

MaryLea Boatwright Quinn At Large

MaryLea Boatwright Quinn is the Assistant Deputy Commissioner of Georgia's Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Aging Services (DAS) which has oversight of the Older Americans Act programs and services that promote independence and community living for older adults, vulnerable adults, and caregivers. As the State Unit on Aging, the Division works closely with its 12 Area Agencies on Aging and local partners to deliver critical services and supports that improve the quality of life of older Georgians and equip them to age in place in the community of their choice.

The DAS also oversees Georgia's Adult Protective Services (APS) and Adult Guardianship Program (AGP). APS investigates reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation among Georgia's older adults and adults (18+) living with disabilities and works to connect individuals with supportive services. Over 70% of her 400+ person staff are dedicated to elder justice and elder abuse prevention activities. DHS serves as the guardian of last resort for approximately 1,600 individuals annually and DAS has oversight and provides case management services, support and advocacy to those individuals.

MaryLea has dedicated more than 30 years to serving older adults in Georgia. She earned her BSW from Auburn University and her MSW from the University of Denver, becoming a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in 1999. She began her career in direct practice as a medical social worker, supporting older adults across home- and community-based settings including hospice, long-term care, adult day services, and home health.

After many years in direct services, MaryLea transitioned into policy and advocacy, joining the Georgia Council on Aging. Over the next decade, she advanced state and federal policies to improve the lives of older adults and their caregivers. She also led advocacy efforts with the Alzheimer's Association Georgia Chapter and the Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly (CO-AGE).

MaryLea has served on several boards, including the Georgia Gerontology Society, the National Aging in Place Council, the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) Steering Committee and the Georgia Alzheimer's & Related Dementia State Plan Advisory Council. She enjoys reading, crafting, and traveling with her husband and two sons.

