## **Vermont State Plan on Aging**

## What is the State Plan on Aging?

The 2023-2026 Vermont State Plan on Aging is a guiding document that outlines how the State of Vermont and our network of Area Agencies on Aging and service providers will work to meet the changing needs of older Vermonters over the next four years. As required by the Older Americans Act (OAA), the plan provides a broad overview of demographic changes and environmental context, includes results of a statewide needs assessment, and hones three major goal areas into key measurable objectives.

#### What are the Goals of the Plan?

# Promote the Health, Safety, and Well-Being of Older Vermonters

 Strengthen the coordination and awareness of OAA and related services to improve Information and Referral/Assistance (I&R/A) statewide.



- Improve the quality of life for individuals accessing person-centered case management services.
- Improve the nutritional health status of older adults participating in the senior nutrition program.
- Enhance family caregiver support by increasing awareness of social isolation and the available resources to combat the adverse effects.
- Increase collaboration to prevent and protect vulnerable older adults against financial exploitation.

### Ensure that Vermont's OAA Programs are Inclusive of All Older Vermonters

- Bolster training and collaboration across State departments to strengthen the aging network's response to trauma and mental health.
- Determine services needed and effectiveness of programs, policies, and services for all Vermonters, including LGBTQ+, Abenaki, BIPOC, and New Americans.

## Bolster the Recognition and Support of All Caregivers including Unpaid Caregivers

- Increase public awareness and recognition of the diverse needs, issues, and challenges faced by family caregivers.
- Increase collaboration across the aging network to support grandparents raising grandchildren.
- Ensure family caregivers have a support system in place to meet them where they are in their caregiving journey.



#### Who Will Do the Work of the Plan?

The Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) is the primary governmental agency responsible for development, implementation, and coordination of the State Plan on Aging. DAIL relies on strong collaboration with many state agencies, the five Area Agencies on Aging, and a diverse network of Aging Services partners across the state to collectively accomplish the goals of the plan.

## How Will Progress Be Tracked?

As part of the plan, performance measures have been identified that DAIL will track using the Results Based Accountability framework. DAIL and partners will seek to understand answers to the questions, "how much?" "how well?" and "is anyone better off?" within each objective of the plan. The federal Administration for Community Living reviews progress annually with DAIL. DAIL will also submit an annual progress report to the State Legislature.

#### Where Can I Learn More?

The Vermont State Plan on Aging is online at: <a href="http://asd.vermont.gov/resources/state-plans">http://asd.vermont.gov/resources/state-plans</a>.

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