



PLACER COUNTY
OLDER ADULT ADVISORY COMMISSION

Annual Report

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Older Adult Advisory Commission (OAAC)
2015- 2016 Annual Report

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Acknowledgements

This report would not have been possible without the support and help of all of the Placer County Older Adult Advisory Commission (OAAC) members. (Listed in Appendix B: OAAC Member Roster); the OAAC Executive Committee:

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Eldon Luce | Chairperson |
| Jamee Horning | First Vice-Chairperson |
| Al Gonzalez | Second Vice-Chairperson |
| William Reed | Secretary |

and County staff:

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Cynthia Bigbee | Manager, Adult System of Care (ASOC) |
| Amy Engle | Clerk, ASOC |

Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors:

This report marks the 12-year anniversary of the Placer County Older Adult Advisory Commission (OAAC). It has been a privilege to have been involved with the Commission since its inception; first as County staff and now as a volunteer.

Twelve years ago, it would have been hard to imagine that today 93,570 of our county residents would be over 60 years of age, representing 30% of our adult population¹ and that number is growing by about 260 people each month; and that projections would show that this older adult population will continue to grow dramatically for decades to come.

For the most part we did not anticipate the actual numbers represented by these demographic changes in Placer County, or how substantially they would impact nearly every aspect of our community life.

These impacts include, but are not limited to, the type and mode of delivery of medical, mental health, substance abuse and social services; impacts on law enforcement, fire and first responders, businesses' customer base, housing needs and housing services, an increased need for long-term services and supports for older adults; and, the development of opportunities for social activities/interaction appropriate for these "new" older adults.

These social, economic and demographic changes present significant challenges relative to the dignity, independence, health, safety and overall quality of life for our older adults and for our Placer County community.

In addition, these demographic changes will require governmental, private and nonprofit entities to reassess what is currently being done to address these challenges and to relook at how together we can participate in a cooperative collaboration that is adequate to the task of helping our older adults and our community meet these challenges.

It is in this challenging and ever-changing environment that the OAAC and its members will continue to work at understanding and advising on the needs of older adults. We look forward to our 13th year with hope and a renewed dedication to enhancing the lives of our growing older adult community.

Sincerely,

Eldon Luce, Chairperson
Older Adult Advisory Commission

¹ Sources: U.S. Census Bureau State and County Quick Facts; and California Department of Aging

**Older Adult Advisory Commission
2015- 2016 Annual Report
Executive Summary**

On May 25, 2004, the Placer County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution Number 2004-121 establishing the Older Adult Advisory Commission (OAAC) to serve as Placer County's Commission on Aging. One of the duties of the Commission is to submit, to the Board of Supervisors, an Annual Report on OAAC activities during the report year. Consistent with that responsibility, the Commissioners are pleased to submit this, the twelfth OAAC Annual Report.

As will be seen in the following report, during the **2015/16** year the OAAC participated in organizational, advocacy, legislative, educational and needs assessment activities; as well as making significant progress toward successful accomplishment on its goals for 2015/16.

In **2016/17** OAAC goals will address four areas of focus:

- 1) continuing to explore, research and evaluate the unique needs of Placer's older adult residents for housing *and other* services and supports; and,
- 2) continuing to expand the visibility of the OAAC throughout Placer County, outreaching to older adults, providing education and encouraging public input; and,
- 3) continuing to enhance and expand communication with the Board of Supervisors and other County departments; and,
- 4) to explore the Commission's currently defined role, structure, membership categories and relationships with other county entities and departments in an effort to assess the Commission's adequacy in best serving the rapidly growing population of older adults in Placer County.

As can be seen by the goals set by the Commission; the OAAC plans on another busy and productive year in 2016/17.

Commission members are honored to serve and to present and invite you to read this, the twelfth Older Adult Advisory Commission Annual Report.

Introduction

Due to the increasing population of older adults (60+ years of age) residing in Placer County, it was in the interest of both the County and the older adult community to designate a commission to be responsible for advising the Board of Supervisors on issues affecting the lives of older adults. Therefore, on May 25, 2004, the Placer County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution Number 2004-121 establishing the Older Adult Advisory Commission (OAAC) to serve as Placer County's Commission on Aging.

Duties of the Commission include submitting to the Board of Supervisors an Annual Report on activities of the OAAC. The Commissioners are pleased to submit this, the twelfth OAAC annual report.

Overview of the OAAC

As per Commission Bylaws²:

- **Mission**: The Placer County OAAC provides a voice for older adults in county government and advises the Placer County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Health and Human Services on matters relating to the creation and delivery of services that improve the quality of life for Placer County's older adults.
- **Goal**: It is the overall goal of the Commission to promote the well-being of and enhance the quality of life for older adults of Placer County.
- **Responsibilities**: The Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Commission reports through HHS. HHS provides staff support to the Commission; and provides relevant information (e.g., County budgets, plans for services for older adults, policies and programs, funding applications) required to fulfill the Commission's responsibilities and duties.
- **Duties**: Commission duties fall into the general categories of advising, assisting, advocating, and making recommendations relative to the needs of Placer County's older adults. See Appendix A - Article VII, Duties, page 9
- **Membership**³: The Board of Supervisors appoints OAAC members that reside or work in Placer County; have an interest in issues affecting older adults; and, have the time and willingness to serve. Commission membership is diverse and representative of the Supervisorial Districts, the public at large, and governmental and not-for-profit organizations providing services to Placer County older adults.

Activities and Accomplishments 2015/16: During its twelfth year, the OAAC has continued to be actively involved in various organizational, advocacy, legislative, educational and needs assessment activities.

² Appendix A - OAAC Bylaws

³ Appendix B - OAAC Member Roster

Advocacy Activities: The Commission sponsored a public forum on the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) model; and OAAC members continue to be involved in the development of a Placer County ADRC. And, the Commission cosponsored the first annual Placer County Elder Abuse Awareness Event.

And, OAAC members have continued to advocate for older adults through participation with a number of local organizations and committees, e.g., Best Step, transportation committees (PCPTA/CTSA) and Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee, Placer County Municipal Advisory Committees (MACs), Senior Living Group of the Sierra Foothills, Roseville Senior Commission, Eskaton and Sun City Communities, Senior Peer Counseling, Area 4 Agency on Aging, AARP, California Senior Legislature, Older Adult Collaborative, Placer Independent Resource Services, Seniors First, IHSS Advisory Committee, American River College Gerontology Board, Placer County Campaign for Community Wellness, Placer County Affordable Housing Committee, Placer Consortium on Homelessness and Committee for a Permanent Homelessness Shelter, Right Hand Auburn, CAMET and the Placer Collaborative Network.

Legislative Activities: Through the Commission's association with the California Senior Legislature, the Agency on Aging / Area 4 (AAA4) Advisory Council's Legislation Committee, and AARP's legislative activities the OAAC has continued to be involved in reviewing legislation impacting older adults.

Educational Activities: Commission members have increased their knowledge and understanding of older adult services and resources throughout the county. This was accomplished through hosting six guest speakers at our regular meetings, presentation topics included:

- Medication management
- Aging as a woman's issue
- Expanding public transportation
- Hospice Care
- Integrated Community of older adults and individuals with disabilities
- The Older Americans Act

In addition, in an effort to educate the community, the OAAC provided articles on older adult issues that were published in the Sun City News (Roseville and Lincoln), the Foresthill Messenger and Placer Sentinel.

Needs Assessment Activities: Commission members have been assisting in four needs assessment activities: 1) cosponsoring two Town Hall meetings to get public input into the Agency on Aging / Area 4 (AAA4) Needs Assessment, and assisting with distribution of AAA4 needs assessment surveys, and 2) participation on a Community-Centered Approach Workgroup assessing needs and making recommendations on older adult services funding, and 3) assisting the Placer County Health and Human Services Department's formulation of a five-year vision for older adults in Placer County, and 4) participation in the feasibility study for an Auburn Multi-Generational Center.

Although results of these activities are yet to be finalized, preliminary findings indicate needs for older adults continue to be in the areas of affordable accessible housing,

transportation, and better information, and easier access, to programs and services for older adults and persons with disabilities; and for a higher degree of collaboration between agencies serving the older adult and disability populations.

OAAC members continued to be involved in the development and implementation of an Aging Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) as a mechanism for addressing these identified needs.

Report on 2015/16 OAAC Goals: In 2015/16 OAAC goals were focused in three general areas, 1) exploring, researching and evaluating the unique needs of Placer's older adult residents for housing *and other* resources; and, 2) expanding the visibility of the OAAC throughout Placer County, outreaching to older adults, providing education and encouraging public input; and, 3) enhancing and expanding meaningful communication with the Board of Supervisors and other County departments; as well as adding a new goal; 4) reviewing issues, concerns and needs raised in the 2008 Report and Findings, Placer County Older Adult Needs Assessment.

In addition, the OAAC planned on engaging in two organizational activities; 1) to maintain a full, diverse, experienced and committed OAAC membership; and, 2) to work toward assuring that the best Placer County candidates are appointed to the OAAC and the AAA4 Governing Board and Advisory Council.

Report on Organizational Activities

- 1) While the OAAC membership goal was not fully accomplished, membership has, and continues to increase; and the membership continues to include a diverse, experienced and committed group of Placer County residents.
- 2) The OAAC Executive Committee reviews all applications for membership on the OAAC and interviews all applicants. The Executive Committee recommends applicants to the Commission membership and after the members have had the opportunity to review candidates' applications and meet the applicants, the membership votes as to moving the applicant forward to the Board of Supervisors for consideration. This same process is used (as appropriate) for applicants for membership on the AAA4 Governing Board and Advisory Council.

Exploring Needs, Availability and Housing Options for Older Adults

Goal: The OAAC Housing Committee will continue to explore, review and report on issues, legislation, needs and housing models relative to housing for older adults.

Report: While Commission members served on the Placer County Affordable Housing Committee, Placer Consortium on Homelessness and Committee for a Permanent Homelessness Shelter, and Right Hand Auburn; and the Commission continued to hear reports on housing needs for older adults, as well as on homelessness among older adults and the Homeless Shelter in Auburn; the activities of the Housing Committee were discontinued due to other priorities, e.g., Community-Center Approach and Needs Assessment activities.

Expanding OAAC Visibility and Encouraging Public Input

Goal: To engage in activities to expand OAAC visibility and to encourage public input.

Report: During 2015/16 the OAAC:

- Provided newspaper articles/stories, including articles written by Commissioners for several local publications.
- Encouraged the running of the OAAC PSA on local television stations and websites; and provided interviews on a local radio station.
- Pursued speaking opportunities. And, provided speakers, upon request, to older adult groups and other relevant groups to educate on the OAAC and older adult issues; and to encourage and receive public input.

- Attended community events, e.g. senior health fairs, community forums and presentations.
- Cosponsored the first annual Placer County Elder Abuse Awareness Event.
- Cosponsored two Town Hall meetings to get public input into the AAA4 Needs Assessment,
- Worked to assure OAAC members that are representatives to the AAA4 participate fully in assigned AAA4 activities sharing Placer County concerns/issues; and bringing all relevant information from these activities back to the OAAC.
- Sponsored a public forum on the ADRC model.
- Continued to support the development and implementation of the Placer County Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) model of service delivery and coordination.

Enhancing and Expanding Communication with the Board of Supervisors and Other County Departments

Goal: To engage in activities to enhance/expand communication with the Board of Supervisors and other County departments.

Report: During 2015/16 the OAAC:

- Sent the Board of Supervisors (BOS) copies of articles written by commissioners and published locally; as well as OAAC agendas, minutes and materials for all of the OAAC monthly meetings.
- Received updates from the BOS liaison on county news of interest to OAAC/older adults at OAAC meetings. And, provided feedback from the OAAC to the BOS through the OAAC BOS liaison.
- The OAAC Chairperson provided the BOS with reports on activities of the AAA4 Governing Board, and provided the BOS with agendas for and minutes from AAA4 Governing Board meetings.
- Worked to assure the best possible candidates are appointed to represent Placer County on the OAAC, and the AAA4 Governing Board and Advisory Council.

- Encouraged the BOS and the Department of Health and Human Services to bring issues relevant to older adults before the OAAC for discussion and possible recommendation.

Reviewing Issues, Concerns and Needs Raised in the 2008 Report and Findings, Placer County Older Adult Needs Assessment

Goal: To form an ad hoc committee to review the Placer County Older Adult Needs Assessment Report's conclusions and recommended strategies for current relevance, needs for further exploration and/or research and possible recommendations to Placer Health and Human Services and the Board of Supervisors.

Report: Since this goal was established, due to other activities, (i.e., the AAA4 Needs Assessment, the Community-Centered Approach Project and, the Placer County Health and Human Services Department's formulation of a five-year vision for older adults) and the needs assessment component of each of these activities, the OAAC did not form the intended ad hoc committee; however, the findings and recommendations from the earlier needs assessment have been/will be considered as part of current needs assessment activities.

2016/17 OAAC Goals

In 2016/17 OAAC goals will address four areas of focus:

- 1) continuing to explore, research and evaluate the unique needs of Placer's older adult residents for housing *and other* services and supports; and,
- 2) continuing to expand the visibility of the OAAC throughout Placer County, outreaching to older adults, providing education and encouraging public input; and,
- 3) continuing to enhance and expand communication with the Board of Supervisors and other County departments; and,
- 4) to explore the Commission's currently defined role, structure, membership categories and relationships with other county entities and departments in an effort to assess the Commission's adequacy in best serving the rapidly growing population of older adults in Placer County.

Conclusion

Fiscal Year 2015/16 was a very good year for the OAAC. New members have brought renewed energy and commitment to ensure that the Commission continues to fulfill its mission to provide voice and advocacy for Placer County's senior residents. As can be seen by the goals set by the Commission; the OAAC plans on another busy and productive year in 2016/17.

Commission members are a diverse group, but all agree that service on the OAAC has been an honor; and, the members look forward to continuing to advise the Board of Supervisors and the Department of Health and Human Services and to serving Placer County's older adults in fiscal year 2016/17.

Placer County Older Adult Advisory Commission

Bylaws

Preamble: The population of older adults residing in Placer County is increasing. It is in the interests of both the County and the older adult community to designate a commission to be responsible for advising the Board of Supervisors on issues affecting the lives of older adults.

Article I, Organization Name: The name of this commission shall be the Placer County Older Adult Advisory Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission."

Article II, Geographic Boundaries: The Boundaries and jurisdiction of the Commission shall be the same geographical boundaries of Placer County, California, including all incorporated cities within the county.

Article III, Mission: The Placer County Older Adult Advisory Commission provides a voice for older adults in county government and advises the Placer County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Health and Human Services on matters relating to the creation and delivery of services that improve the quality of life for Placer County's older adults.

Article IV, Goals: It is the overall goal of the Commission to promote the well-being and to enhance the quality of life for older adults of Placer County by advising the Placer County Board of Supervisors on issues affecting the lives of older adults.

Article V, Responsibilities: The Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Commission reports through HHS. DHHS will provide staff support to the Commission; and will provide relevant information (e.g., County budgets, plans for services for older adults, policies and programs, funding applications) required to fulfill the Commission's responsibilities and duties.

Article VI, Membership

- A. The County Board of Supervisors shall appoint all voting members.
- B. All members shall reside or work in Placer County and have an interest in issues affecting older adults and have the time and willingness to serve regardless of age.
- C. Any and all appointments shall not be based upon any age restrictions or criteria.
- D. Nineteen (19) total voting Commissioners shall be appointed to include the following community representation:
 - (5 members) One representative from each Supervisorial District
 - (3 members) Three from the public at Large

- (1 member) One representative from the Older Adult Collaborative
- (2 members) Two from the A4AA Governing Board or A4AA Advisory Committee
- (1 member) One who is a member of the California Senior Legislature
- (1 member) One resident Minority Representative
- (6 members) Six members selected from Senior Service Organizations including, but not limited to, the following:

- Housing *
- HealthCare *
- Transportation *
- Senior Centers *
- Legal Community *
- Placer Citizens for Senior Advocacy and Action Member *
- Sierra Emeritus College
- Roseville Commission on Aging
- Disabled Community/Services
- AARP

- E. Commissioner appointments selected from Senior Service Organizations shall be made with priority given to organizations notated with an asterisk (*).
- F. Commission appointments are intended to provide the county with knowledgeable, dedicated advisors. If a Commissioner misses more than three meetings annually (25% of the meetings), the Executive Board may review the circumstances of the absences and if they deem it necessary, recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the chronically absent commissioner be replaced.
- G. All commission business must be heard and acted upon by a quorum of at least ten (10) voting members and must be passed by a simple majority.
- H. In addition to the voting members, the Commission shall include non-voting members from the following organizations:
 - Board of Supervisors member, or member's designee
 - Department of Health and Human Services liaison
 - Representative from the Area 4 Agency on Aging
- I. All commission meetings are for the public good and shall be open to the public. Any non-commissioner may request an opportunity to speak during the public comment portion of the general commission meeting.

Article VII, Duties of Commissioners

Representative duties may include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- A. Holding scheduled monthly meetings and abiding by all requirements of the Brown Act;

- B. Advising the Department of Health and Human Services and the Board of Supervisors on the needs of Placer County's older adults, and advocating for services that meet the needs of older adults in Placer County;
- C. Providing assistance and advice regarding the development of a comprehensive, planned network of services for Placer County older adults;
- D. Seeking input from key community groups in reviewing and advising on County programs and actions affecting Placer County older adults;
- E. Providing assistance and advice regarding the development of policy concerning services needed by older adults and for the stimulation and coordination of the development of such services;
- F. Reviewing and making recommendations regarding action upon applications for state and federal aid, and on other applications for funding of service programs for older adults in Placer County; and
- G. Submitting to the Board of Supervisors an Annual Report on the status of services for older adults and making such interim reports and advisory presentations as it and/or the Department of Health and Human Services and the Board of Supervisors may deem necessary.

Article VIII, Compensation of Commissioners: Commission members are appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the County Board of Supervisors; and (unless a dedicated non-county source of funding is available) Commission members shall serve without compensation. However, appointed Commission members shall be reimbursed (excluding costs of attending general Commission and committee meetings) for actual and necessary expenses incurred while performing official duties.

Article IX, Member Term of Office: *Initial membership:* 1/3 of the members, one-year terms; 1/3 of the members, two-year terms; and 1/3 of the members, three-year terms. *Thereafter:* A three-year term with a maximum of two consecutive terms representing an appointed seat or until a successor is appointed.

Article X, Commission Officers

- A. The Commission shall elect officers to form an Executive Committee.
- B. Only appointed (Voting) Commission members shall serve as officers.
- C. The Executive Committee shall include the following officers who shall conduct all meetings and be chaired according to the following hierarchy. In the event of an absence the next officer in line shall conduct the current meeting.
 - ❑ Chairperson
 - ❑ 1st Vice-Chairperson
 - ❑ 2nd Vice-Chairperson
 - ❑ Executive Secretary

Article XI, Duties of Officers: Representative duties may include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- A. The Chairperson shall preside and conduct all meetings of the commission in a manner consistent with these bylaws, see that the published agenda's are adhered to, ensure that all participants have equal opportunity to be heard, and encourage civility throughout.
- B. The Executive Committee shall convene as necessary to plan general meeting agendas, hear matters of chronic commissioner absenteeism, and to further commission affairs as needed.

Article XII, Executive Committee Term of Office

- A. Officers shall serve two-year terms.
- B. Officers can be elected to serve no more than two consecutive terms in any officer position.
- C. Executive Committee members may be elected to differing offices every two years without restriction.

Article XIII, Nominations and Election of Officers

- A. A slate of nominations shall be prepared by a Nominating Committee elected by the membership, and submitted to the Commission membership at the May general meeting of each election year. Any member may make additional nominations from the floor of the general meeting, provided prior consent has been obtained from the nominee and shall have a place on the ballot.
- B. The election of the Commission shall be held at the end of the June general meeting of the Commission. In case of more than one nominee for an office, the method of voting shall be by secret ballot.
- C. In the event of an election tie, a tiebreaker vote shall immediately be held by secret ballot. If another tie occurs, the runners up shall be given five (5) minutes each to present their respective positions, and then another secret ballot shall be held until a winner is reached.

Article XIV, Installation of Officers: The newly elected officers shall be installed at the end of the June meeting of the Commission each election year, and shall hold office for the following two (2) years.

Article XV, Replacement of Officers

- A. In the event of death, resignation or failure to perform the duties of their office on the part of any elected Officer of the Commission, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to make interim appointments to fill the vacancy, subject

to the approval of the Commission membership at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

- B. At the next regularly scheduled meeting, the Chairperson shall declare the office vacant. The Commission shall then, by a simple majority vote, either elect a member to fill the office so vacated, or approve or disapprove an interim appointment made by virtue of Section A of this Article.

Article XVI, Committees: Only appointed Commission members shall serve as committee chairs. However, except on the Executive Committee, other interested parties (non-Commission members) may serve on committees. The Commission shall have but not be limited to the following committees:

- A. **Executive Committee** - The Commission Chairperson shall serve as Executive Committee Chair. The membership shall include elected Commission officers.
- B. **Other Committees:** Other committees may be established, as needed, by a vote of the Commission membership. The membership shall elect the Chairpersons for each of these committees.

Article XVII, Rules of Conduct: All meetings shall follow the regularly published agendas in a manner conducive to civil discussion and inclusive participation of all commissioners, guests and the public. In the event of undue discord, the Chairperson shall have the power to excuse the offending parties. All matters of conduct not specifically addressed in these bylaws shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order (latest edition).

Article XVIII, Amendments: These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a Commission Quorum at any regular meeting, provided a copy of the proposed amendments shall have been given to each voting member prior to the meeting. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee, which may edit the proposal in cooperation with the member submitting it. Arrangements may then be made to prepare and distribute the required copies to its membership.

The Older Adult Advisory Commission adopted these Bylaws on February 17, 2005.

Appendix B

Placer County
Older Adult Advisory Commission

Member Roster

(June 2016)

Voting Members

| <u>Seat #</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Representing</u> |
|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | Vacant | District 1 |
| 2 | Lynne Farrell | District 2 |
| 3 | Al Gonzalez | District 3 |
| 4 | Suzanne Jones | District 4 |
| 5 | Leslie Brewer | District 5 |
| 6 | Jim Williams | At Large |
| 7 | William Reed | At Large |
| 8 | Antoinette Fabela | At Large |
| 9 | Vacant | Older Adult Collaborative |
| 10 | Irwin A. Herman, MD | Area 4 Agency on Aging |
| 11 | Karla Gustafson | Area 4 Agency on Aging |
| 12 | David Wiltsee | CA Senior Legislature |
| 13 | Gloria Plasencia | Minority Representative |
| 14 | Ignacio Cespedes | Senior Services |
| 15 | Benjamin H. Eagleton, J.D. | Senior Services |
| 16 | Jamee Horning | Senior Services |
| 17 | Eldon Luce | Senior Services |
| 18 | Vacant | Senior Services |
| 19 | Margaret Reilly | Senior Services |

Non-Voting Members

| | | |
|----|----------------|--------------------------|
| 20 | Jim Holmes | Board of Supervisors |
| 21 | Cynthia Bigbee | Manager, ASOC |
| 22 | David Soto | Agency on Aging / Area 4 |

Leah Rosasco
Amy Engle

Aide, Board of Supervisors
Clerk, ASOC

Appendix C

Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)⁴

The ADRC is a collaboration of agencies serving older adults and persons with disabilities, i.e., agencies providing long-term services and supports (LTSS).

Purposes:

- To provide for the consumer of services an easily accessible, consistent, adequate and consumer friendly system of LTSS;
- To maximize the efficient use of limited resources, including, where possible, a reduction in duplication; and
- To enhance cooperation and coordination between LTSS providers

Background - Current Model:

In spite of laudable efforts at cooperation and collaboration between agencies serving older adults and persons with disabilities, the system of long-term services and supports (LTSS) has remained fragmented and, for individuals in need of LTSS, a sometimes perplexing and difficult, to access, array of community LTSS options. This current system has evolved over many years and while sufficient at one time, with changes in the communities of older adults and persons with disabilities and the current environment of service provision, the current model is no longer the most effective or efficient model of LTSS delivery.

Relatively Recent Changes Include:

- A significant increases in both the population of older adults and persons with disabilities; and a change in preferences toward aging in place, living safely and independently in the least restrictive environment with an emphasis on a consumer's (or consumer's designated representative) right to make their own LTSS decisions;

⁴ An ADRC embraces the needs of the wider community. This strategy emphasizes meaningful day-to-day collaboration among organizations that coordinate or provide community LTSS to different populations on parallel tracks. California's ADRC model emphasizes the need to help consumers navigate a fragmented and sometimes perplexing array of community LTSS options.

Beginning in 2003, the Federal Administration on Aging, now the Administration for Community Living (ACL) joined with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to promote and fund Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs), which are designed to help individuals learn more about their community LTSS options and get the services they need. Implementing the ADRC model of streamlining community service delivery puts into practice a system that informs consumers of a broad array of LTSS options and supports their decision-making processes.

California has opted to use the modified title of Aging and Disability Resource *Connections* to reflect the principle of "no wrong door" as opposed to "single entry point" concept that works for smaller states, but not as well in California.

- A significant blending (consistency) of older adults and persons with disabilities desired life styles, preferences and LTSS needs; and,
- A significant reduction in funding for LTSS providers, with a corresponding push toward reducing duplication in the LTSS delivery system

ADRC - Potential Purpose and Scope:

- Serving as a consumer directed resource for long-term supports and services (LTSS) for people of all ages, disabilities, and income levels.
- Using a “no wrong door” approach, making access to information and LTSS as seamless and easy as possible for consumers.
- Bringing existing resources together to provide objective information about the full range of options that are available and to empower consumers to make informed decisions about their LTSS.
- Assuring provision of ADRC Core Services:
 - Enhanced Information, Referral and Awareness
 - Options Counseling and Assistance
 - Short Term Service Coordination
 - Person-Centered Transition Support
 - Hospital to home transition services.
 - Nursing facility to home transition support.

ADRC - Potential Benefits and Shared Values:

The potential benefits include, but are not limited to:

- Enhancing consumer services.
- Providing enhanced potential of future funding opportunities.
- Providing a vehicle for new funding from sources, e.g., hospitals, managed care providers and Veterans Administration.
- Providing a vehicle for greater collaboration between LTSS providers (enhanced referral and follow-up processes, staff and management training, etc).
- Providing enhanced potential of shared infrastructure.
- Strengthening of common values and principles among LTSS providers.

The potential beliefs and values include, but are not limited to:

- An individual’s right to receive their services in the most integrated setting.
- Prevention of unnecessary institutionalization.
- Honoring of individual / consumer rights.
- Using a person-centered and consumer-directed approach.
- Working with formal / informal support systems, e.g., conservator, spouse/child, designated representative.