Add Your Voice to Shape New Hampshire’s Future:
AN AGING ADVOCACY WEBINAR
Thank you to our funders!
Using Zoom – Chat Feature
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AARP NH

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Ways to engage

➤ Join the Capital City Task Force (CCTF) which is a group of volunteers interested in local, county, state, and federal legislative issues that affect people 50+. Activities include:
   ➤ Monitoring state legislation
   ➤ Talking with elected officials
   ➤ Attending and/or testifying at legislative hearings

➤ Coordinate AARP advocacy activities in your community or congressional district

➤ Educate voters on where candidates running for state and federal office stand on issues

➤ Join AARP in protecting seniors health care and financial security

➤ Engage in your local community through AARP NH age friendly community presence sites
Public Policy
Both State & Federal

Federal Priorities
○ Increase research funding to the National Institutes of Health (NIH).
○ Advance legislation that will help persons with Alzheimer’s, their families, and caregivers.

State Priorities
○ Alzheimer’s is a pivotal public health battle, and state governments stand on the front line.
○ Advanced in a similar fashion, with the main focus of our state-level work is on quality of care/settings.
Recent Federal Achievements

The “Health Outcomes, Planning, and Education (HOPE) for Alzheimer’s Act” (114th Congress)

○ The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will now pay for cognitive and functional assessment and care planning for persons with cognitive impairment.

○ For the first time, people living with Alzheimer’s will have access to care planning with a medical professional covered by Medicare.
Federal Priorities for 2019

Increase Commitment to Alzheimer’s Research

○ This past summer Congressional committees approved an increase of as much as $425 million for Alzheimer's research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). We plan to secure this funding this Spring.

Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA)

○ This bill would increase palliative care and hospice training for healthcare professionals, launch a national campaign to inform patients and families about the benefits of palliative care, and enhance research on improving the delivery of palliative care.
Federal Priorities for 2019

**BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer’s Act (S.2076/H.R. 4256)**

- Establishes Alzheimer’s Centers of Excellence around the country to expand and promote Innovative and effective Alzheimer’s interventions

- Provides funding to state, local, and tribal public health departments to implement those interventions and to carry out the public health road map including early detection and diagnosis, reduced risk, and preventing hospitalizations

- Increases the collection of data on cognitive decline and caregiving to inform future public health actions
State Public Policy Priorities 2019

Dementia Direct care Workforce Training Bill
Mandates that all of the direct care workforce who come in contact with people with dementia have a mandatory amount of training in all levels of care

Hospital Operational Plan for Alzheimer’s Bill
Mandates that all New Hampshire hospitals have an operational plan for when someone with dementia comes through the doors

Protect & Maintain Family Caregiver Respite Grant
Maintaining and seeking to increase the dollar amount in the state budget for caregiver respite grant
How can you get involved?

*Alzheimer’s Ambassador Program* – Develop a deep one to one relationship with your member of Congress being the Alzheimer’s expert to them and their team

*Alzheimer’s Congressional Team Member* - Bring your own unique stories relationships and skills to compliment the work of the Ambassador

*Alzheimer’s State Champions* - Cultivate multifaceted, year round relationship with targeted state officials and participate in the state policy platform
Dawn McKinney, Policy Director

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Long – Term Advocacy Priorities (2018 – 2023)

**Goal #1** – Establish a permanent statewide entity on aging. (Governor’s Commission)

**Goals #2** – Ensure adequate and sustainable funding to support healthy aging in NH

**Goal #3** – Strengthen the focus on aging within the DHHS

**Goal #4** – Ensure a stable workforce of direct care workers

**Goal #5** – Make NH communities more age-friendly.

**Goal #6** – Establish the NH AHA as a trusted resource for policy makers and the media

**Goal #7** – Establish the NH AHA as a watchdog on key policies affecting older adults.
AHA 2019 Advocacy Agenda

- Secure essential funding increases for CFI, Titles III and XX in the budget.
- Pursue legislation to address non-monetary workforce challenges in providing long-term care.
- Create a Governor’s Commission on Aging.
- Support passage of financial exploitation/vulnerable adult protective order bill.
- Support efforts to secure passage of a paid family and medical leave act.
- Support passage of bills identified by AHA member organizations as priorities.
Outreach, Education, and Advocate Recruitment

1. Education throughout the state
   a. presentations, email updates, 1 on 1 meetings, small groups, etc...
2. Recruitment of Advocates / Regionalizing our advocacy efforts
3. In-District Meetings / Listening Sessions / Legislative Breakfast
4. Activating the Advocates
Questions?