

The RAISE Act: Laying the Foundation for a National Caregiving Strategy

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Administration for Community Living

2020 Home and Community Based Services Conference



Recognize, Assist, Include, Support and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act of 2017 – *overview*

Became law: 1/22/18

Three Key Elements

- Family Caregiving Advisory Council
 - Report to Congress
- National Caregiving Strategy

Current Sunset: 2022

Recognize, Assist, Include, Support and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act of 2017 – overview

Family Caregiver – *“The term ‘family caregiver’ means an adult family member or other individual who has a significant relationship with, and who provides a broad range of assistance to, an individual with a chronic or other health condition, disability or functional limitation”*

Recognize, Assist, Include, Support and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act of 2017 – *overview*

The Family Caregiving Advisory Council (FCAC)

“...to advise and provide recommendations, including best practices to the Secretary on recognizing and supporting caregivers”

- The FCAC consists of:
 - Ex-officio federal members
 - Non-federal voting members (up to 15)
- Three subcommittees
 - Goal driven and topic based
 - Monthly meetings focus on Initial Report and National Strategy development
- Reports
 - An initial report;
 - Annual updates

Recognize, Assist, Include, Support and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act of 2017 – *overview*

The Initial Report to Congress

- An assessment and inventory of federally funded efforts to recognize and support family caregivers
- Recommendations to:
 - Improve/better coordinate Federal programs and activities, including with state programs.
 - Effectively deliver services based on performance, mission and purpose of a program while avoiding duplication/overlap.
- Identification of financial, health and other challenges faced by family caregivers and existing approaches to address them.
- An evaluation of the impact of family caregiving on Medicare, Medicaid and other Federal programs.

*Deliverable #1

Recognize, Assist, Include, Support and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act of 2017 – *overview*

Family Caregiving Strategy*

- Developed jointly by Federal agencies and the FCAC;
- Identifies action Federal, state, local, communities, health and LTSS providers and others can take to recognize and support family caregivers (i.e., a *National* strategy);
- Must be reflective of the diverse needs of family caregivers;
- Submitted to Congress and made available online; and
- Inclusive of the following.....

*Deliverable #2

Recognize, Assist, Include, Support and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act of 2017 – *overview*

The National Caregiving Strategy (cont.)

- Promoting greater adoption of person- and family-centered care across settings
- Assessment and service planning
- Information, education and training supports, referral and care coordination
- Respite options
- Financial security and workplace issues
- Service delivery based on performance, mission and purpose of a program; eliminate redundancies

RAISE Act Implementation: Progress to Date

- Full Council Meetings
 - Inaugural meeting: August 28 & 29, 2019
 - Second meeting: February 11 & 12, 2020
 - Third meeting: May 20 & 21, 2020
 - Fourth Meeting: July 16, 2020
 - Fifth Meeting: August 12, 2020
 - Sixth Meeting: November 18, 2020
 - Open to the public, in-person and web-based formats
 - ACL website posts all meeting materials and recordings
- Request for Information (RFI)
 - Issued 12/7/19 (closed 2/7/20) – 1,613 responses; 75% from caregivers!
 - Will inform development of the Initial Report, National Strategy and public listening sessions

The FCAC Adopts Recommendations

- Five Priority Areas
 - Awareness and Outreach for Family caregivers
 - Engagement of Family Caregivers as Partners in Healthcare and Long-Term Services and Supports
 - Services and Supports for Family Caregivers
 - Financial and Workplace Security for Family Caregivers
 - Research, Data and Evidence-Informed Practices
- Recommendations are the foundation for the National Family Caregiving Strategy

The FCAC Adopts Recommendations

Recommendations focus on

- Increase public awareness and recognition of family caregiver needs
- Improving outreach
- Promote expansion of public/private partnerships
- Include family caregivers as essential members of the care team and in all relevant care coordination and transitions

The FCAC Adopts Recommendations

Recommendations focus on

- Increase the availability of high-quality, setting-appropriate, and caregiver-defined respite services
- Increase the availability of diverse counseling, training, peer support, and education opportunities for family caregivers
- Encourage use of technology, volunteers and volunteerism
- Improve the support of family caregivers during emergencies

The FCAC Adopts Recommendations

Recommendations focus on

- Increase and strengthen the paid LTSS and direct support workforce.
- Increase the availability, and use of, financial education and planning tools for family caregivers.
- Establish a national infrastructure using standardized data, questions, and a definition of “family caregiver” for obtaining analyzing, and disseminating information about caregivers and their experiences.

Looking Ahead to 2021: Next Steps

- Complete the Council's Initial Report to Congress
 - Review and clearance
 - Dissemination plan and outreach
- Begin development of the National Family Caregiving Strategy
 - Based on adopted recommendations
 - Informed outreach and public input

www.ACL.gov/RAISE

- Dedicated webpage for all RAISE Act-related activities and products
 - Read the RAISE Act [statute](#)
 - Council meeting information, materials and recordings
 - [Progress Report](#)
 - Link to Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren [webpage](#)
 - Link to [NASHP's RAISE Family Caregiver Resource and Dissemination Center](#)



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Family Caregiving State Policy Academy: Leveraging State Resources to Support Family Caregivers



WENDY FOX-GRAGE, PROJECT
DIRECTOR
NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR STATE
HEALTH POLICY



The
John A. Hartford
Foundation

This work is supported by The John A. Hartford Foundation and the RRF Foundation for
Aging.



**RAISE Family
Caregiver
Resource and
Dissemination
Center**

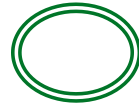
www.raisefamilycaregiving.org



**Wendy Fox-Grage, MSG, MPA
National Academy for State Health Policy
Project Director**



What is NASHP?



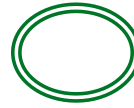
- Non-profit, non-partisan organization with offices in Washington, DC and Portland, ME.
- Supported by an Academy of regionally and politically diverse cross-agency state leaders.
- Dedicated to working with states across branches and agencies to advance, accelerate, and implement workable policy solutions that address major healthcare issues.



What is NASHP?

| Organizational Expertise | Core Functions |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medicaid• Public Health• Children and Families• Behavioral Health and Chronic Care• Access and Eligibility• Cross-sector state innovation and reform | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Convene state health policy leaders• Identify solutions• Disseminate innovations• Targeted technical assistance, webinars, briefs, meetings, and conferences |

RAISE Family Caregiver Resource & Dissemination Center



The John A. Hartford Foundation

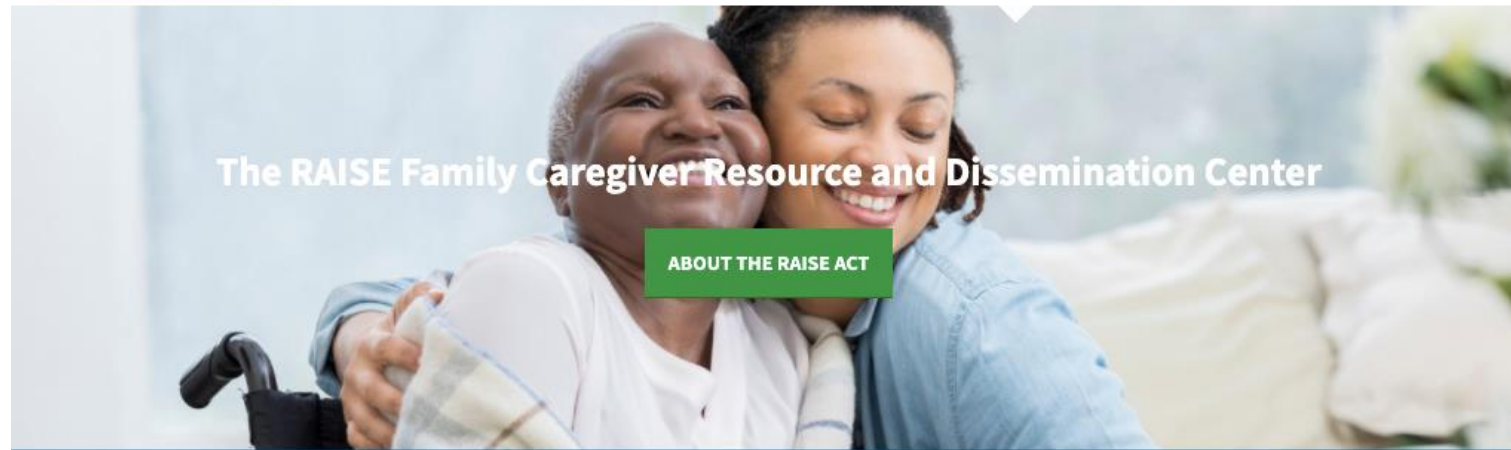


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THE FAMILY CAREGIVING ADVISORY COUNCIL

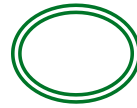
COUNCIL MEETING MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

STATE RESOURCES

FACULTY

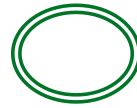


Why Family Caregiving?

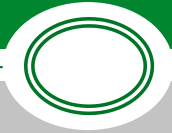


- Family caregivers play an important role in states' efforts to balance Medicaid LTSS systems
 - Family caregivers help Medicaid agencies deliver care that respects the enrollee's cultural and language preferences.
 - Caregiver support can [delay or reduce costly formal health care utilization](#).
 - The economic value of family caregiving in 2017 was estimated to be [\\$470 billion](#), based on about 41 million caregivers providing an average of 16 hours of care per week, at an average value of \$13.81 per hour.
- Strong indicators suggest that family caregivers, and the Medicaid enrollees they care for, could benefit from additional supports
 - State examples:
 - ✦ Training and education
 - ✦ Counseling
 - ✦ Family caregiver benefit

RAISE Family Caregiver Resource & Dissemination Center



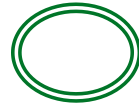
- Contains [updates on RAISE Family Caregiving Advisory Council activities](#);
- [Blogs, reports, interactive maps and other resources](#) on family caregiving policy activity, including:
 - ✦ [NASHP report on Medicaid supports for family caregivers](#);
 - ✦ [Medicaid COVID-19 Appendix K tracker map](#);
 - ✦ NASHP webinars on family caregiving featuring state officials
- Convenes [Faculty](#) experts to provide insight and expertise to the RAISE Family Caregiving Advisory Council;
- **2021: State Policy Academy on Family Caregiving**



**State Policy
Academy on
Family
Caregiving:**
*Leveraging State
Resources to
Support Family
Caregivers*

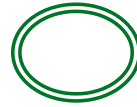


State Policy Academy on Family Caregiving: Goal



Through this Academy, NASHP will support state efforts to develop and/or strengthen innovative strategies to increase access to services and supports for family caregivers and the Medicaid beneficiaries for whom they provide care, focusing on home- and community-based approaches for older adult beneficiaries.

State Policy Academy on Family Caregiving: Overview



- Up to 5 state teams will be selected by NASHP to participate in the Academy
- State teams will consist of up to four members led by a state official, including representation from
 - At least two state officials or administrators, such as:
 - ✦ Medicaid officials
 - ✦ State Aging and Disability administrators
 - ✦ Legislators
 - May also include key stakeholders, such as:
 - ✦ Family caregiver advocates
 - ✦ Community-based organizations
 - ✦ Providers
- State teams will receive 12 months of flexible technical support and \$40,000

Key Academy Dates:

January 29, 2021

Applications due to NASHP

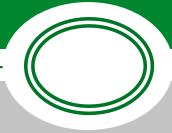
February 15, 2021

Notification of selection to states

March 15, 2021

Academy begins

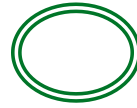




Benefits of State Participation

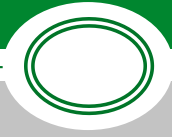


Technical Assistance and Resources



Guided by an analysis of state policy, regulatory, and administrative barriers, states will benefit from both individualized and peer-to-peer learning opportunities, including:

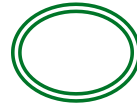
- Development of state-specific family caregiver policy action plans to support key state priorities;
- Individualized technical support from NASHP staff and expert consultation from national, state, and federal leaders;
- \$40,000 in support over the course of the Academy;
- Virtual workshops; and
- Facilitated discussions and webinars open only to Academy teams



How does my state apply?



Application Guidelines



Required:

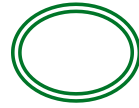
Identify a core team of up to four members and collaborate with core team members to complete the RFA Application Questions

- Core team should identify a **team lead/point of contact** (must be a state official)
- Core team should contain at least **two state officials or administrators**, such as:
 - ✦ Medicaid officials
 - ✦ State aging and disability administrators
 - ✦ Legislators
- Core teams may also include additional state staff or **key stakeholders**, such as:
 - ✦ Family caregiver advocates
 - ✦ Employers
 - ✦ LTSS providers

Optional:

Letters of Support

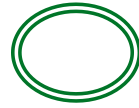
Application Guidelines



All applications will be evaluated based on the extent to which they exhibit the following criteria:

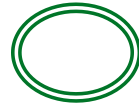
- ➔ Specific & measurable policy goals and timeline activities
- ➔ States' foundational planning for aging and disability policy changes
- ➔ How Academy resources will be used to make progress on goals
- ➔ Specific expertise/support that would help in progressing on Academy goals

Application Process



- Assemble core team and complete the RFA Application Questions (available beginning December 15, 2020 at raisefamilycaregiving.org)
- NASHP will host an informational webinar on January 13, 2021 from 3PM-4PM EST
- Send completed applications to Luke Ehlers (lehlers@nashp.org) by 5pm EST on January 29, 2021
- States will be notified of their application status no later than mid-February 2021

Thank You!



For questions or more information, please contact Wendy
Fox-Grage (wfgrage@nashp.org)

Access the RFA and Application materials beginning
December 15, 2020 at raisefamilycaregiving.org