



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Local Age and Disabilities Aging Local Action Plan (LADAP)

In August of 2023, the Alliance on Aging (AOA) received a \$200,000 grant from the California Department of Aging (CDA) to develop a Local Age and Disabilities Action Plan (LADAP) for the communities in Salinas, South and North Monterey County. This is one of 15 grants awarded across the state.

The 21-month-long grant enables AOA, in collaboration with other agencies and organizations, to create a consumer driven blueprint for an action plan addressing the social, medical, transportation, housing, and financial needs unique to the older adult and disabled populations living in the agricultural areas of Monterey County. The plan also includes families and other caregivers in the planning process and focuses on communities made up of people with lower incomes.

“This is an exciting opportunity for Alliance on Aging to lead this effort to create an action plan that improves the livability of our communities for older adults and people with disabilities,” said John McPherson, Executive Director of Alliance on Aging.

With the grant, AOA will form an Advisory Committee that will use the California [Master Plan for Aging](#) as a guide, focusing on housing, health care, inclusion and equity, caregiving, and affordability. The Advisory Committee will include stakeholders and representatives from housing, healthcare, transportation, senior service, education, the faith community, the farmworker community, government and business sectors, and seniors and consumers with lived experience.

After forming the Advisory Committee, AOA will plan the method to conduct a community assessment, identifying target groups and will consider tools to be used. The agency will also work to secure the cooperation of local organizations/community leaders, then conduct a community assessment and analyze the results. The Advisory Committee will use the results to set priorities and goals to be accomplished. AOA will then develop plans to address the identified needs/deficits, in line with its goals and priorities.

The final plan will be approved by both the Advisory Committee and the local jurisdictions that comprise the Salinas Valley. The final plan will be presented to the Monterey County Area Agency on Aging's Advisory Council and the local Aging and Disabilities Resource Connection (ADRC), with a recommendation that it be adopted and added as a regular agenda item to revisit and review.

AOA has a 53-year history of working on behalf of older adults and the disabled population in Monterey County. It started with a small group wanting to help seniors age safely in their homes with quality of life and dignity. That single program has grown to be the largest non-profit agency serving Monterey County's older adult and disabled population. AOA has offices in Monterey and Salinas, and outreach to the other areas of the county.

AOA will not be implementing, evaluating, or sustaining the Local Plan by itself. By using the Local Playbook as a model, and by securing participation in the entire process used to develop the plan, AOA's partners will also be invested in the implementation of the Local Plan and sustaining it. The goal is for the Local Plan to be integrated into planning at all levels of organizations, whether they be governments, agencies, or businesses.

AOA's local plan is funded under the Local Aging & Disability Action Planning (LADAP) grant program from the California Department of Aging. The grant program's goal is to improve community livability and address the current, emerging, and future needs of California's older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers through cross-sector collaboration and transformational systems change.

### **About Alliance on Aging**

Alliance on Aging provides services and resources that address the challenges and opportunities for older adults in Monterey County. Alliance on Aging was established in 1970 by a group of concerned local citizens who wanted to help seniors remain safely in their own homes for as long as possible. This volunteer-driven organization, which began as a single program with a handful of volunteers is now a multi-purpose senior service agency with over 200 volunteers. The largest non-profit provider of senior support services in Monterey County, the Alliance on Aging, provides direct services to over 8,000 individuals every year. AOA provides education and outreach to over 20,000 individuals annually.

Alliance on Aging programs include Medicare Counseling & Education (HICAP), Senior Peer Counseling, Ombudsman, Tax Counseling for the Elderly, Transportation Access, Benefits Checkup, and a monthly Senior Outreach Luncheon in Salinas. Alliance on Aging staff and volunteers provide direct services, information and education to

seniors, adult children, caregivers and “baby boomers” who are approaching and preparing for their senior years.

The Alliance on Aging’s administrative and program offices are located at 247 Main St. in Salinas. Office hours at this location are 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (excluding national holidays). Program staff also occupy office space at the Monterey Senior Center at 280 Dickman Ave. in Monterey. Outreach staff make regular visits to seniors at sites and venues throughout the county. Spirals by the Arch, a unique consignment and benefit shop located in Pacific Grove, helps to support the programs of the agency.

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