

**2022 Planning Group—Priorities and Teams 8.1 Updated 102120**

Three highest priorities developed to date and volunteers assigned to each. I will be updating all this between now and 10/19/20, and again on that date.

The people who are still with us in these groups, as far as we know, are:

Bob Brocker, Bob Epstein, Sandy Thomas, Christina Johnson, Ed Shackelford, Francette Orsi, Gail Meehan, Jarett Hughes, Jeanette Hensley, Jill Topper, Karen Brown, Karin Hall, Kelly Roberts, Lindsay Parsons, Jodi Waterhouse, Sharon Courtney. Pat Cook, Phil Cernanec, Rich Mauro, Vivian Stovall, Kris Geerken, Lisa Smith, Evelyn Tileston, Ashley Wheeland, Jonnah Glassman, Julie Evans, Dayton Romero.

Leaders of each team in column three are in **bold**.

Priority Issue	Topical Area	Volunteers (062920) for this Area of Priority	What are we addressing?
<b>In GENERAL</b>		NA	First—To Identify the problems associated with each priority area, then to develop conceptual solutions, and finally to develop specific policy ideas that will help implement the solutions. There will likely be several potential solution pieces and possibly even more additional ideas for implementation—most policy, and some regulatory.
<b>Maintaining Good Health with Better Nutrition, Access to Nutritional Foods, Food Security</b>	PREVENTION of Health Care Issues through Healthier Eating in 50+ population	<b>Bob Brocker</b> , Ed Shackelford, Blaine Cole, Ashley Wheeland, Jonnah Glassman, Joel McClurg, Fran Maes, and...others	Objective for CSL: to work with others who understand and know about food insecurity and nutrition issues to bring more attention to our state government of those issues/problems, along with potential solutions, for older Coloradans (60+). (and to segment that group to provide added focus) What is the Problem regarding food and nutrition insecurity for older adults in Colorado? There are two parts: (each and together, a key determinant of health)*. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food insecurity---Access and availability of foods</li> <li>• Malnutrition—Availability and Access to healthy foods (particularly acute issue in the 85+ demographic)</li> </ul> The group met on 10/6 and will meet again post-election. We discussed a number of issues including food deserts, SNAP program. Governor support for expanding SNAP benefits, etc. , Meals on Wheels, Food Banks, Congregate Meals. Short-term and long- term thinking.
<b>Housing--1</b>	Congregant Care Facilities	<b>Gail Meehan</b> <b>Rich Mauro</b> Kelley Horton, Diane Robinson, Ed Shackelford Evelyn Tileston, Christina Johnson,	Pandemic raised issues with nursing homes, assisted living—long-term care in general. What can be done at the state level? Legislative and Regulatory: More ombudsmen, require PPE, allow visitors willing to waive liability and furnish and wear their own PPE, and Other ideas the team to develop. <i>072720-update: Gail has made contact with team. First priority may be resident rights, facility updates to families, guardians; preparing for the next wave/epidemic.</i> <i>In person visits</i> <i>Short-term and long-term planning. To include capacity issues for LTC facilities across state. Capacity is both physical infrastructure and attending personnel. Many are currently for-profit; some should change to non-profit?</i> <i>Group home zoning issues. Assisted Living, Nursing homes. And to include Denver’s zoning changes.</i>
<b>Housing--2</b>	General	<b>Rich Mauro</b>	Rental property issues from the perspectives of both tenant and landlord;

		Phil Cernanec, Blaine Cole, Sharon Courtney, Lisa Smith, Pat Cook, Jarett Hughes	home ownership—property taxes, maintenance, insurance costs, utilities—affordability, taxpayer funded breaks; affordable housing, accessible housing, public land and buildings and when they have a place in the affordable housing scheme, house sharing, mobile home park developments. Vendor fee issue – was to go toward affordable housing when originally passed; money has been diverted. Foreclosures a recent developing issue. Will bring together experts soon to focus group energy. DOLA interest follow up.
<b>Housing--3</b>	HOA Issues in 55+	<b>Julie Evans</b> Ed Shackelford, Bob Brocker, Phil Cernanec.	Colorado has 56 developments of 55+ housing, all in HOA arrangements and governed by elected boards. Number of people under these HOA's Many residents deeply concerned about lack of transparency; being bullied by the boards, poor management of properties and finances. No effective dispute resolution process in place. What are possible solutions?  We are focusing on adding ideas to the bill sponsored by Rep Titone in 2020 session: HB20-1333. This bill sought to make many changes to existing law. We have suggested others; none of which should cost any money to the state. Have reached to legislators and will continue to work on this by meeting with them.
<b>Value of Older Coloradans</b>		<b>Sandy Thomas</b> Jodi Waterhouse, Jill Topper, Lindsay Parsons, Kelly Roberts, Kris Geerken, Vivian Stovall	Developing the story around the value of that older Coloradans add to our communities, society, economy; how to gain recognition of the value while also changing perceptions of other demographics—the 80%--toward the older 20%. Addressing the issue of ageism in a factual way. Focus is on: Group is targeting a final work product, an infographic format, for the end of October. Final topics are presented as follows: 1. Positive Aging. 2. Economic Impact - a. consumer spending; b. income, property and sales tax; c. stock ownership. 3. Productive Behavior - monetary analysis of annual unpaid contributions to adult care, child care, volunteering and help with family and friends. 4. Workforce and Wage Earning. 5. Home Ownership. 6. Voting. 7. Ageism.
<b>2021</b>	Health care—older adults	Rich Mauro, Jeanette Hensley, Bob Brocker, Jodi Waterhouse, Pat Cook, Dayton Romero	Increasing geriatric health care providers—picking up SB20-022 into 2021; CoCares involvement to be assessed in October meeting (Jodi). Are there other supporters? Senator Danielson is again sponsoring. Funding will be an issue of course. INVESTMENT now to save costs in the 5-10 year time frame.  Increase mental health providers re older adult care—some of this is caused by old perceptions of Medicaid being slow to no pay, the process of billing and getting paid. HCPF has made recent strides to improve. Medicare side is potentially more difficult to address.  Bottom line: the process for payment to providers must be simplified to encourage more provider participation.
<b>2021</b>	NEMT	Jarett Hughes, Rich Mauro, Jeanette Hensley,	Non-emergency Medical transportation/Dialysis; transportation voucher programs and funding of those instances. CSL is tightly focused on Dialysis transportation. We have two sponsors for a bill: Senator Danielson and Senator Ginal. Leg. Legal working on a first draft for discussion this Wednesday.

		Bob Brocker, Bob Epstein	<p>DRMAC is doing some NEMT coordination now. DRCOG region and some counties providing transportation vouchers to those qualified to receive. Transportation inefficiencies; reach out to providers to be inclusive? Nephrology social workers.</p> <p>HCPF has recently set up a contracted NEMT coordinator for the entire state—for Medicaid patients. Bob Epstein is on three committees working on transportation issues: DRCOG, RTD, DRMAC</p>
2021	Workforce	Karen Brown, Pat Cook, Jodi Waterhouse, Jeanette Hensley, Lisa Crespin	<p>Older adult workforce: specific issues: Bell Policy "Collaborative" Workforce Policy Group - doing due diligence on laws that would allow for recourse in age discrimination in Colorado including items like age identifying questions on applications, proxies for age (salary, position); claims related to gender and age; allowing for compensatory and punitive damages for age discrimination in Colorado (currently the statute excludes age for compensation). 2021- should feds provide funding to reduce unemployment with reskilling and retraining funding packages - work to ensure older workers have access to funds. University of Iowa project: website to assess the age-friendliness of employers. Beta testing by end of the year---need willing companies - the plan is to roll out the website to the public in Q1 2021.</p> <p>Look at policies focused on blue-collar and white-collar differences in work type and impact on aging bodies; can skilled and retired blue-collar workers contribute in other ways or can they be compensated or "fixed" should they need a knee replacement or other health remedy.</p> <p>Older worker initiative –dept of labor effort at the end of the 2007-8-9 Great Recession —potential reinvigorate this idea with other states for future.</p> <p>Recently issued a survey—results made public by early November. Looking at paid work, business startups, and mentorships.</p> <p>Kent Thiery group focus on workforce development.</p>
	Other items to advocate for by CSL		<p>Sustainable funding for AAA's; Broadband as a utility across Colorado; New world of 2023. AARP heavily involved in Broadband advocacy. Service adoption in areas with capacity.</p>