

Increasing Access to In-Home Services | Workgroup Recommendations

Presented to the Commission on Services to the Aging, December 20, 2019

Presented to the Commission on Services to the Aging for voting, January 17, 2020

- 1. Provide information and technical assistance for regions to use Family Caregiver Funding toward in-home services.**

Suggested Action: AASA should provide information and technical assistance to all regions to expand their access and ability to use Family Caregiver Funding.

- 2. Advocate that general fund revenues be used to supplement deficits appearing in restricted funds. Specifically, DHHS should annually evaluate the availability of restricted funds that support AASA programs, and should request that any identified shortages in restricted funds be replaced with general fund appropriations as part of the Executive Budget recommendation.**

Suggested Action: Commission & Advocacy Committee to work together with AASA to determine best way to advocate this process.

- 3. Eligibility for alternative programs should be routinely checked by AAA staff to ensure that service referrals are being maximized and that AASA dollars are used only as needed.**

Suggested Action: AASA should review Aging Network procedures ensuring regularity and consistency in checking service referrals to maximize use of AASA funds.

- 4. Advocate the state align budget allocations for aging services with senior population projections to meet the ever-growing need; back these requests by the newest population reports from the State Demographer and/or new population analysis to support as needed.**

Suggested Action: Commission & Advocacy Committee to work together with AASA to determine best way to advocate for this.

- 5. Encourage AAAs to consider their own nonprofit fundraising strategies to support programs and services. Encourage agencies to conduct a risk assessment as part of this consideration to identify any deleterious impact that fundraising may have on senior services within the broader community.**

Suggested Action: AASA should work together with the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (4AM) to collect and share information regarding successful fundraising initiatives throughout the state.

- 6. Advocate with legislative partners to find new sources of sustainable funding for serving our growing senior population.**

Suggested Action: Commission & Advocacy Committee to work together with AASA to determine best way to advocate for this.

- 7. Cautiously encourage local regions without millage funding to seek millage funding as a potential supplemental aging services funding stream.**

Suggested Action: Compile a report of millage funding across the state, including the positive and negative impacts on the aging network within each region. Include list of key contacts for agencies that would like to support millage funding in their own regions.