In January 2021, Governor Newsom released California’s Master Plan for Aging (MPA), which lays out a ten-year plan to prepare the state for an aging and changing population. The MPA set five major goals: Housing for All Ages and Stages; Health Reimagined; Inclusion & Equity, Not Isolation; Caregiving that Works; and Affording Aging.

This year on January 10, 2022, Governor Newsom released his proposal for the 2022-23 fiscal year, which included some investments across the MPA’s five goals. Please see Justice in Aging’s Analysis of the Governor’s January 2022-23 Budget Proposal for more details on these proposed investments.

In addition to this year’s legislative efforts, stakeholders have submitted additional budget proposals for consideration that augment the Governor’s initial budget proposals. The list below highlights budget proposals from both stakeholders and the Governor that affect older adults and people with disabilities and that align with the goals of the MPA.

Justice in Aging compiled this list—though not exhaustive—of budget proposals related to the MPA. Questions and additions can be referred to Yasmin Peled atypeled@justiceinaging.org. Inclusion on this list does not indicate endorsement by Justice in Aging.

Goal 1: Housing for All Ages and Stages

Stakeholder Proposals

- Stakeholders request $1.4 billion one-time appropriation, spent over five years to establish the Older Adult and People with Disabilities Targeted Rental Assistance Program to prevent and end homelessness for this target population, enhancing housing stability for severely low-income older adults. Co-sponsors on the accompanying policy bill, AB 2547 (Nazarian), are Corporation for Supportive Housing, Justice in Aging, LeadingAge CA, State Council for Developmental Disabilities, and United Way of Greater Los Angeles.
• California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) seeks $33 million in one-time funding over three years for Title IIIB Supportive Services to support aging in place.

• Stakeholders request $25 million one-time appropriation, spent over five years to establish the Healthier Home – Age in Place Nursing Program in eight counties across the state. The California Department of Aging (CDA) will provide grant funds to qualified nonprofit organizations to hire one full-time registered nurse and one full-time community health worker to deliver health education, navigation, and coaching to residents at three senior affordable housing sites in each of the pilot counties. Co-sponsors on the accompanying policy bill, AB 2548 (Nazarian), are LifeSTEPS and LeadingAge CA.

• County Welfare Directors Association’s (CWDA) Disaster Response Proposal requests $157 million to authorize additional In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) hours to assist consumers in evacuation, return home, and for other emergency-related support needs, among other aspects of the proposal.

• Leading Age request $14 million to develop the Long-term Care Mutual Aid Program (LTC-MAP) for California. The LTC-MAP program would help RCFEs and SNFs to provide emergency response services and mutual aid support in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Governor’s Proposals

• The Budget proposes $2 billion over two years targeted at reducing homelessness, which includes a $1.5 billion proposed investment in bridge housing to address immediate housing and treatment needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness with serious behavioral health conditions as well as $500 million for encampment “cleanup” grants.

• The Budget includes $10.6 million in funding annually for three years for transitional housing for parolees at risk of housing insecurity or homelessness through the Returning Home Well Program. About 25% of the parolee population is age 50 or older.

Goal 2: Health Reimagined

Stakeholder Proposals

• Stakeholders request an increase in California’s maintenance need income level to 138 percent of the federal poverty level for the Medi-Cal share of cost program, instead of the current $600, which has been in effect since 1989. Cosponsors of the accompanying policy bill, AB 1900 (Arambula), are Bet Tzedek, California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, Disability Rights California, Justice in Aging, Senior & Disability Action, and Western Center on Law & Poverty.

• The California Commission on Aging requests the establishment of a new 1.0 permanent FTE CEA B leadership position for geriatric behavioral health within the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to serve as lead on issues relating to older adult behavioral health ($212,000 in 2022-23 with five percent increases in the subsequent years for anticipated salary/cost of living increases). Creating a leadership position for older adults would address administrative parity
within DHCS and provide specialized expertise to assist the department in addressing the well-documented unmet behavioral health needs of older Californians.

- Senior Services Coalition and Alameda County request a **$32.25 million one-time investment** over three years in to increase capacity in CDA-administered Case Management and Visiting programs statewide—two older adult supportive services.

**Governor’s Proposals**

- The Budget proposes to reform the funding framework for nursing facility Medi-Cal reimbursement to move from a primarily cost-based methodology to one that incentivizes value and quality.

- The Budget includes **$2.8 billion** ($982.6 million general fund) in 2022-23 for funding for the implementation of CalAIM, a broad-based delivery system, program, and payment reform across the Medi-Cal program.

- The Budget includes **$10 million** in one-time funding to continue support for the existing Alzheimer’s Healthy Brain Initiative grantees.

- The Budget includes **$24.8 million** ($11.2 million General Fund) ongoing funding to establish a permanent back-up provider system for IHSS recipients.

- The Budget includes **$1.5 million** in ongoing funding to reduce Medi-Cal premiums to zero for 500,000 women, children, and working adults with disabilities.

- The Budget includes **$37 million** ($13 million General Fund) in one-time funding to implement coverage for laboratory-processed crowns for posterior teeth for adult, including older adult, Medi-Cal beneficiaries in place of stainless-steel crowns in accordance with evidence-based practices.

- For the Medi-Cal Community-Based Mobile Crisis Services proposal, DHCS would add multi-disciplinary statewide, 24/7 mobile response services for crises related to mental health and substance use disorders as a new Medi-Cal benefit starting January 1, 2023 ($1.4 billion estimated total cost, with **$335 million** funded through the Budget).

- The Budget includes **$819.3 million** in 2023-24 and **$2.7 billion** annually ongoing in funding to expand full-scope Medi-Cal to all income-eligible Californians ages 26-49, regardless of immigration status, starting January 1, 2024.

**Goal 3: Inclusion & Equity, Not Isolation**

**Stakeholder Proposals**

- C4A requests **$13.1 million** for a 3-year pilot program to facilitate, recruit, train, and retain volunteers to support existing volunteer programs and adapt older adult volunteerism to meet the challenges and lessons learned related to service delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic.
• Stakeholders request **$4.6 million** General Fund annually to continue and increase support for the Adult Protective Services (APS) training program and infrastructure to ensure that the APS workforce remains prepared to meet the needs of California’s growing aging and disabled populations. Budget proposal championed by the California Commission on Aging, California Elder Justice Coalition, California State Association of Public Administrators/Guardians/Conservators, and County Welfare Directors Association.

• AARP requests a one-time budget request of **$4.5 million** over three years to provide grants to cities, counties, and local municipal jurisdictions for the purposes of planning and developing age-friendly action plans, as the state will join the Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities.

**Governor’s Proposals**

• The Budget includes **$2.1 million** ($1.8 million General Fund) to bolster the Master Plan for Aging’s Data Dashboard.

• The Budget includes **$1.3 million** one-time for the Judicial Council to complete a comprehensive study of probate conservatorships and develop recommendations pursuant to Chapter 417, Statutes of 2021 (AB 1194).

• The Budget includes proposals aimed at Protecting and Empowering At-Risk Aging and Disabled Populations, such as the **$10.6 million** General Fund annually for the Returning Home Well Program listed above.

• The Budget includes funding for various volunteer programs across the state including one-time **$10 million** General Fund for programs to engage older adults in volunteer service.

• The Budget includes **$7.6 million** for an expanded California Leads as an Employer initiative through the California Department of Human Resources to continuously recruit and support a state workforce that reflects all of California.

**Goal 4: Caregiving that Works**

**Stakeholder Proposals**

• C4A requests **$90 million** for Community-Based Service Programs Restoration to provide core funding for the three-year restoration of all of the previously budgeted services. **$10 million** for Foster Grandparents/Senior Companions is in the Governor’s budget. A balance of **$80 million** is needed to fully fund the proposal.

• C4A recommends establishing the Family and Caregiver Support Program under the Older Californians Act (OCA) to support individuals with Alzheimer’s and related Dementia. General Funding in the amount of **$3.451 million** for Caregiver Support would be used to establish a two-year Family and Caregiver Support Program expansion pilot with six emerging and/or designated Aging and Disability Resource Connection Centers (ADRC’s). A **$2 million match**
would be provided by the HCBS OARR Family Caregiver Funds. If successful, the Program would be expanded in FY 2023-2024 to include more counties.

- The California Caregiver Resource Center (CRC) system requests an ongoing augmentation of $20 million/year to the current CRC appropriation to meet the demand expected from health and social service systems for partnerships to provide culturally appropriate services and supports to family caregivers.

Governor’s Proposals

- The Budget includes funding for the care economy workforce totaling $1.7 billion over three years.

- The Budget includes a proposal to make certain Proposition 56 Medi-Cal provider rate increases permanent, including the AIDS Waiver, Community-Based Adult Services, home health services, and Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled.

Goal 5: Affording Aging

Stakeholder Proposals

- C4A seeks an initial $70 million investment for Nutrition Program Expansion to replace sunsetting federal COVID-focused funding, with the goal of further expansion to address remaining gaps in the future. Ongoing funding will be requested in subsequent years to address the forecast increased need for meals.

- C4A believes $90 million for Community-Based Service Programs Restoration would provide core funding for the three-year restoration of all of the previously budgeted services. $10 million for Foster Grandparents/Senior Companions is in the Governor’s budget. A balance of $80 million is needed to fully fund the proposal.

Governor’s Proposals

- The proposed Budget includes $35.2 million General Fund for planning purposes, increasing to $113.4 million General Fund annually starting in 2025-26 for the expansion of CFAP to undocumented Californians age 55 or older who are excluded from the federal SNAP program.

- The proposed Budget includes $50 million one-time for the CalFood program to mitigate increases in food needs among low-income and food-insecure populations, including older adults.