

# AGING OUR WAY: PLAN AT A GLANCE



# GOALS AND PATHWAYS

## GOALS 1 & 2: AVAILABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY OF SERVICES, PROGRAMS, AND RESOURCES

Develop a partnership network for awareness and education about available services and support.

Address geographic challenges to improve availability of services.

Establish methods to identify and track service gaps and unmet needs for Oklahomans.

Explore and evaluate the potential of artificial intelligence systems and new technology to monitor and evaluate needs, services and available resources.

Identify and implement improvements for eligibility processes for services.

Create a network of certified No Wrong Door Navigators.

Create a central website for older Oklahomans and caregivers to access services and support.

## GOALS 3 & 4: ACCOUNTABILITY, COORDINATION, AND FISCAL TRANSPARENCY

Collaborate with Oklahoma Managed Care entities to track measures and initiatives that lead to positive outcomes.

Identify and address regulatory barriers that hinder integration and coordination of service delivery.

Engage public and private partners, including current and prospective service providers, to align strategic plans.

Identify methods to develop and track common measures related to outcomes for older Oklahomans.

Develop a supporting infrastructure to sustain the Multisector Plan on Aging initiatives through practice, policy, legislation and funding.

## GOAL 5: HOUSING

Expand the availability of housing options for older adults to live independently, such as multi-generational housing options..

Expand the availability of affordable assisted living and supportive housing, such as adult family homes.

Expand programs for assistance with evictions, home repairs, adaptive modifications and remote supports.

Conduct age-informed outreach and engagement for older adults experiencing homelessness.

## GOAL 6: TRANSPORTATION

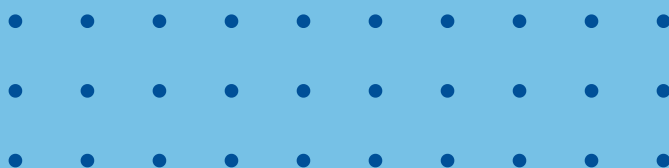
Optimize coordination of transportation services through mobility management programs.

Collaborate with the Oklahoma Statewide Mobility Network's efforts to improve access to transportation.

Develop strategies to improve rider and caregiver experience.

Implement age- and ability- informed training to equip and support mobility managers, transportation providers, drivers and other support personnel.

Support public and private transportation agencies in leveraging existing workforce development programs to fill driver workforce gaps.



## GOAL 7: AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Adopt and promote an age-friendly framework for Oklahoma communities.

## GOAL 8: CULTURE CHANGE AND EDUCATION

Adopt and disseminate the Aging Our Way framework to promote understanding of aging across the lifespan and preparation for healthy aging.

Inform Oklahomans on pathways for empowered aging.

## GOAL 9: WELLNESS

Expand availability of food options for older Oklahomans.

Establish wellness hubs for older adults around the state.

Support implementation of the Older Adult Behavioral Health State Plan through partnership with the Behavioral Health Forum on Aging.

## GOAL 10: SOCIAL CONNECTION

Create a statewide community coalition to support and expand efforts to connect older adults and younger generations in meaningful ways.

Promote lifelong learning opportunities in technology, arts and other subjects for older Oklahomans.

## GOAL 11: CAREGIVERS

Create a toolkit for employers on supporting their caregiving employees and recognize those who demonstrate a commitment to them.

Create a toolkit for healthcare and direct care professionals that includes resources and information about the important role of caregivers.

Expand availability of adult day services and other respite options and raise awareness of their important role in supporting caregivers.

## GOAL 12 & 13: WORKFORCE

Collaborate with workforce development organizations to incorporate the employment needs of older Oklahomans.

Recognize age-friendly employers who actively support and engage older employees in the workplace.

Collaborate with education, job placement and reskilling organizations to recruit individuals into health, direct care and support positions.

Create a toolkit for employers that includes resources and information about providing flexible and supportive work environments for healthcare and direct care staff.

Identify, share and recognize best practices in addressing workforce shortages in healthcare and direct care.

Educate healthcare and direct staff on understanding the needs of older adults.

# DID YOU KNOW?

THE POPULATION OF OLDER OKLAHOMANS IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE 21.3% BY 2034. AMERICANS AGED 65 AND OLDER WILL OUTNUMBER PEOPLE UNDER 18 FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY.

## OKLAHOMANS 65 AND OVER



Year 2000  
**455,950**



Year 2010  
**506,714**



Year 2020  
**653,078**

### For the first time ever, adults 65 and over are expected to outnumber children in Oklahoma.

As the population of older Oklahomans increases, so does the need to provide effective and efficient resources for healthy living. Older Oklahomans need services, like transportation and home-delivered meals, to help them live independently as long as possible. With the population increase of older adults expected, our current systems will not be able to keep up.

Every Oklahoman needs to recognize how this population shift will change our society.

Oklahoma Human Services and community partners developed Aging Our Way Oklahoma: a Multisector Plan on Aging to look ten years into the future. The goal is to give every Oklahoman confidence to live on their terms and provide them with the resources needed to lead a healthy life.

### Biggest Challenges About Aging in Oklahoma

Responses to a survey related to aging in Oklahoma revealed these top four challenges:



*People do not have enough money to care for themselves after retirement*



*Older adults need affordable housing options that meet their needs*



*As more people need services, better alignment of resources will help the government and other organizations keep up*



*Individuals don't know how to access services*

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