Research Agenda Overview & Discussion

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Together We
ENGAGE
Master Plan for Aging

Research Agenda
for the Master Plan on Aging

MPA Research Subcommittee

2020

Research Agenda – Master Plan for Aging

- **MPA Executive Order** included a Research Subcommittee tasked with ensuring that the MPA was developed and implemented in an evidence-based manner.

- **Stakeholders** submitted over 100 recommendations that called for data collection and/or evaluation of various policies and services across Goal 1, 2, 3, and 4.

- **The MPA LTSS Subcommittee Report** included several recommendations that called for data collection, research, and evaluation to strengthen various services and supports for older adults and people with disabilities in California.

- **The MPA Equity Workgroup** called for an MPA research agenda that would collect data on the experience of diverse older adults, identify local factors that determine inequity; use disparities-sensitive and equity measures to assess the MPA; and report performance data stratified by race, ethnicity, language, socioeconomic status, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, and other demographic factors.

- **MPA Research Subcommittee** met six times and developed this proposed 3 part research agenda.

Proposed MPA Research Agenda Mission

- Establish a partnership of world-class experts in health and aging: including California policy makers, researchers, providers, advocates, older adults, and people with disabilities to guide and evaluate the MPA using data and evidence.

- Achieve a deep understanding of the diversity of the aging trajectories of Californians through the synthesis of multiple data sources and the engagement of the state's top aging researchers and data management scientists.

- Provide evidence-based guidance to the MPA as it unfolds, and simulate social, health, and economic projections that will inform California's future.

- Elucidate aging in California now and in the future at the level of ethnicity, race, gender, geographic region, and economic status.

- Identify outcomes of MPA policies and remedy inequities quickly so that all Californians can age well.

Three Components of the MPA Research Agenda

1) Advisory Consortium
2) University-Based Research Alliance
3) Data Action Center

Governance: Advisory Consortium

The advisory consortium of experts can include California policymakers, researchers, providers, consumers, and other stakeholders charged with overseeing core projects, generating key questions and hypotheses, and ensuring that the overall MPA goals and objectives are achieved.

- Convene meetings of participating stakeholders and researchers
- Determine the most important research questions, evaluation plans, and data collection priorities for the MPA.
- Review proposals from researchers and other organizations who wish to use the dataset (see data action center)
- Produce an annual state of the State of Aging in California report and other policy briefs
- Guide updates to the data dashboard

University-based Research Alliance

A university-based research alliance can include multiple California universities and research centers to engage world class researchers and experts in aging, disability, and health.

- Generate state of the art analyses to support implementation of the MPA.

- Model outcomes of MPA policy implementation and simulate individual trajectories and future scenarios about aging California.

- Disseminate MPA research at state and national conferences and peer reviewed journals.

- Host traineeships with graduate students and post docs to conduct analysis and train future generations of aging and health policy experts.

Data Action Center

A funded "Data Action Center" (a.k.a. data warehouse) that will work closely with the state to integrate data on aging Californians from several agencies/programs.

- The Center will host the largest integrated dataset on aging indicators for the state of California.

- Will provide technical assistance to researchers and policymakers using the dataset (who have received approval from the Advisory Consortium) and assist individual researchers with study design, research questions, and analysis.

- The Center will conduct rapid response analysis for state policymakers and evaluators to answer pressing policy questions related to MPA implementation.

- Oversee the public-facing MPA data dashboard,

- Execute data use agreements and ensure HIPAA compliance across research studies.

Expected Outcomes

- Evaluation of MPA efforts as they are implemented, with an equity lens.

- Connecting disparate state data sources and filling data gaps to provide evidence to make sound and equitable policy decisions.

- Creating an unprecedented a policy collaborative across sectors: Policymakers, Academics, Advocates, Service Providers and Consumers to bridge the divide between aging research ->aging policy-> and service delivery in California.

- Create cost savings for the state through more efficient, evidence-based service provision.

- A new generation of policy makers and academics who understand how to work together to implement evidence-based policy that is age-, disability-, and dementia-informed.

- Improved quality of life for aging Californians.

Timeframe and Budget

- The MPA Research Consortium will operate over 10 years to guide and evaluate the implementation of the MPA policies

- A budget of 40M across 10 years (approximately 4M per year) is needed (see full proposal for details)

- Additional funding will come through researchers who are part of the MPA Research Alliance who will bring in National Institutes of Health/Aging grants, foundation funding, private industry funding, etc.