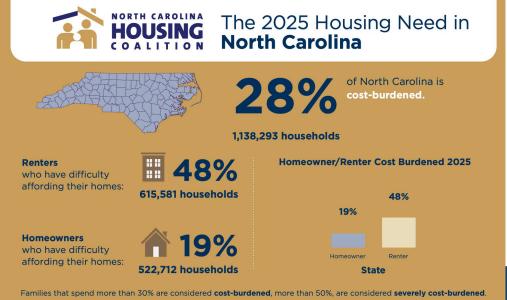


Figure 1: After years of decreasing homelessness in North Carolina, recent data shows an increase.

• One in five individuals experiencing homelessness is 55 or older. Almost half (46%) of

people aged 55+ experiencing homelessness are experiencing unsheltered homelessness, meaning they are living somewhere not meant for human habitation.





Source: 2024 Point-In-Time data from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), pulled 1/6/2025. \*2021 values were likely undercounts due to challenges completing the count during the COVID-19 pandemic, so are not shown.





## Ex 2: Workforce Dashboard

- Direct care workforce data collection strategies in North Carolina:
  - 1. Make existing data collection practices and structures more transparent, accessible, and clear so that data may be more effectively analyzed and used.
  - 2. Enhance the current data collection systems by collecting more data points.
  - 3. Capture information and training credentials on direct care workers that are not currently included in the training registries.
  - 4. Explore options to link the training registries together using an online platform that is accessible to providers and workers
  - 5. Participate in more survey opportunities, particularly the National Core Indicators Aging and Disabilities SOTW Survey.
  - 6. Learn from what other states have done to improve direct care workforce data collection.

## Healthcare Workforce Crisis

Research shows that from 2018 to 2028, North Carolina's long-term care sector will need to fill more than **186,000 openings in direct care**, including nearly **21,000 new jobs** 



to meet rising demand and **165,500 jobs that become vacant** as existing workers transfer to other occupations or exit the labor force.



# Workforce Dashboard



### For Reference:

US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Standard Occupational Categories (SOC) Categories typically utilized to identify direct care workers in federal labor data: Personal Care Aides (SOC 31-1122) Home Health Aides (SOC 31-1121) Nursing Assistants (SOC 31-1131)

### State-Level/Generated Workforce Data Sources (may draw from federal data sources)

- NC Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)-sponsored data
  - Division of Health Services Regulation (DHSR)
    - Direct Care Workforce Registries
  - Data drawn from entities licensed by DHSR
  - Medicaid Claims/Encounter Data for specific services
  - Medicaid Provider enrollment data
  - Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disability and Substance Use Services (DMH))-specific service data.
  - Provider cost reports (specific services only).
  - Other relevant program data
- Department of Commerce Labor Data
  - o <u>D4 Data</u>
- UNC/SHEPS Center
  - o <u>NC Nursecast</u>
  - o NC Behavioral Health Workforce Resource Center
- NC Center on the Workforce for Health
  - Health Talent Alliance Data
- AHEC/U.of Washington
  - NC Health Workforce Sentinel Data
- NC Board of Nursing
  - o NA II Credentialing in License Verification Database
- Provider/Association-Generated Data
- Office of State Budget and Management
  - o Office of State Demographer
- Education-Related Resources
  - o <u>NC Community Colleges</u>
  - Division of Public Instruction
- <u>NC Rural Center</u>
- Other

## Advancing the Data Landscape for the Direct Care Workforce: A Starting Place Compendium of Existing Data Sources Compiled in preparation for Wednesday, February 19, 2025

The first step is to inventory what is already knowable from a state's current data collection and management information systems, including information that can be gleaned from required cost reporting, quality management, and claims processing systems.

## National Data Sources, with State-Level Direct Care/Support Workforce Detail

- US DOL/BLS/SOC
  - Healthcare Support Occupations
- PHI
  - Workforce Data Center
  - State Index Tool
- NCI State of the Workforce
  - For I/DD
  - For Aging and Disability
- National associations

## Additional Key Federal Sources

- US DHHS
  - o National Center for Health Workforce Analysis (HSRA)
  - <u>Direct Care Workforce Strategy Center</u> (ACL)
  - o <u>CMS-managed claims/encounter data</u> (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services)

## All Ages, All Stages NC Implementation Tracker

## **Priorities and Recommended Action Steps**

## Supporting Older Adults

GOAL: North Carolinians will have access to services and resources that will enable them to stay in their homes and communities as they age and will support their families in their efforts to provide care when needed.

#### Home and Community Based Services RECOMMENDED ACTION STEPS:

- Increase funding for home- and community-based services to meet the growing need among older adults for high quality, community based care.
- Align NC policies with the Older Americans Act rules to meet its intended goal of supporting more older North Carolinians to live at home and in the community.
- Pursue data modernization to better support our aging population through improved program management and service delivery.

#### Family Caregiver Support RECOMMENDED ACTION STEPS:

- Provide family caregivers with more support including a comprehensive range of services like respite care.
   Sustain the NC Caregiver Portals that caregivers can easily find reliable resources that meet the needs of the person for whom they are caring.
   Strengthen family leave policies to support caregivers in managing their dual roles and strengthen businesses by
- managing their dual roles and strengthen businesses by supporting employee retention. • Support development of a state tax credit for caregivers to
- provide crucial financial relief and recognize their significant contributions to caring for older North Carolinians.
- Create a unified referral system with a "no wrong door" approach so caregivers receive tailored and accurate information, referrals, and access to long-term services and supports no matter which "door" they walk through.

## Strengthening Communities for a Lifetime

**GOAL:** North Carolinians will live in communities, neighborhoods, and homes that support thriving at all stages and ages.

## Housing

RECOMMENDED ACTION STEPS: • Increase funding for housing repairs and modifications to allow low-income older adults to safely stay in their home.  Increase access to and sustainability of affordable housing for individuals with disabilities.
 Raise income eligibility for property tax relief programs so more people can afford to remain in their homes.

 Boost affordable housing development through tax credits and low-interest loans to stimulate investment in building and renovating properties.

 Encourage adoption of universal design principles to ensure that homes and buildings are accessible for people of all ages and abilities.

 Ensure evolving housing needs of aging individuals with developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injury, and mental health needs are met so they can age in place and have equal and accommodative access to aging supports, programs, and facilities.
 Advocate for a more coordinated approach to addressing housing challenges such as availability, affordability, accessibility, safety, and quality.

#### Adult Protective Services RECOMMENDED ACTION STEPS:

Pass statutory changes to address gaps in service delivery, update legal frameworks to reflect current best practices, and improve the protection of vulnerable adults.
Advocate for state funding to ensure county departments of social services have the necessary resources to deliver effective adult protective services, including emergency services.

#### Age-Friendly State and Communities RECOMMENDED ACTION STEPS:

Foster a culture of healthy living across the lifespan through support for programs that enhance adults' health and well-being including multipurpose senior centers, evidence-based health promotion, and disease prevention programs.
Address social isolation and improve connectivity to improve quality of life for older adults.

 Increase digital equity for older adults, especially in rural areas through training, broadband expansion, and physical resources.
 Promote best practices in health care delivery that involve older adults in their care de cisions.

 Promote innovative, replicable transportation options to help older adults and people with disabilities improve their independence.
 Address barriers to food insecurity for older adults including improving access to food and streamlining connections to available services.

 Increase training on fraud, scams, and consumer protection to help reduce the risk of exploitation for older adults.
 Assist communities and institutions in pursuing Age-Friendly designations that help create environments that are welcoming and accessible to all ages.

## Progress tracker on the 41 recommended action steps.



Establish a Legislative Study Commission on Aging to help ensure that the state's aging population receives needed support and that necessary legislative changes are made to effectively address emerging needs and challenges.
Enhance NC211 and NCCARE360 as comprehensive resources for older adults and people with disabilities to obtain information and connect to needed services, such as housing, health care, food, transportation, and life-long learning resources.

## Optimizing Health and Well Being

**GOAL:** North Carolinians will have access to personcentered services and supports that will optimize their life-expectancy and health quality.

#### Long-Term Services and Supports RECOMMENDED ACTION STEPS:

- Increase awareness of long-term care costs and Medicare limitations through the promotion of the NC Department of Insurance's Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program's (SHIIP) to help individuals plan more effectively for potential care needs and avoid unexpected expenses.
- Address challenges including the delivery and long-term financing to help achieve a continuum of community services and supports now and in the future.

### Workforce

#### RECOMMENDED ACTION STEPS:

- Expand consumer-directed options for caregiving to provide greater flexibility and personalization in caregiving arrangements, enabling individuals to receive care from trusted sources and maintain their independence.
- Ensure a skilled workforce for diverse aging field jobs by developing targeted recruitment campaigns, creating partnerships with educational institutions, and enhancing training programs to better prepare individuals for careers in aging services.
- Address recommendations from the Investing in North Carolina's Caregiving Workforce report to strengthen and support the health care workforce.
- Expand financial incentives for health care careers such as loan repayment programs, tuition reimbursement, and stipends.

## Affording Aging

**GOAL:** North Carolinians will have the means to effectively strategize for their later stages of life, ensuring sufficient and sustainable financial provisions, fostering avenues for personal growth and advancement, and actively contributing their knowledge and expertise to the betterment of their communities

#### **Potential of All Older Adults** RECOMMENDED ACTION STEPS:

 Strengthen and expand volunteer engagement opportunities for older adults to strengthen social connection and improve organizational capacity.

Expand appropriate employment opportunities for older workers which helps older adults remain active in the workforce, supports their financial stability, and enriches organizations with valuable perspectives.

 Launch an ageism education and advocacy awareness campaign to challenge stereotypes and promote positive attitudes toward aging.

Reduce out-of-pocket Medicare costs for lower-income older adults to help alleviate financial stress and improve access to necessary care.

 Explore reinstating free tuition benefits for older adults at public institutions to promote lifelong education and intellectual engagement.

 Establish state-facilitated retirement savings programs to encourage more residents to save for retirement.

 Increase economic wellbeing of older adults through financial education to empower older adults to manage their finances more effectively, achieve greater financial security, and reduce economic disparities.

 Implement pre-retirement planning programs in the public and private sectors to provide valuable information about financial management and retirement benefits.



## NCI-AD Survey & Tx Data Dashboard

## **NCI-AD Indicators Crosswalk overview**

Can eat their meals when they want to

Likes where they live

Relationships

Satisfaction

Able to see or talk to their friends and family when they want

19 domains (areas of interest); 80 indicators ٠

NCI-AD Measures 🕑								Options 🝷
Data Selection		Pe	Peer Ranking Legend					
Year: 2021	~	Plan: All Plans	v		<ul> <li>Improved since last reported year</li> <li>No change from last reported year</li> <li>Diminished since last reported year</li> <li>Extended View</li> <li>Not Reported</li> </ul>			
Table Filter								
Measure Domain:		Search:		Pe	er Comparison I	egend		
All Domains	~	Search for measure name	Go		Nationwide Statewide Peer Plan Selection			
Domain	Measure			Rate	Demogra	ohics Plan Rank	Peer Comparison	Trend
<b>Community Participation</b>	Gets to do things outside	of their home as much as they want to		44.6		0		Ð
	Takes part in activities wit	h others as much as they want to		49.3	4	0	+•	
Choice and Control	Able to furnish and decora	te their room however they want to		75.9	LD 🛔	0	• 1••	Ð
	Can choose or change the			15.4	LD 🛔	C	- 1-	Ð
	Feels in control of their lif			64.8	4	C	-10	Ð
	Can get up and go to bed	when they want to		86.0		0		Ð

86.1

91.8

84.0

0 0

## Texas dashboard example:

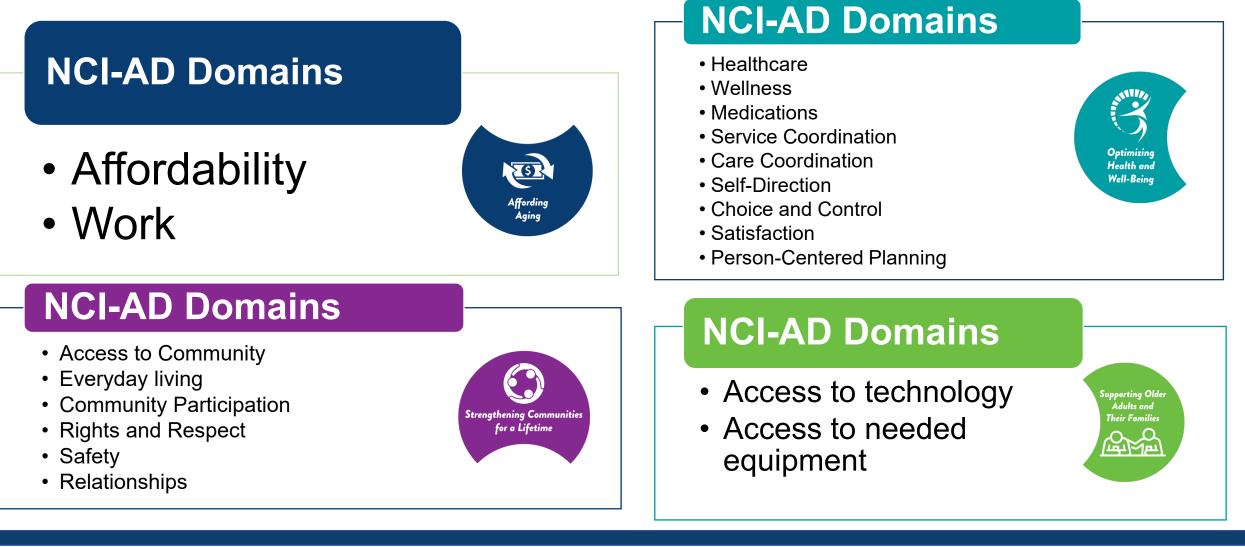
Work

Ð

~	All Domains
	Person Centered
	Access to Community
	Access to Needed Equipment
	Access to Technology
	Affordability
	Care Coordination
	Choice and Control
	Community Participation
	Everyday Living
	Health Care
	Medications
	Person-Centered Planning
	Relationships
	Rights and Respect
	Safety
	Satisfaction
	Self-Direction
	Service Coordination
	Wellness

https://thlcportal.com/nci/dashboard/nci-ad; https://nci-ad.org/images/uploads/2022-23 Indicators.pdf •

## **NCI-AD Survey & NC Data Dashboard**







## How NCI-AD will be Used in NC

- Informs the All Ages, All Stages NC Multisector Plan for Aging
- Tailors services and supports based on NCI-AD Survey data and addresses unique needs of North Carolina's growing aging population
- Bridges gaps in existing aging and disability data systems and broadens data collection for holistic strategies
- Addresses unmet needs and gaps in services
- Meet CMS guidance related to HCBS Recommended Measure Set
- Evaluation of waiver programs
- Evaluation for LME/MCOs

# SNC

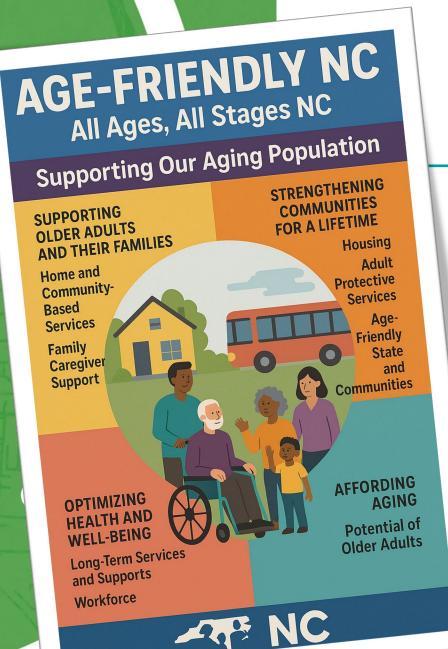
# Feedback from AAAs on Use of Indicators NC

- Drive regional planning and prioritization
- Support advocacy and resource allocation
- Enhance program design and service delivery
- Foster equity-focused decision-making
- Strengthen cross-sector partnerships
- Elevate consumer voices in continuous quality improvement efforts
- Use infographics and data storytelling to communicate impact to the community
- Build trust through transparency in how services align with individual-reported outcomes

Data-driven decision making is at the heart of All Ages, All Stages NC.

By using and connecting the right data, we can build strategies that meet the current needs of our aging population while also preparing for the future, making sure every North **Carolinian has what they** need to live well at every age and stage of life.







# All Ages, All Stages NC

## Divya Venkataganesan

Project Manager, All Ages, All Stages NC Section Chief, Planning divya.venkataganesan@dhhs.nc.gov

## **Caylee Weaver**

Data/Evaluation Lead, All Ages, All Stages NC Planner/Evaluator caylee.weaver@dhhs.nc.gov





# **Other NCI-AD Resources**

UMN:

- Alzheimer's and other dementias study on unmet need
   Brandeis:
- Disparity and unmet need among
- Person-centered planning NCI-AD Spotlights:
- Mental Health
- Healthcare Access
- Alzheimer's and other dementias

NCI-AD Presentations food insecurity and loneliness: <a href="https://shorturl.at/gzLWZ">https://shorturl.at/gzLWZ</a>

# Discussion

- 1. Feedback/ Questions/ Comments?
- 2. Any questions for NC about their methodology or stakeholder involvement?
- 3. What is one next step you can/want to take on to better use/understand your data?
- 4. What other topics would you like to see in deeper discussion?



## **Updates**

## HCBS QMS Workgroup

https://www.mathematica.org/features/hcbsqmsreview

- April 8-9, 2025
- Thank you so much for state members who participated on the workgroup, those who shared public comment, and those who listened in.
- Materials are updated at link above

## NCI SoTW-AD 2023 Report Released!

## https://nci-ad.org/sotw-ad/

- The NCI State of the Workforce for AD is the most comprehensive data on provider agencies and the Direct Service Worker (DSW) workforce providing direct support to the AD population. In 2023, we collected data from 1,232 provider agencies representing 88,855 DSWs in 6 states (Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Oregon, and Wisconsin).
- State AD agencies have worked tirelessly to address the ongoing workforce shortages for DSWs, and these data suggest slight but hopeful trends in key indicators. Participating providers agencies responded in large numbers to provide current, timely and critical data on their workforce. HSRI and ADvancing States will continue working closely with state partners to identify opportunities to use these data to further strengthen service delivery systems and ensure DSWs are valued for their essential role supporting the AD population.

You can access the report at the link above, or click on the link below for the Data-At-A-Glance: <u>https://nci-ad.org/upload/reports/2023\_NCI-AD\_SoTW\_AAG.pdf</u>

• Reach out to Rosa Plasencia (<u>rplasencia@advancingstates.org</u>) and Dorothy Hiersteiner (<u>dhiersteiner@hsri.org</u>) with any questions!



### ABOUT THE SURVEY

Since 2022, National Core Indicators® Aging and Disabilities (NCI®-AD) implements the State of the Workforce Aging and Disabilities (SoTW-AD) Survey. The survey collects comprehensive data on provider agencies and the **Direct Service Workers (DSW)** providing services to older adults and people with physical disabilities. The goal of the survey is to help states describe their workforce, measure challenges, and monitor improvements. The data presented in this summary represent the weighted NCI-AD average survey results and refer to the period between Jan. 1, 2023, and Dec. 31, 2023.

#### PARTICIPATING STATES & AGENCIES

More than 88,855 DSWs with 1,232 provider agencies in 6 states



below living wages in their state



existing DSWs are not increased

to the same extent



## NCI-AD National Report Released!!!

https://nci-ad.org/reports/

Watch for state reports and at-a-glance this Friday!

Feedback for HCBS Intensive:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NCIADAnnualMeeting

Will you be at the following conferences? Say hello! We will be presenting on NCI-AD ASA – Orlando, FL NCOA – Arlington, FL USAging – Chicago, IL HCBS – Baltimore, MD

Remember, the data cycle ends June 30.

Let Rosa and Steph know if it would be helpful to touch base.



# Questions?

# Comments?

# Reactions?



NATIONAL CORE INDICATORS--AGING AND DISABILITIES®