

---

**Commissioners:** Robert “Bob” Scott (Chair, PRESENT), Blake Spears (Vice-Chair, PRESENT), Asha BeeneClarke (EXCUSED LATE), Lenore Gunst (PRESENT), Jennifer Seibert (PRESENT), Suzi Kalmus (PRESENT), Jacqueline Johnson (PRESENT), Lisa Malul (PRESENT), Brandon Hemphill (PRESENT)

**Human Services Department (HSD) Commission Staff:** Ana Bagtas, Aging and Adult Services Manager; Marshay Boyd, Commission Clerk

---

## MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON AGING

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

### Meeting Minutes

**1. Call To Order**

Chair Scott called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

**2. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum**

Nine commissioners in attendance, a quorum was established.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

ACTION ITEM: Jennifer Seibert/Lissa Malul/Carried

**4. Approval of April 2, 2025, Meeting Minutes**

ACTION ITEM: Blake Spears/Jennifer Seibert/Carried

**5. Public Comment (Specific Agenda Items, limit of two minutes)**

No speakers at this time.

**6. Presentation: Alameda County Area Agency on Aging: Overview of Programs and Funding –**

*Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, AAA Director and Kim Fogel, AAA Senior Planner*

Chair Scott opened this item by introducing Jennifer Stephens-Pierre and Kim Fogel, welcoming them to the podium to give their presentation. Commissioner Gunst said a few kind words. Jennifer and Kim provided an in-depth presentation about Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and what they do for the community. The AAA funds programs to allow older adults to age in place, being the primary funder for SOS Meals on Wheels. Providing services like home delivered meals, congregate meals, case management, senior injury prevention, and family care giver support. They explained how their organization is funded and what impacts are coming that may affect them. Their services are county wide, every community, every district. Commissioner Johnson confirmed that the number on the slides was a

*This meeting location is wheelchair accessible. To request disability-related accommodations or to request an ASL, Cantonese, Mandarin, or Spanish interpreter, please email [MCOA@oaklandca.gov](mailto:MCOA@oaklandca.gov) or call TDD/TTY (510) 238-3254 at least five working days before the meeting.*

good number for people to contact for services. Kim confirmed it is. Commissioner Seibert asked if they provide services to in-home elder abuse. Kim confirmed that contacting adult protective services (their number is 510-577-3500 or 1-866-CALLAPS) is the best contact for that, but the AAA do fund legal services for seniors.

**7. Presentation: Center for Elder’s Independence (CEI), Leading with Healthcare Equity: Serving Older Adults through Community Connection and Holistic Care – Sheryl Morasco, Director Outreach and Enrollment**

Chair Scott welcomes Sheryl Morasco to give her presentation. Sheryl provides a in depth overview of what the Center for Elder’s Independence is, and what services they provide for the community. One of their programs Home and Community Based Alternatives Waiver (HCBA) program helps disabled persons of all ages stay living independently. This program doesn’t provide direct care but coordinate services. Another one is, Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) is a comprehensive and affordable plan to help the community. CEI have plenty of locations, servicing Alameda County and Contra Costa County. Just opened three new centers, grand openings planned for end of July and beginning of August 2025. PACE is a capitated full-risk coordinated care program covered by Medicare and Medi-Cal. All inclusive care, day program 8:30am-5pm. To be eligible must be 55 or older, live in a pace service area, live safely in the community at time of enrollment, and certified by the state to need nursing home level care. Program participants with Medi-Cal or Medicare (dual funded) pays nothing for services, seniors who pay a Medi-Cal share of cost pay CEI the cost, seniors can pay out of pocket, and there are no co-pays, no deductibles, and no maximums. Chair Scott shared a few comments.

**8. Budget Advisory Commission Report**

Chair Scott opened this item by turning it over to commissioner Gunst to provide a brief report. Commissioner Gunst has been in touch over the years with the City of Oakland’s budget advisory commission, a group of independent people to provide recommendations to the finance department about policies. There will be a meeting May 14<sup>th</sup>, where commissioner Gunst will be providing the preliminary results from our survey findings. This will provide insight into the efforts we have made to keep senior services funded. She will provide a better report after that meeting.

**9. Human Services Department/Aging & Adult Services Report – Ana Bagtas, Aging and Adult Services Manager, HSD**

Chair Scott welcomed Ana to provide her updates. Oakland paratransit for the elderly and disabled program has been reauthorized for another year. We are approved for another of funding with Measure BB for OPED program. We will be renewing contracts with our existing programs, and possibly explore new programs depending on the result of our 5-year strategic plan. The city’s bi-annual budget for Fiscal year 25/26 and 26/27 has been released, Ana asks the commissioners to read the Aging and Adult services section. We do have some cuts. Currently still have a vacancy of the Human Services director, and some other changes such as Kurry Foley changing positions, and two other senior program managers that have left. The department head position may be put back in the budget. Also, the merger proposal of the Human Services department and the Parks and Recreation department to merge discussion is off the table as of now. We successfully submitted our application for Cal AIM Path Sighted program, funding is for enhanced case management, a Medi-Cal program. A little bit over 1.3 million dollars, and the programs

*This meeting location is wheelchair accessible. To request disability-related accommodations or to request an ASL, Cantonese, Mandarin, or Spanish interpreter, please email [MCOA@oaklandca.gov](mailto:MCOA@oaklandca.gov) or call TDD/TTY (510) 238-3254 at least five working days before the meeting.*

will be at the senior centers and some of the funding will fund the services at the senior centers. Also, we have a draft contract with a manage care plan Kaiser, we don't have the services yet, but Kaiser is interested in contracting with us once we get everything up and running. Will be working with the senior services coalition to help us put the infrastructure together for the program. Cal Aim Ready Oakland - Cal ROW is the name of the program. MSSP will not be included but may move to be a part of the program later. We are shovel ready, we should hear from them this summer, and we must be ready by September to start delivering services. We have received 400 surveys and a big stack of paper surveys back, and we still must enter the system. Ana asks the commissioners if a couple of them can attend a planning session with the school of nursing SF on June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9am-2pm. To help with planning a collaboration. Commissioner Seibert asked what the deadline is of submitting the surveys, Ana replies April 30<sup>th</sup> but this was a soft deadline. Commissioner Malul and Seibert volunteered to attend. Commissioner Hemphill questioned if there are plans to collaborate with local Oakland schools, Ana responds she doesn't have any contacts and would have to start that from scratch but welcomes commissioners contacts if they have any. Commissioner Johnson asked if we've ever thought about utilizing some of the retired nurses at the senior centers to get them active in something to help with the program. Ana responds that's a great idea. We are down to just one staff at the senior centers and rely on the participants.

## **10. Update on the 5-Year Strategic Plan**

This was addressed during Ana's Human Services update.

## **11. Advocacy Updates**

Commissioner Gunst provide good and troubling news. There are a lot of federal cuts that are under consideration right now. They are looking at some key programs, department of agriculture is under scrutiny, which is the department that funds a lot of the nutrition services statewide (delivered meals). This will push the cost of the Medi-Cal and Medicaid persons back to the state. This will be a good time to send off letters to encourage leadership, asking them to preserve funding for Medicaid. Commissioner Gunst will be happy to share her resources to the commissioners. Good news, we have a new interim Mayor Barbara Lee. The new budget was released on Monday and in that budget all the asks that we have been asking for the last year are funded. This includes Meals on Wheels, Eden I&R, Mercy Brown bag, and senior centers. They were able to eliminate positions that were frozen or unfilled, to make space in the budget for this. Commissioner Gunst thanks everyone that had anything to do with the budget revise, special thanks for interim Mayor Kevin Jenkins. Commissioner Gunst suggests we hold a thank you campaign, also asking the commissioners to work with the advisory councils at the senior centers to help organize the thank you campaign. She shows appreciation to Ana Bagtas and all the commissioners for all their hard work and dedication to the community. Wants to hold a training to help everyone get comfortable with talking to council members. Ana Bagtas comments that the community would like to know how to be good advocates and suggests working with Lenore and the senior services coalition on a class maybe called Advocacy 101. Commissioner Spears suggest having a set of talking points. Commissioner Malul suggests that 40 million dollars of the budget is unfunded and says when we talk to different members in leadership, we should mention this to get them thinking. Chair Scott comments that we should celebrate the good news. Chair Scott asks Commissioner Gunst if she is suggesting the commissioners write letters. Commissioner Gunst says a letter from the commission to the city council should suffice, and suggests we partner with the budget advisory commission to talk about getting us out

*This meeting location is wheelchair accessible. To request disability-related accommodations or to request an ASL, Cantonese, Mandarin, or Spanish interpreter, please email [MCOA@oaklandca.gov](mailto:MCOA@oaklandca.gov) or call TDD/TTY (510) 238-3254 at least five working days before the meeting.*

of the general fund. Commissioner Seibert suggest we get on the mayor's calendar before she gets to busy, and to launch the quarterly meetings with CBO's.

**12. Open Forum (Limit of two minutes)**

Commissioner Gunst will reach out to the commissioners. Ana Bagtas comments the next MCOA meeting will be at the East Oakland Senior Center, and September's meeting will be at Downtown Oakland Senior Center to continue including the community.

**13. Closing Remarks & Adjournment**

ACTION ITEM: Lenore Gunst/Jacqueline Johnson/Carried

*This meeting location is wheelchair accessible. To request disability-related accommodations or to request an ASL, Cantonese, Mandarin, or Spanish interpreter, please email [MCOA@oaklandca.gov](mailto:MCOA@oaklandca.gov) or call TDD/TTY (510) 238-3254 at least five working days before the meeting.*



**ALAMEDA COUNTY:  
WHERE AGING IS ALL ABOUT LIVING**

**OLDER AMERICANS MONTH  
“FLIPPING THE SCRIPT ON AGING”**

**PRESENTED TO:  
CITY OF OAKLAND  
MAYOR’S COMMISSION ON AGING**

**PRESENTERS:**

**JENNIFER STEPHENS-PIERRE, AAA DIRECTOR  
KIM FOGEL, MANAGEMENT ANALYST**

---

**AREA AGENCY ON AGING (AAA)  
ALAMEDA COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY  
ADULT AND AGING SERVICES**

**May 7, 2025**

*Photo: Celebrating nine decades of active community living in East Oakland*



# Who Are the Older Adults of Alameda County?



Artists



Leaders



Entertainers



Lion Tamers

These are just a few of the people we have met in our outreach to the community.



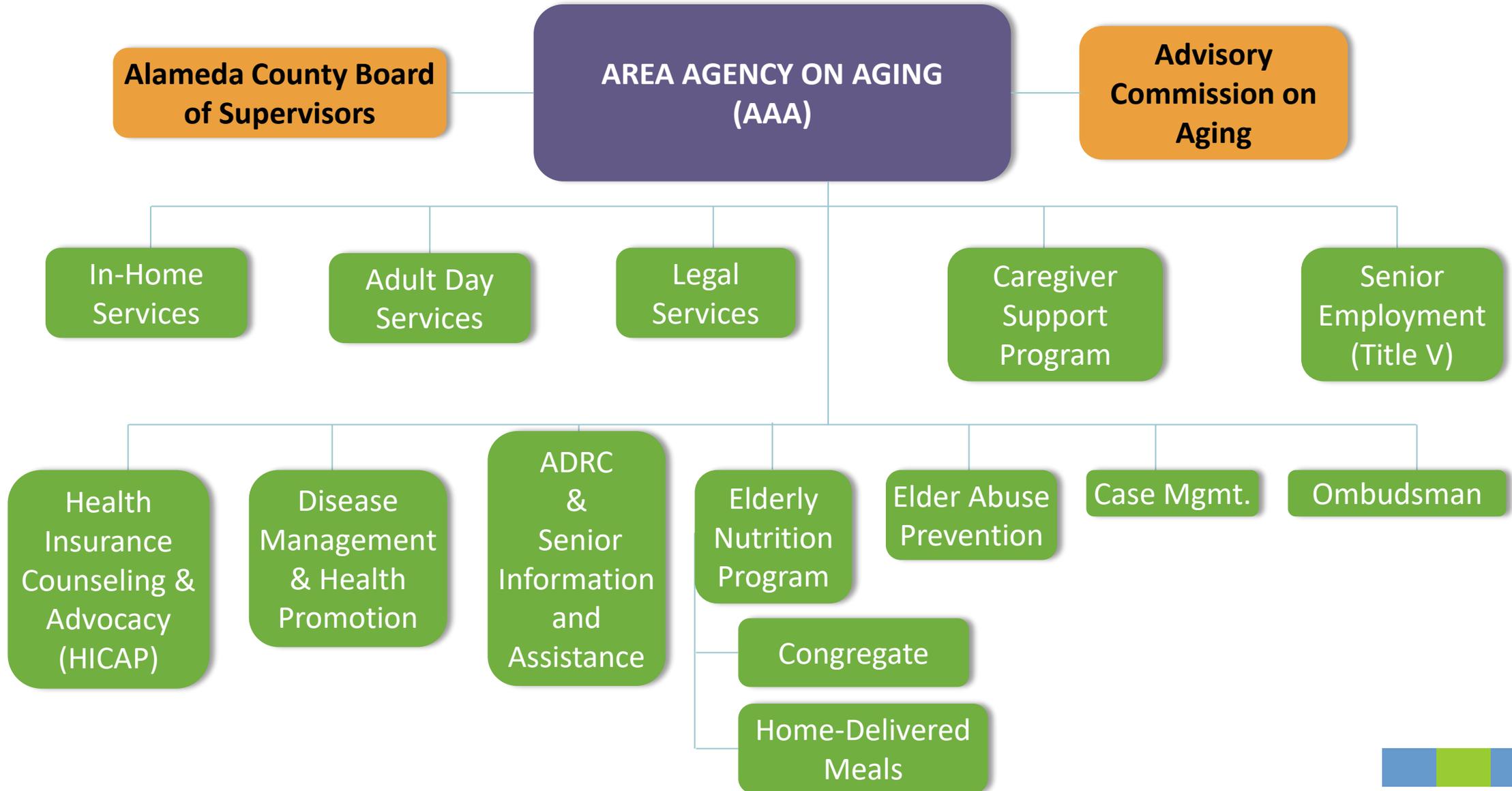


# AREA AGENCY ON AGING 101

- Federal Authority: Administration on Community Living (ACL):
  - ❑ **Older Americans Act (1965, P.L. 89-73):** Initiative to provide comprehensive services for older adults. It created the National Aging Network, comprising the [Administration on Aging](#) on the federal level, State Units on Aging at the state level, and Area Agencies on Aging at the local level.
  - ❑ **Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act:** The Older Americans Act was also reauthorized in December 2024, but what remains to be seen is how OAA services will be funded.
  - ❑ **Area Agencies on Aging (1973):** created as on-the-ground organizations charged with helping vulnerable older adults live with independence and dignity in their homes and communities.
  - ❑ Requires creation of an Area Plan every four years
- State Authority: California Department of Aging:
  - ❑ **Older Californians Act of 1980** redefined the duties and functions of the CDA and the state's 33 AAAs.
- Budget in FY 2023/24: \$13.28M
  - ❑ Fed. \$8.2M, State \$1.2M, Measure A \$822K, County GF \$756K, SSA Director Funding \$906K, OTO \$1.4M



# AAA ADVISORY, LOCAL GOVERNANCE, & PROGRAMS



# AAA'S IMPACT IS WIDE-RANGING

## Home Delivered Meals

- City of Berkeley
- Spectrum Community Services
- SOS Meals on Wheels

## Case Management:

- Swords to Plowshare
- CityServe of the Tri-Valley
- Cities of Alameda, Berkeley, Fremont, Hayward



## Congregate Meals

- J-SEI
- Open Heart Kitchen
- Vietnamese American Community Center of the East Bay

## Family Caregiver Support

- Daybreak Adult Care Centers
- Family Caregiver Alliance

## Senior Injury Prevention

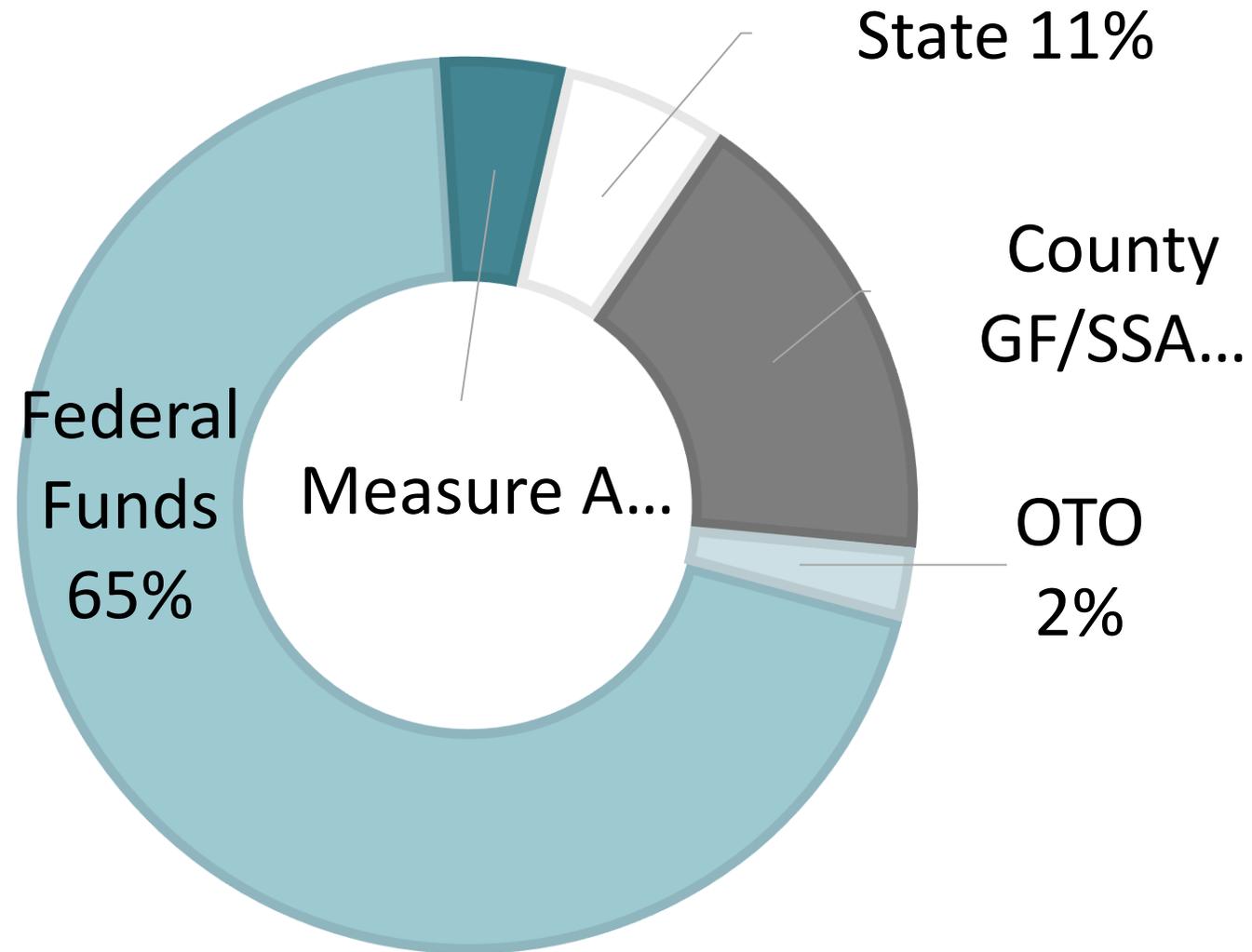
- St. Mary's Center
- Institute on Aging
- Spectrum Community Services



**Stitch in Time:** 74-year-old Estelle can't grocery shop for herself or fix her own meals. She receives healthy meals and a kind word every week from SOS Meals on Wheels (SOS MOW), a key nutrition program supported by the AAA with funding from Older Americans Act dollars. In gratitude, she crochets warm scarves for SOS MOW volunteers and others who need a kind gesture and a good meal. Thanks to the AAA, the dedicated staff and volunteers of SOS MOW, and public generosity, older adults like Estelle thrive and give back to the community.

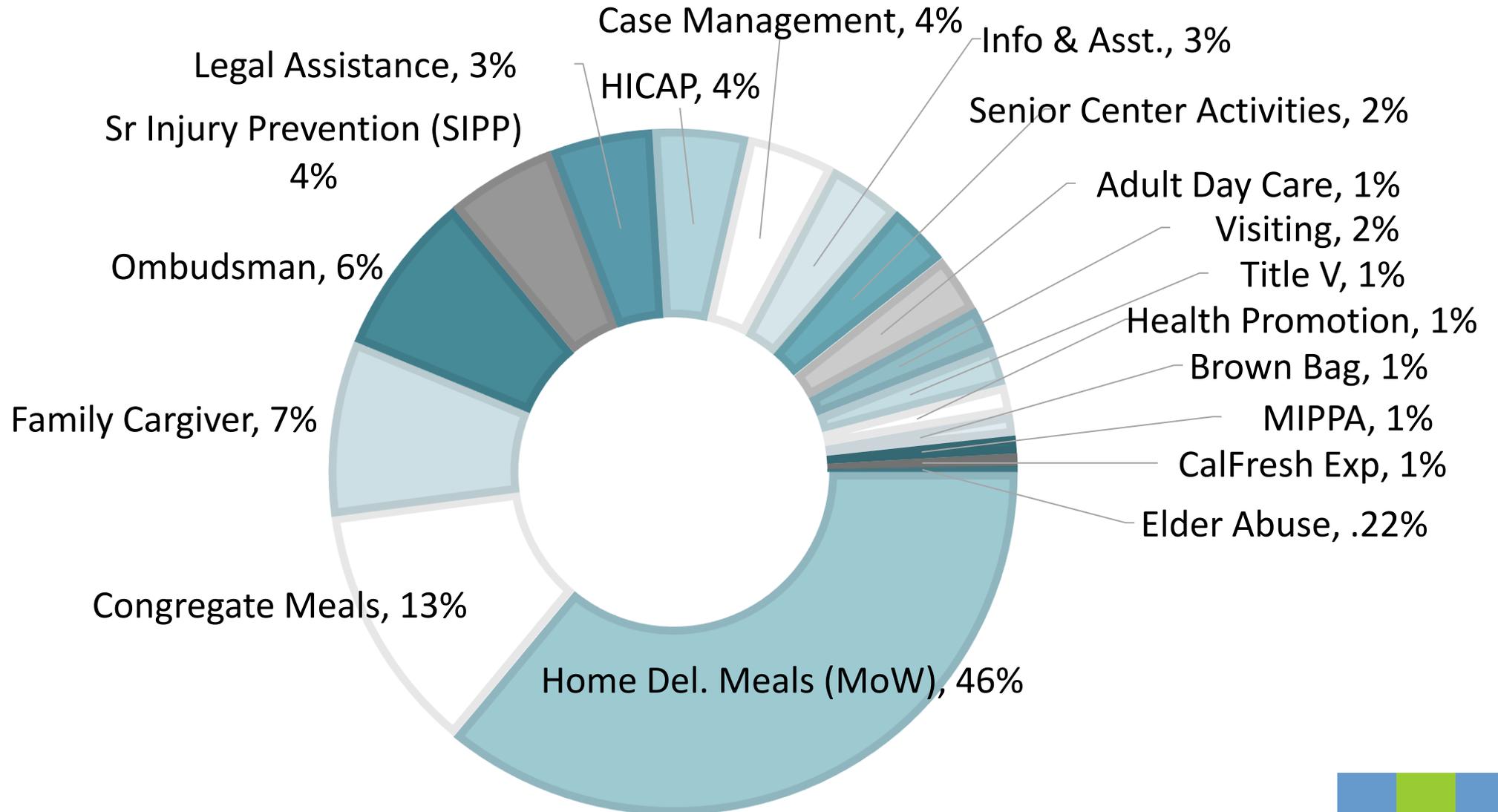


# AAA CORE FUNDING SOURCES





# AAA CORE SERVICES: ALLOCATION





# Collaboration: Something to Celebrate



Goal: Deliver more coordinated and effective aging services through new and improved partnerships with County departments, healthcare organizations, Age-Friendly cities, and the Age-Friendly Council.

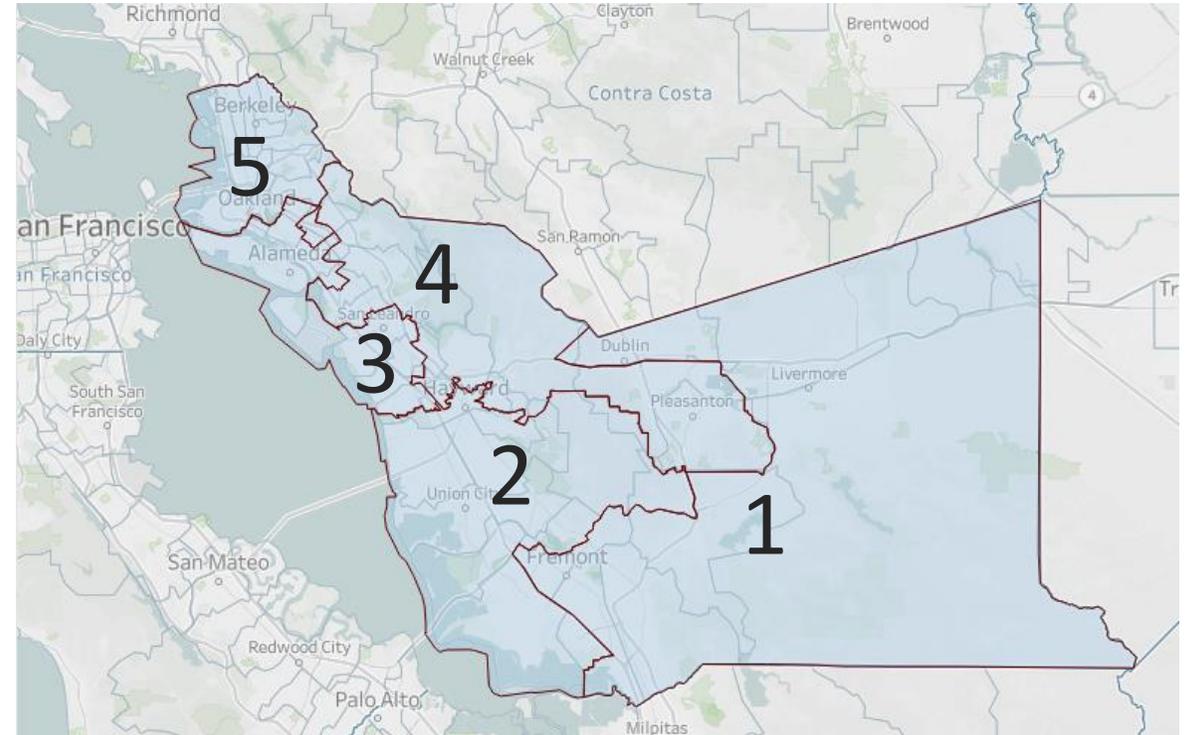


Result: 3 graduating classes in the Healthcare Career Pathways (HCP) - Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training program. New CNAs help alleviate the staffing shortages in the County's skilled nursing facilities. The program has just won a national award!



# SNAPSHOT OF SERVICES

- Services are County-wide; every community, every district.
- Annually:
  - ❑ Over 600,000 Home Delivered meals
  - ❑ Approx. 200,000 Congregate Meals
  - ❑ Approx. 27,000 Nutrition Ed. Participants
  - ❑ Approximately 73,208 unduplicated clients served by an AAA program





# DATA COLLECTION AND PLANNING CYCLES

## ➤ **Planning: Countywide Area Plan**

- ❑ Needs Assessment (Survey) Every 4 years AAA launches an extensive outreach effort to gather feedback on older adult services
- ❑ Thanks to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, the help of everyone in SSA and especially AAS, our Advisory Commission on Aging, and the community, the 2024-2028 CWAP has been completed and submitted to the State.
- ❑ Procurement (RFP): Every 4 years AAA goes through a competitive bidding process for all contracted services.

- ## ➤ **Data Reporting:**
- AAA requires all Contractors to submit monthly data and AAA must complete extensive reporting to the California Department of Aging.

PLANNING





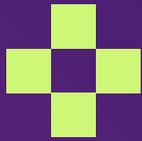
# What's Next? It Takes a Community

- **How Are We Doing?** You have the floor on June 6, 2025 at the public hearing for the Area Plan Update, 2p at the San Leandro Library. [Watch our website for details.](#)
  
- **Spread the word!** Many older adults, disabled residents, and families suffer needlessly because they don't know about the services available to them. That's where you come in:
  - ❑ Do your clients know they can get help navigating services through the [Aging and Disability Resource Connection](#) and our Senior Information and Assistance Line: **800-510-2020**?
  - ❑ Have you seen our quarterly [Senior Update](#) newsletter? Let us know if you need hard copies to distribute.
  - ❑ Organizations and individuals may also join our growing listserv to be kept up to date and exchange ideas.
  
- **Advocacy/Voices.** The County's Advisory Commission on Aging has several openings; please spread the word and encourage everyone to [get involved!](#)



Contact us: [aaa@acgov.org](mailto:aaa@acgov.org)

**How We Roll:** The Board of Supervisors, Advisory Commission on Aging, the AAA, our providers, and tireless volunteers throughout the Social Services Agency worked together to deliver holiday baskets to 50 homebound senior and disabled County residents. The trucks in the background were funded by the AAA under the federal nutrition infrastructure program and will help keep food programs rolling for years to come.



# Center for Elders' Independence

*Leading with Healthcare Equity:*

*Serving Older Adults through  
Community Connection and  
Holistic Care*

Sheryl Morasco  
Director of Outreach



# 40+ Years of Caring for Seniors

- CEI is a Not-for-Profit organization serving the East Bay community since 1982.
- CEI began as a community Adult Day Health Center in Oakland's Highland General Hospital. It was the first ADHC in Alameda County.

} Home and Community Based Alternatives Waiver Program (HCBA)

} CEI Foundation

} Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)

# Home and Community Based Alternatives Waiver Program (HCBA)



- CEI provides care coordination for nearly 700 residents of all ages in Alameda and Contra Costa counties through the Home and Community Based Alternatives (HCBA) waiver program.
- The program helps disabled persons of all ages to stay living **independently** in their communities.
- Center for Elders' Independence does not provide direct care; instead, CEI manages, directs and coordinates all of the various services for an individual person.



The CEI Foundation is committed to engaging the community in empowering seniors to remain in their homes and contribute to their communities. Through the **power of philanthropy**, we pledge our voices, time, and determination to strengthen and ensure access to the holistic health and social care provided by the Center for Elders' Independence of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

*> Because we are all caregivers.*



# Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly PACE





## CEI and PACE History

- CEI became the 11<sup>th</sup> PACE program in the United States in 1992
- CEI has served over 7,000 seniors over the years
- Grown to six full-service PACE centers
- Over 400 people on staff
- Currently serving nearly 1,400 seniors today.
- Added three new PACE Centers this month!



# PACE Center Locations

## Alameda County

PACE Temescal

PACE East Oakland

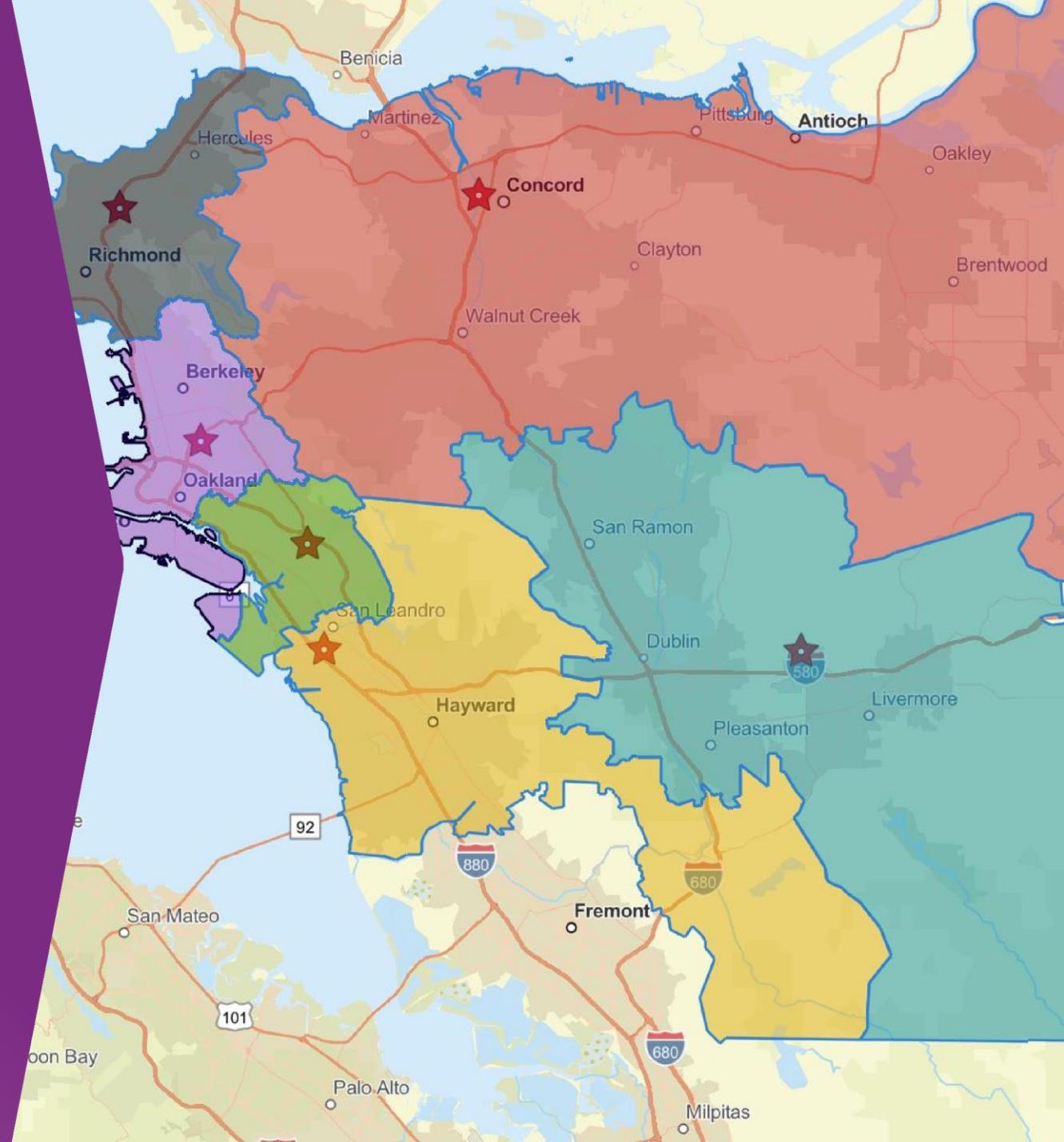
PACE San Leandro

PACE Tri -Valley

## Contra Costa County

PACE Concord

PACE West County



# PACE Center Grand Openings

## □ PACE Tri-Valley

*Serving Dublin, Pleasanton and  
Livermore*

**Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**

## □ PACE West County

*Serving West Contra Costa County*

**Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup>**

## □ PACE Temescal

*Serving Oakland and Berkeley*

**Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>**

## PACE Tri-Valley



## PACE West County

## PACE Temescal





## PACE Programs

- 180 PACE organizations nationwide
- 300+ PACE centers in 33 states and the District of Columbia
- Over 81,500 participants nationwide
- In California, there are 35 PACE organizations with over 100 centers in 22 counties serving over 24,000 participants



## The PACE Center

- PACE is a national healthcare program offering high-touch, highly qualified and engaged teams. It works because it combines a full medical clinic, a social center, and a senior rehab gym with a team of people who specialize in caring only for seniors.
- PACE was created to provide participants, and their family members, caregivers, and professional healthcare providers the flexibility to meet a person's healthcare needs while living safely in the community.



## Uniquely PACE



PACE is a capitated, full-risk, coordinated care program covered by Medicare and Medi-Cal.



Participants benefit by coordination of care through each stage in the aging process and level of care needs.



PACE enables older adults to live in their homes and in their community as long as medically and socially possible.

Launched

**Who we serve**  
How we honor those we serve



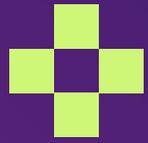
The Right Participant  
At the Right Time  
With the Right Care Plan





# PACE Model of Care

PACE helps participants live better with wrap-around services.



# All-Inclusive Care

Where and when you need it



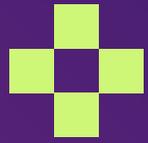
Primary Medical Care  
Specialist Medical Care  
Case Management  
Emergency/Hospital/SNF Care  
Dental, Vision, Audiology and  
Podiatry  
Behavioral Health



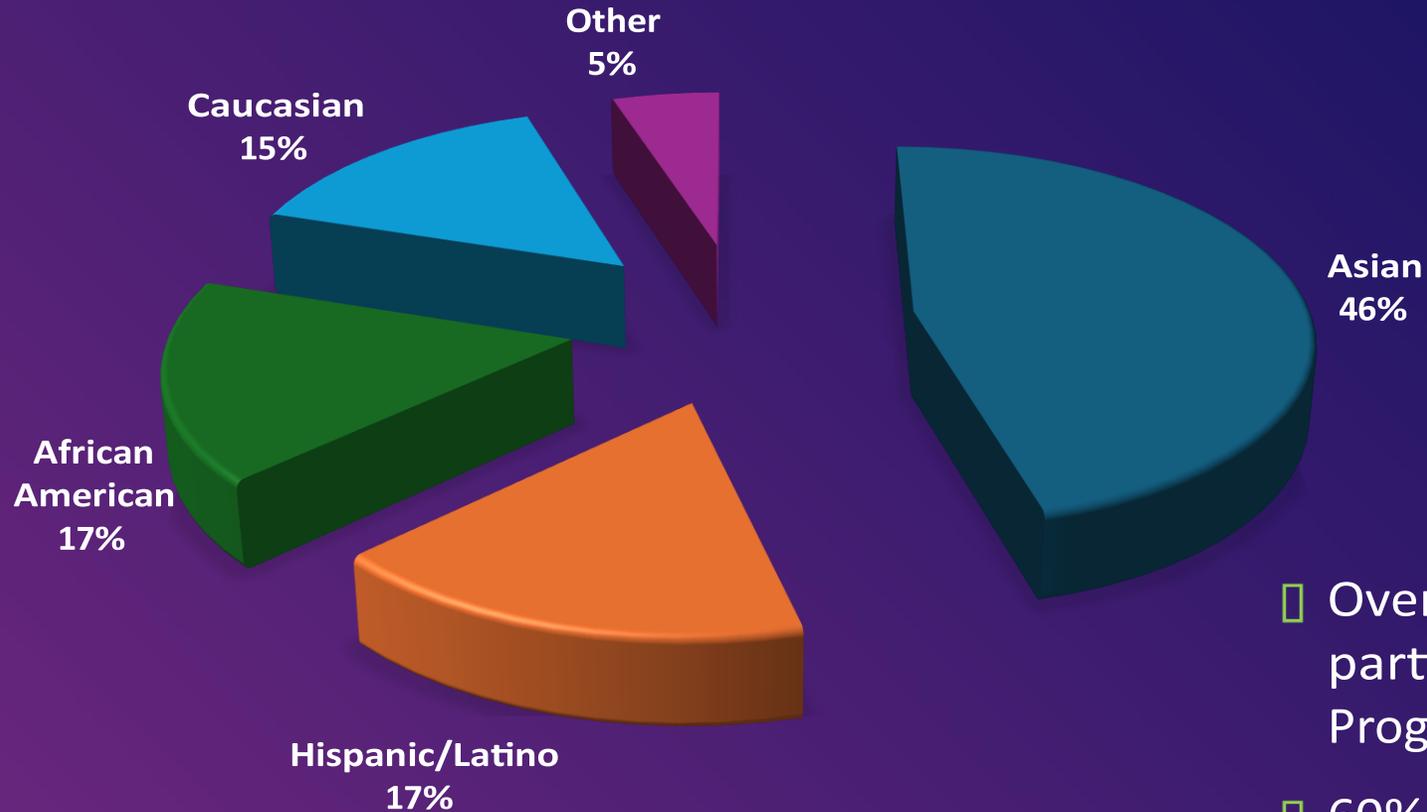
In Home Support  
Home Delivered Medications  
Durable Medical Equipment  
Nutritional Counseling & Meals



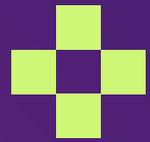
Social Day Center  
Transportation  
Interpreters  
Medical Escorts  
Senior Rehab Gym  
Physical & Occupational Therapy



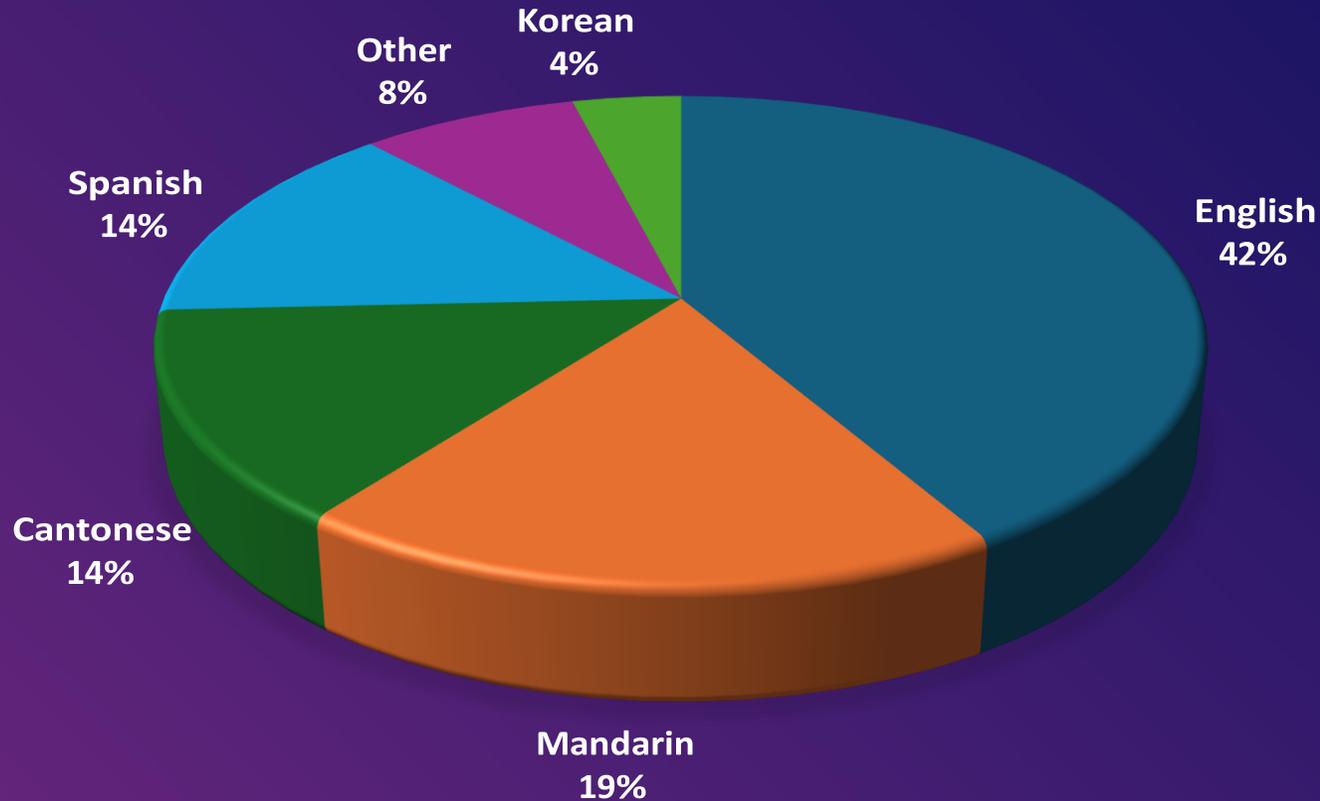
# CEI PACE Participant Demographics



- Over 1,400 East Bay seniors participate in CEI's PACE Program
- 60% women, 40% men
- Average age of 76



# CEI Participant Primary Language



## Language Accommodations:

CEI markets in eight languages and actively offers interpretation in any language. We recruit staff who support and align with our community diversity.

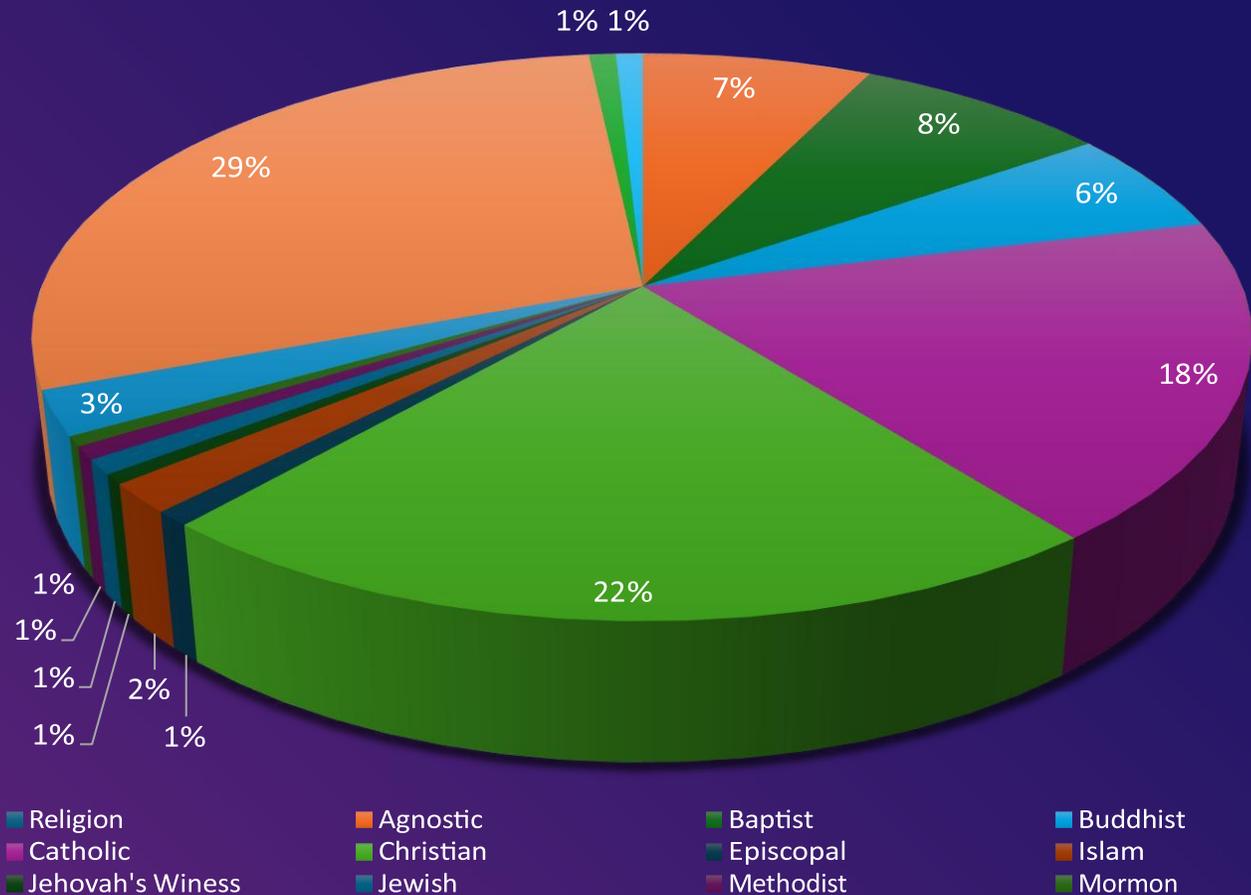
# CEI Spiritual Care

Participant Religion/Spiritual Affiliation

2/3 of PACE participants are connected to their faith

Spiritual Support

- Chaplains
- Support Groups
- Celebrations of Life





# Chronic Conditions of PACE Participants

- Vascular Disease
- Major Depressive, Bipolar and Paranoid Disorders
- Diabetes with Chronic Complications
- Congestive Heart Failure
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
- Dementia



## PACE Program Eligibility

- ☐ Must be 55 years of age or older ☐ Must live in a PACE service area
- ☐ Must be able to *live safely in the community* at the time of enrollment
- ☐ Must be certified by the State to need nursing home level of care

# ✚ PACE Nursing Home Eligible

Nearly 98% of nursing home-eligible CEI PACE participants reside at home.

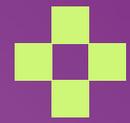




# CEI PACE Inpatient Admission Rates

28% lower in-patient admission  
rates than other PACE  
participants - Nationally





# CEI PACE Family Recommendation

93% of family caregivers would recommend CEI PACE to someone in a similar situation



# CEI PACE Meals Served

Nearly 10,000 meals  
served per Month



# CEI PACE Transportation

Provides over 15,000 trips each month to participants across the Alameda & Contra Costa Counties

CEI provides transportation to a 1,500 square mile region

Approximately 70 medical appointment trips are completed daily, covering an average of 1,000 miles

CEI's fleet travels a total of 3,500 miles each weekday.



## What Participants Pay

□ Seniors who qualify for Medi-Cal (State) or who qualify for Medicare (Federal) and Medi-Cal (known as Duals coverage) generally pay nothing for PACE services. □ Seniors who pay a Medi-Cal “share of cost,” pay CEI that share of cost premium. \*

□ Seniors can pay out-of-pocket (private pay).

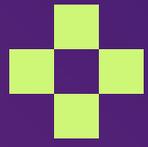
□ There are no co-pays, no deductibles, and no maximums.

□ CEI is paid by Medicare (Federal) and Medi-Cal (State).

## > How CEI is Paid



- It's a capitated program where funds are based per person, not per service. All services are delivered for a single payment amount.
- This allows CEI to provide any type of service or support a senior may need without needing approvals or being restricted by reimbursements from either government.



# CEI and the Community

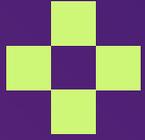
- PACE provides a model of care for the most vulnerable in our community.
- Rooted in the belief that culture and community are the foundation to prevention, we keep patients at home and in their community settings.
- Health organizations, government agencies, and education programs are encouraged to address underlying factors related to social determinants of health...

*And CEI has been doing this for more than 40 years.*

# > We Welcome You to MORE...



- To learn more about PACE in general
- To tour our new Temescal PACE Center
- To have a PACE Enrollment team member visit a senior in need
- To learn more about CEI and all we do in our communities
- To explore partnership opportunities with CEI
- If you know of someone in the community who may be looking for a job...



**Thank you**