

January 2026 Policy Priorities Listening Session Feedback

Overall comments

- Add priority related to exploration of additional, varied funding sources to support aging programs

Federal

- Support for keeping the priority related to expanded Medicare benefits for hearing, vision, and dental (discussed at all three sessions)
- Support for development of educational programs related to Medicare and Medicaid
- Support for adding new services and therapies for Medicaid Long-Term Care enrollees
- Support for increased auditing for programs providing services to older adults and individuals with disabilities
- Support for more programs that address social isolation and loneliness
- Support for a priority that addresses predatory healthcare practices and misleading healthcare marketing, particularly in Medicare Advantage plans
- Support for more education on healthcare options, Medicaid, and options counseling
- Support for increased funding and staffing at Department of Housing and Urban Development to support affordable housing initiatives
- Support for priority that address usage of artificial intelligence in housing decisions
- Support for keeping priority related to funding for Social Security Administration to support staffing levels

State

- Remove priority related to expansion of Affordable Care Act due to implications of H.R.1
- Remove priority related to increased funding for Aging and Disability Resource Centers to focus more on advocating for funding for programs within the AAA
- Combine racial and health equity priorities into a single priority for clarity
- Keep and elevate priority related to voting right accessibility, including rights related to absentee ballots
- Support for increased funding for senior nutrition programs, which do not receive adequate funding at the state level
- Support for retaining the priority related to increasing transportation access for older adults and ensuring that transportation access allows for variety of trip types
- Support for increased training and continuing education for paid caregivers
- Support for increased reimbursement rates for paid caregivers
- Concern related to cost of supplies for caregiving and cost of respite care
- Concern related to gap in availability of caregiving services for those not eligible for Medicaid Long-Term Care

Local

- Replace “preserve” with “increase” in the first priority related to tax levy funding
- Replace “increased funding” with “efforts” in the second priority related to senior centers to better encompass recommendations arising from the Senior Center Committee
- Add a priority related to food access for seniors
- Include a priority related to immigration and rights of older adults as it relates to services and programming, which could include a potential focus on caregivers and/or asylees and refugees
- Include priority related to rising property taxes for older adult homeowners
- Expansion of senior center programming that includes:
 - Expanded hours
 - Outreach to minority participants
 - Programming geared towards minority participants
 - New programming that older adults may not traditionally participate in
 - Increase of minority senior center participants in the decision-making process
- Support for age-friendly improvements in the community that increase walkability of neighborhoods
- Support for a priority that elevates the need for affordable, accessible, and safe housing
- Support for high-quality housing and access to utilities
- Support for housing navigators that help older adults understand housing options