

## Policies for an Aging America

**Policymakers:** Enable older adults to stay healthy and independent in their communities!

### The Reality:

The over-60 population in America is growing at the fastest pace ever in our nation's history. Every day, 10,000 boomers turn age 65, with adults age 85+ growing at an even faster rate. By 2030, one in five people in America will be age 65 or older.

#### The Solution:

Craft policies reflecting the fact that:

- People want to age safely in their homes and communities.
- Health happens at home and in the community.
- We are only as strong as our caregivers, yet we face shortages of both family and paid caregivers.
- Affordable and accessible housing is in short supply.
- Community infrastructure should support healthy, engaged aging.

#### Prioritize policies and funding that help older adults:

- live safely at home,
- eat well and stay healthy,
- remain engaged in the community,
- live with dignity, and
- avoid unnecessary, more costly and often unwanted, institutional long-term care.





The primary focus of n4a is to advance policies that enable its members to effectively and efficiently address the needs of an aging America. To accomplish this goal, n4a established the following priorities for 2020. **For details, visit n4a.org.** 

### **Create Opportunities for Community Aging**

Strengthen the community options that make it possible for older adults to age well and safely at home and in the community.

# **Invest in Cost-Effective Aging at Home and in the Community**

Invest in Older Americans Act and other supportive services that help older adults live successfully and independently in their homes and communities.

# **Improve Health Through Community-Based Interventions**

Recognize and protect the pivotal role that the Aging Network plays in addressing the social determinants of health and bridging the gap between the acute care, behavioral health and long-term services and supports systems to improve health outcomes and reduce health care costs

#### **For More Information**

**Contact n4a at policy@n4a.org or 202.872.0888.** Looking for local information? Contact your local AAA or Title VI aging program:

