



BAY AREA SENIOR HEALTH POLICY COALITION
APRIL 2024 – DECEMBER 2025

CAREGIVER ADVOCACY PROJECT

Elevating the Voices of Family Caregivers

LED BY



ON LOK
where seniors embrace life



CENTER FOR ELDERS'
INDEPENDENCE
Your life just got better

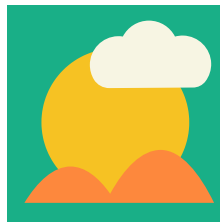
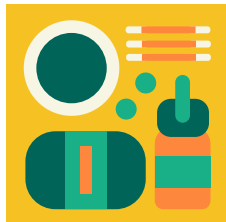
About Us

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About Us

The California Collaborative for Long-Term Services and Supports (CCLTSS) is leading efforts to uplift the voices of family caregivers through the Bay Area Senior Health Policy Coalition. This coalition, founded by On Lok and the Center for Elders' Independence, focuses on creating a person-centered care system, emphasizing the importance of caregivers in the long-term care landscape.

Caregivers Matter

Family caregivers, essential to long-term care, encounter numerous challenges, including:

- Burnout and financial strain
- Barriers to affordable housing
- Limited access to resources and respite care
- Ageism affecting service access

Focus Areas for 2025

To address these challenges, the coalition advocates for three key themes to advance a fair and sustainable care system:

1. Enhancing access to high-quality Long-Term Services and Supports.
2. Improving housing stability and accessibility.
3. Promoting safety and inclusivity.

Key Initiatives & Activities

The Bay Area Senior Health Policy Coalition elevates caregivers' most pressing needs to our legislators by sharing their lived experience to inform policymaking and drive positive change.

Our Impact in Activities



Community & Health

- Providing training and respite services to alleviate stress.
- Highlighting the vital contributions of caregivers to community health.
- Expanding affordable housing access for older adults and their caregivers.
- Addressing ageism as a barrier to service access.

- Involving caregivers in advocacy and decision-making processes.
- Legislative visits and policy discussions.
- Advocacy to highlight equity gaps in senior services.
- Participation in summits and webinars for continued learning and networking.



Advocacy & Participation

Our Impact in Words



Joyce (left) - Caregiver, San Francisco

"Three years into Jane's dementia, I retired early to be her primary caregiver. Our middle-class income didn't qualify for public assistance. To reduce costs, we searched for free community activities and entered a co-op day program. Family care partners need an easily accessible community, as they often become overwhelmed and isolated as the level of care increases while their care recipient declines. As the U.S. elderly population grows exponentially, our medical care system has not kept up with the demand for caregiving support services. Care partners in our circumstances need high-quality, reasonably priced, and readily available support services. We need comprehensive memory medical care and well-trained respite care providers."

"I never imagined how much a caregiver would need a break from taking care of a loved one. Going into the care of my mom, I thought that it would be a no-brainer, easy process based on love and care. The reality, however, was that the longer I took care of her, the prospect of resentment would set in. When my sister stepped in every six weeks to give me a week-long break from day-to-day care, I learned just how much the risk of resentment would settle in. I came out of each respite break energized and focused to continue care for my mom. In addition, I learned to appreciate my sister so much more."



Ron (left) - Caregiver, Contra Costa County

Vision for the Future

The coalition envisions a future where caregivers and older adults receive the resources and recognition they deserve, including:

- Strengthened support policies (respite, training, mental health support).
- Affordable and accessible housing options.
- Recognition of caregivers as essential partners in healthcare.
- Equitable long-term care services that address disparities.



Coalition members meet with staff from Senator Aisha Wahab's office in September 2025

Contact Us

For more information, visit the Bay Area Senior Health Policy Coalition's website (www.bayareashpf.org) or follow us on Facebook or LinkedIn. You may also contact Katherine Kelly, Director of Government Affairs at On Lok (kkelly@onlok.org)