Improving Public Health and Health Care for Older Adults:

The Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care

Workbook

This work was convened by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement in collaboration with the Michigan Health & Hospital Association and Trust for America’s Health

Funded by

MICHIGAN HEALTH ENDOWMENT FUND

Version 1.0 March 2023
ihi.org/AgeFriendly
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Acknowledgments
The development and validation of this framework was funded by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund (the Health Fund). The mission of the Health Fund is to improve the health of Michigan residents, with special emphasis on the health and wellness of children and seniors, while reducing the cost of health care. To develop this framework, three partners were selected to work together: the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), the Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA), and Trust for America’s Health (TFAH). The three core partners bring distinctive experience, relationships, and expertise in systems improvement, health care, public health, and the state of Michigan. These partners bring deep knowledge of the valuable age-friendly work that has been done in their respective areas of expertise.

We also want to thank the older adults, caregivers, and stakeholder organizations in Michigan who contributed their experiences and stories during interviews and feedback sessions. Thank you for sharing your experiences openly and honestly. We are grateful to Jennifer Culbert of IHI for her support in designing and editing this document.

How to Cite This Document: Nelson LH and Saret C. Improving Public Health and Health Care for Older Adults: The Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care. Boston: convened by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement; 2023. (Available at www.ihi.org/agefriendly)

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</table>
Workbook

This Workbook is designed to be used with the Guide to help teams prepare for, test, and implement the Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care. It includes examples relevant for public health and health care settings, including:

- **Public health**: federal, state, and local public health agencies as well as the governmental public health system
- **Health care**: hospitals, nursing homes, ambulatory care, or convenient care clinics

“Becoming age-friendly is a journey. It’s a culture change that continues to evolve over time.” - St. Lawrence Health

The Workbook includes step-by-step recommendations and worksheets for team members to use to deliver age-friendly care and services for individual older adults. It also offers support to iteratively improve, sustain improvements, and spread these practices throughout the community.

The six steps are:

1. Get Started
2. Form a Cross-Sector Team
3. Understand the Current State
4. Set an Aim
5. Measure Improvement
6. Sustaining Improvements
1. Get Started

As a first step on starting your journey to work across sectors, your organization will work to become recognized as age-friendly within your sector. Use the resources below to familiarize yourself with the two age-friendly initiatives that come together across sectors in this Workbook.

About Age-Friendly Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age-Friendly Public Health Systems</th>
<th>Age-Friendly Health Systems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Age-Friendly Public Health Systems website</td>
<td>1. Age-Friendly Health Systems website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Age-Friendly Public Health Systems guide</td>
<td>2. Age-Friendly Health Systems guides:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Guide to Using the 4Ms in the Care of Older Adults in Hospitals and Ambulatory Practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Guide to Care of Older Adults in Nursing Homes and Workbook</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you’re reviewing this Workbook, you are likely already practicing many of the principles of delivering age-friendly care. You can find information on becoming recognized as an Age-Friendly Health or Public Health System below.

After becoming recognized (or, if your organization is already recognized, increasing your recognition status), review the materials for age-friendly initiatives across sectors.
Becoming Recognized as Age-Friendly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age-Friendly Public Health Systems</th>
<th>Age-Friendly Health Systems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TFAH</strong> offers opportunities for recognition at three levels:</td>
<td><strong>IHI</strong> recognizes clinical care settings at two levels (see below) that are working toward reliable practice of evidence-based interventions — known as the 4Ms (What Matters, Medications, Mentation, Mobility) — for all older adults in their care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AFPHS Champion (individual):</strong> Recognizes public health professionals who have committed to building their own knowledge and expertise and have a desire to lead their departments in becoming age-friendly.</td>
<td><strong>Level 1 (Participant) teams</strong> have successfully developed plans to implement the 4Ms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AFPHS Recognition (departmental):</strong> Recognizes public health systems that have applied foundational changes in policies and practice that address the social determinants of health.</td>
<td><strong>Level 2 (Committed to Care Excellence) teams</strong> have three months of data of older adults who received 4Ms care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AFPHS Advanced (also departmental):</strong> Recognizes public health systems that have completed at least one activity in each of the 6Cs within two years of AFPHS Recognition.</td>
<td>Clinical care settings include hospitals, ambulatory practices, nursing homes, and convenient care clinics. Read more about the recognition process and the supports for putting the 4Ms into practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn more about recognition.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“What we really liked about the recognition process was that it helped us connect the ‘what’ we were doing with the ‘why it was important.’” - Florida Department of Health in Sarasota

Use the Implementation Guide

Throughout your journey, refer to the Implementation Guide for details about the Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care. Use the change ideas in the Implementation Guide to drive how you can work across sectors and improve systems for the health of older adults in your community.
2. Form a Cross-Sector Team

To align care across the continuum, it’s important to build a cross-sector team. This section includes steps and tools to gather your team, build relationships, set norms, and align working styles to accelerate and advance age-friendly principles across sectors.

Select a Population or System

Whose health and well-being do you intend to improve? Below are suggestions to help you answer this question in order to strengthen and focus your efforts. You may start with one “who” and then, over time, expand to others. Consider adding other categories that are relevant to your organization.

Population defines a population of older adults who hold a similar identify or demographic. System refers to the system factors, parts of a system, or processes, that you can zoom in on to address during your improvement work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td>Hospital or emergency services discharge processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
<td>Population health care coordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Case management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBTQIA+ identity</td>
<td>Preventive services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance status</td>
<td>Care planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious preferences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography type</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal communities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration status</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language or dialect spoken</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive ability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical ability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health conditions or status</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy level</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care

Team Roles

Communicate early and often about your hopes and plans. By sharing stories about the importance of age-friendly principles, you can build awareness, identify potential team members, and generate engagement and investment in the work across the organization and community. For key members of your team consider people who are opinion leaders in a sector, whom others seek out for guidance, who are close to the point of care, and/or who are not afraid to test and implement change.

Team roles might include the following. Depending on your chosen population or section of the system you’re working to improve, think about community-based organizations, social services, or other sectors that should be integrated into your team. Add the names of your team members to the table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Key Responsibilities</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Public health leaders (individual champions or public health departments) | • Provide public health leadership and capacity building  
• Develop or contribute to an action plan  
• Understand the public health policy landscape, systems, and environment where you are testing  
• Engage with or become a subject matter expert on Age-Friendly Public Health Systems and the 6Cs |                          |                     |
| Frontline health care staff (including RNs, MDs, NPs, PAs, pharmacists, nutrition professionals, PTs, OTs, SWs, CNAs, mental/behavioral health providers, others) | • Collaborate with health care providers and staff, other technical experts, and leaders  
• Make recommended changes  
• Sustain changes that result in improvement  
• Consider the manager of the unit where changes are being tested  
• Have or develop good working relationships with colleagues  
• Be interested in driving change to achieve cross-sector collaboration  
• Engage with or become a subject matter expert on Age-Friendly Public Health Systems and the 4Ms |                          |                     |
<p>| Frontline health care staff responsible for care coordination (patient navigator, care) |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                          |                     |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The coordinator, case manager (health care facility staff)</td>
<td>• Acts as liaison between cross-sector team and older adults and caregivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(including chaplains, environmental services, transportation drivers,</td>
<td>• Make recommended changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>front desk staff, others)</td>
<td>• Sustain changes that result in improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community health workers (financially supported by either a health</td>
<td>• Be familiar with Age-Friendly Health Systems and/or Age-Friendly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>system, home-based care organization, or a separate entity)</td>
<td>Public Health Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community-based organizations or non-profits</td>
<td>• Engage with or become a subject matter expert on the social determinants of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>health for the older adult population selected for testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older adults (including those living independently, with caregivers,</td>
<td>• Bring critical expertise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or in nursing homes)</td>
<td>• Identify key issues based on their unique experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Older adults and caregivers may only attend general calls/meetings or those</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>related to their own care or services, not those of other older adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caregivers, family, and friends of older adults</td>
<td>• Additional information about appropriately engaging older adults and care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>partners in improvement efforts can be found on the Institute for Patient- and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family-Centered Care website and Valuing Lived Experience: Why Science Is Not</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader or sponsor</td>
<td>• Champion, authorize, and support team activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Engage senior leaders and other groups to remove barriers and support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>implementation and scale-up efforts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### The Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care

- Build a case for change that is based on strategic priorities and the calculated return on investment
- Encourage the improvement team to set goals at an appropriate level
- Provide the team with needed resources, including staff time and operating funds
- Ensure that improvement capability and other technical resources are available to the team
- Develop a plan to scale up successful changes from the improvement team to the rest of the organization

### Other roles (depending on your view of the system or community)

- Improvement coach
- Data analyst/EHR analyst
- Finance representative
- Age-Friendly Ecosystem sectors, such as Universities or Employers
- Consider payers or insurers (e.g., care navigators or care managers, accountable care organization representatives)
- Students (with faculty) from health professions, public health, or other educational programs
- Government officials, policymakers

### Arrange Meeting Times and Locations

Ask team members which days of the week and times are most convenient for them to attend the meetings. Consider rotating days/times to accommodate different schedules.

Proposed day(s) of the week/time(s): __________________________________________________________

Proposed location(s): ____________________________________________________________________

- Consider how to engage older adults and caregivers in the planning process and team discussions.
- Provide coverage as much as possible so that frontline staff (such as CHWs, public health professionals, CNAs, nurses, case managers, and other interested staff) may attend meetings.
- Ask team members about how they prefer to meet: video/phone calls, in person, or a combination. Consider how you can remove barriers to participation for all team members.
Strengthen Your Cross-Sector Team

Building an effective team requires collaboration and commitment. The resources below can support you in this work. Choose the ones that are most relevant to your situation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team-Building Work</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clarifying roles and responsibilities for decision-making</td>
<td>•  <a href="#">Accountable, Responsible, Participant, and Advisor (ARPA) Framework</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>•  <a href="#">DARE Decision Making Model</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing team norms for working together</td>
<td>•  <a href="#">Touchstones for Collaboration</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>•  <a href="#">Team Member Working Styles Matrix</a> (QI example)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideas for kicking off each meeting and getting to know one another</td>
<td>•  Use icebreakers (such as these <a href="#">Chaotic Icebreakers</a>) and other relationship-building exercises to build trust across team members and sectors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Understand the Current State

The Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care were developed through a pilot project in Michigan. The team conducted interviews with organizations, older adults, and caregivers to identify successes and gaps in the health care and public health systems. Questions explored bright spots, barriers to accessing resources, and recommendations to improve the health of older adults (see Appendix E for details).

It’s important for your team to understand how age-friendly care and services are currently in action (or not) in your area. Your team may not know all of this information yet! Write down what the team knows now.

“Access to healthy aging data has allowed the Washington State Department of Health and our partners to understand the health challenges facing older adults living in both rural and urban areas of our state.” - Marci Getz, Director, Healthy Aging Initiatives
Know the Older Adults in Your Community

In the last month, estimate the number of older adults you reached in each of these age categories:

Table 1. Older Adults Served in the Last Month (by Age Group)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strata</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65–74 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75–84 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85+ years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of older adults</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Using available data, such as EHRs or community-level data, learn about the language, race, ethnicity, and other demographic characteristics of the older adults in your care, as well as other factors that matter to your organization. Don’t worry about having perfect data. This is about getting to know your patient population using what you have access to. You can create separate tables to track each category. For example:

Table 2. Race/Ethnicity of Older Adults

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percent of Total Older Adults Ages 65+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Using the data: Once you have gathered available data, take a look at your tables. What patterns do you notice? How might you start to increase equity and improve outcomes for all older adults?
Dig Deeper to Understand the Current State

It takes time to work together as a team and across sectors to understand the current state of the system you are working in. The resources below can support you in this work. Choose the ones that are most relevant to your situation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Understanding Elements of the Current State</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead focus groups or interviews with older adults, caregivers, and stakeholders across sectors</td>
<td>Appendix E: Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner with older adults and caregivers who have lived experience of inequities</td>
<td>Appendix A: Care Journey Maps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illustrate existing processes</td>
<td>Walk-through Tool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify the causes of a problem</td>
<td>5 Whys worksheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explore the history and landscape, including existing assets</td>
<td>Research similar organizations and programs in your community or geography to learn what has been done in the past to inform how you design your work for the future</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Set an Aim

As we like to say at IHI, “Some is not a number, soon is not a time.” An improvement plan helps create a shared understanding of what comes next. Look through the Implementation Guide and driver diagram (Appendix B). As a team, choose a Key to focus on. Within that area, select one change idea that your team will test together. You might choose an idea that the team has lots of energy for, or an area where there’s already some age-friendly work happening.

Use your review of the current state of age-friendly care and services to help you decide. Later, you can expand to more areas.

Then, select an individual or team to try out this idea with one or a few older adults. Remember to start small. This will help you learn what works in your setting — and what doesn’t — so you can adapt accordingly.

Let’s walk through an example together. Our example teams — both a public health team and a health care team — will each be focusing on the Collaboration & Communication component and on information sharing between facility and community-based service providers. Both teams will be focusing on the change idea Develop structures to close referral loops. Each team chooses someone to do the first test:

- **Public health:** The nurse educator who is part of the age-friendly team
- **Health care:** The case manager who works with older adults on Tuesdays

### Aim Statement

Using the change idea you selected, consider your aim. As you do, keep in mind the larger aim of this cross-sector work: **All older adults can age in optimal health, in a setting that is aligned with their wishes, and in a system that is supportive and equitable.**

We know from the science of improvement that setting a clear, actionable aim is key for making change. Your aim should clearly answer these questions:

- How much? In numbers, how much will care and services improve?
- By when? Set a date.
**Start Small**

“Start somewhere and learn as you go. There will be bumps in the road...you will have to adapt and that is OK. Doing something is better than doing nothing.” - UW Health

Begin with one change idea. Then ask, how can you improve care or services for one encounter with one older adult? For example: "What can you do by next Tuesday?"

Here is an example. The team selected the change idea: *Test follow-up processes to ensure care supports are received and adequate after discharge or transitions from services* (1.2 Care Coordination & Navigation). They decided to test ensuring that CHWs were included to facilitate better transitions when older adults are discharged from the hospital, in order to ultimately reduce readmissions. The team set this aim:

- Include a CHW as part of the hospital discharge process to reduce hospital readmissions by 10% before June 2023.

This is just one example. You might adapt this aim to focus on patient navigators or social workers — or you might choose a different change idea altogether.

How do you start small with this idea? The team in the example will start by including a CHW as part of the hospital discharge process for all adults 65 and older on Tuesday and collecting feedback from members of the care team and older adults and caregivers.
Plan & Aim Setting

It takes time to work as a team to understand the current state of the system you are working in. The resources below can support you in this work. Choose the ones that are most relevant to your situation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning &amp; Aim Setting</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Document a test of change with the Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) tool | • PDSA Worksheet  
• PDSA video  
• 100 Million Healthier Lives: Using Improvement Science to Accelerate Community Transformation |
| Map out goals and next steps | • Project Planning Form and Aim Statement Worksheet (part of the Quality Improvement Essentials Toolkit)  
• Project Charter and video |

5. Measure Improvement

It is important to look at data over time to know whether or not your work is making an improvement. Plotting data on a run chart can help you see patterns in your data, identify trends, and determine if your changes are making an impact in the long term.

Measurement is a critical part of testing and implementing changes; measures tell a team whether the changes they are making actually lead to improvement, and then teams can use that information to spread, discard, or adapt the changes. Measurement for improvement should not be confused with measurement for research or measurement for judgment.
Testing Change Ideas

Try the change idea with one older adult. As you do, take notes. If something doesn’t go as planned, be sure to write that down — it will be helpful information for next time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Which older adult is participating, and why?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which team member is testing the change, and why?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which change idea was selected, and why?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What happened when we tried it? How did the older adult respond?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What went well?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What will we do differently next time?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where does the team keep notes about this work?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other notes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care

Process Measures

Process measures help answer the questions: Are the parts/steps in the system performing as planned? Are we on track in our efforts to improve the system? Keep track of the process measures for your Key.

For example, as a process measure for their work on Care Coordination & Navigation (1.2), our example team chose to track:

- Number (or %) of older adults receiving services from a CHW during the discharge process

Over time, try other change ideas and other Keys. Continue to take one step at a time, setting an aim, collecting data, and seeing what works best in your setting.

Stratify your data by demographics or population segments, including race and ethnicity as well as other factors relevant to the older adults you serve, to understand existing gaps. Use this data to select and test changes to increase equity in care or services across all groups of older adults. Remember, there is no quality without equity.

A table of the process measures associated with the Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care can be found in Appendix B.

Outcome Measures

Outcome measures help us ask: How is your work making care and services better for older adults in your community?

It may take time to observe improvements in long-term outcomes for your improvement project. Record these measures to track your results:

- % of older adults who agree or strongly agree with the statement, "I get the care, supports, and services that I need and want when I need and want them"
- % of older adults who report being able to age in their desired setting
Measurement & Data Collection

Measuring for improvement is an iterative process to collect data and learn from testing the changes you've selected. Consider using a run chart — a simple and effective graph of data over time to help you determine whether the changes you are making are leading to improvement. The resources below can support you in this work. Choose the ones that are most relevant to your situation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement &amp; Data Collection</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plot measures over time with run charts</td>
<td>• Run Chart Toolkit&lt;br&gt;• Run Chart video</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build and track driver diagrams, change ideas, and measures</td>
<td>• Appendix B. Driver Diagram&lt;br&gt;• Appendix C. Change Ideas&lt;br&gt;• Appendix D. Process &amp; Outcome Measures&lt;br&gt;• Project Planning Form and Aim Statement Worksheet (part of the Quality Improvement Essentials Toolkit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use data for improvement and share across organizations/sectors</td>
<td>• 3-part data review&lt;br&gt;University of Wisconsin/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: County Health Rankings &amp; Roadmaps Approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply design thinking principles</td>
<td>• 100 Million Healthier Lives: Using Improvement Science to Accelerate Community Transformation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Sustain Improvement

Congratulations! You are on your way to providing age-friendly care or services. You have gone through planning, reflection, testing, and learning.

As you continue to do this work, continue to take notes. Ask yourself: **What went well? What will we do differently next time?**

When a change idea is successful, pick one way to expand it. You might test it with another team member or with another older adult.
Sustaining Changes

The table below is a method to track change ideas as part of your improvement plan. You may be reliably doing some of these things, but not others. Please note, to sustainably implement changes, only select 1-3 of changes ideas to test at a given time. For each change idea, use an “X” to indicate the current status of testing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Change Idea</th>
<th>Not Yet Tested</th>
<th>Plan to Test</th>
<th>Currently Testing</th>
<th>Implemented</th>
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Sharing Stories

We all learn from others’ experiences with testing and implementing changes in the real world — who should be on the team; what measures were tracked; which changes worked best or didn’t work at all; and what lessons were learned.

Use a template such as the [CDC Storytelling Template](https://www.cdc.gov/ftp/stories/templates/) to share the story of your community and improvement work.
Sustainability

Sustaining the changes and improvements from your work is key to the improvement process and long-term ability to do the work. The resources below can support you in this work. Choose the ones that are most relevant to your situation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainability</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share, celebrate, and learn from your improvement story</td>
<td>• Celebrate learnings by sharing an improvement story or case study such as the <a href="https://example.com">Age-Friendly Health Systems case study examples</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build partnerships to advocate for policies across sectors</td>
<td>• Build relationships with political figures, government officials, or advocacy organizations like an <a href="https://example.com">AARP Chapter</a> to embed changes you’ve tested into policies across sectors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Plan for long-term sustainability           | • Sustainability [planning worksheet](https://example.com)  
• [Leading for Abundance: Approach to Generative Sustainability](https://example.com) |
Appendix A: Care Journey Maps

Background

Journey mapping, sometimes referred to as patient-journey mapping in the health care field, involves the creation of a visual narrative depicting the multidimensional relationship between an individual and a service. The maps center the experience of the older adults and their caregivers to show the importance of acting on and assessing what matters to an older adult and the complexity and impact of the current system.

Characteristics of the older adults and caregivers interviewed were combined to create three personas represented in the Care Journey Maps. Qualitative data from the older adult and caregiver interviews were used to understand the current state and subsequent systems factors that were impeding quality, reliable care, and preventive services for older adults. Qualitative data from the stakeholder interviews and older adult interviews was used to establish the future state and how the public health and health care systems can improve care across the continuum.

There are six maps in total representing individuals with the following characteristics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Set</th>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Health Status</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Older Adult 1 (Maps 1 &amp; 2)</td>
<td>Latinx/Hispanic</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>Diabetes and chronic health conditions</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Adult 2 (Maps 3 &amp; 4)</td>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>Mental and behavioral health challenges</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Adult 3 (Maps 5 &amp; 6)</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Suburban</td>
<td>History of falls and mobility challenges</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to Use the Care Journey Maps

The Care Journey Maps developed as part of this pilot project address the system factors from the health care and public health sectors that currently inhibit older adults from living their healthiest life and present a path forward to providing a better future state for older adults and their caregivers. As a cross-sector team, your role is to address the system factors in the current state maps by testing change ideas to improve the systems across the care continuum. If you are a direct care worker, you can also use the Care Journey Maps as a tool for dialogue with older adults and caregivers about their experience navigating services across the care continuum and what matters most.
The Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care

Think about which system factors your team or organization have control over, and how you might partner across sectors to improve the systems impacting older adults. Include community-based organizations or social services as one of many key partners across the care continuum. Steps for setting up your team can be found in the Workbook.

You can develop your own set of Care Journey Maps by interviewing organizational leaders, older adults, and caregivers from your community or a segment of the population that matters to you. Appendix E contains helpful steps and information to lead these stakeholder interviews.

**Note:** These Care Journey Maps capture common themes that we heard in interviews with organizational stakeholders, older adult, and caregivers, and are not intended to be representative of every older adult’s experience. They are a tool that can be used to demonstrate ways in which systems are not working, and what an older adult’s care journey could look like if all sectors were effectively working together across the care continuum. The Care Journey Maps are not a fully comprehensive plan for how all of our systems work together. The environments in which we live, work, and receive care are complex, so sectors and components of an exhaustive system may not be included.
Care Journey Map Set 1

“I live in a rural community, identify as Latinx or Hispanic, I have diabetes and other chronic health conditions, and I am 75 years old. What Matters to me is to live in my home with my family and caregivers nearby.”

“I want my dad to be heard and seen by the health care system for his whole self.”

- Older adult’s caregiver

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND
DIABETIC OLDER ADULT GOES TO EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AFTER DIABETIC EPISODE

10-hour wait time

Provider does not ask "What Matters"

Lack of programs to support and navigate medication affordability

Lack of transportation access

Lack of coordination between care providers in different networks

Follow-up with PCP in home community

Lack of awareness of reliable services (transportation) or ability to send closed-loop referrals

Follow up with specialist via telehealth; older adult struggles to access technology platform

Lack of specialists in rural areas

Lack of home health workers and turnover

No Spanish in-person interpretation services available. Family member translates.

Lack of broadband internet access and support and for older adults to use technology platforms

Lack of interpretation services and bilingual clinical staff in ED

PCP does not have access to visit notes from specialist or Emergency Department; changes care plan

Lack of supportive services in rural areas

Older adult needs more support at home to manage medications and physical care; support not available in community

Older adult was not asked What Matters

Challenges building trust and relationships due to high turnover of providers

Older adult moves in with family and cannot age in their home as desired

Need for deprescribing

DIABETIC OLDER ADULT GOES TO EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AFTER DIABETIC EPISODE

Treatment is provided and older adult is discharged with treatment plan

Specialist prescribes 3 new medications not covered by Medicare

Specialist is located hours away and older adult needs to organize transportation themselves

PCP has left the area, new PCP assigned, prescribes new medications

Follow up with specialist via telehealth; older adult struggles to access technology platform

Older adult experiences flare up of symptoms due to challenges with medications, visits PCP

Older adult feels isolated, struggles to manage their health day to day

Family caregivers live too far to provide day to day care

Caregiver urges older adult to meet with new PCP in person to work on managing medications

Challenges building trust and relationships due to high turnover of providers

Caregiver urges older adult to meet with new PCP in person to work on managing medications

Acute event occurs due to medication confusion for older adult; returns to Emergency Department

Older adult needs more support at home to manage medications and physical care; support not available in community

Older adult moves in with family and cannot age in their home as desired

Need for deprescribing

Diagram showing the flow of care and the challenges faced by the diabetic older adult.
“I live in an urban community, identify as Black or African American, I have Mental health and other behavioral health conditions, and I am 65 years old. What Matters to me is to live in the home that I grew up in and in a community that supports me”

“My brother deserves to stay where he’s comfortable and accepted, and to be seen for more than his health conditions”

- Older Adult’s caregiver
OLDER ADULT IS RECENTLY DIAGNOSED WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA

Family caregivers live too far to provide day-to-day care and accompany older adult to appointments, older adult struggles to arrange transportation.

Older adult lives alone and struggles to manage their health day to day.

Caregiver conducts research on Medicare, health care laws and community resources, to become familiar with navigating the system.

Lack of support to understand insurance coverage and benefits

Older adult struggles to manage new medications prescribed by psychiatrist. Sometimes takes incorrect medication and ends up in back in the Emergency Department.

Lack of coordination between providers in different networks

Caregiver attempts to contact service providers but feels like she was not being treated respectfully.

Need for medication management

Older adult is connected to support group but does not feel comfortable going because he is only person of color and feels stigmatized.

Lack of accessible hub of information for caregivers

Stigma of mental health and racism for Black people

Caregiver tries to set up supportive services locally (support groups, medication management) struggles to get into the right programs.

Lack of providers and staff that represent the diversity of the community

Caregiver coordinates additional services for older adult.

Need for medication management

Older adult receives food through Meals on Wheels, but it is not what he is used to, and they rarely eat the food, often doesn't get adequate nutrition.

Lack of culturally appropriate meal options through food provision services

Older adult continues to experience declining health due to poor nutrition and medication issues.

Older adult needs more in-home support, but caregiver cannot find affordable options for in-home care.

Workforce shortages for in-home care providers

Older adult was not asked What Matters to them.

Older adult leaves current home and moves with family caregivers; cannot age in their home as desired.

Older adult is uncomfortable in new environment, does not have the same connections to neighbors and friends, retreats to himself and often stays indoors.

Need for deprescribing

Older adult was not asked What Matters to them.

Older adult receives food through Meals on Wheels, but it is not what he is used to, and they rarely eat the food, often doesn't get adequate nutrition.

Lack of coordination between providers in different networks

Need for medication management

Older adult continues to experience declining health due to poor nutrition and medication issues.

Older adult is connected to support group but does not feel comfortable going because he is only person of color and feels stigmatized.

Stigma of mental health and racism for Black people

Caregiver attempts to contact service providers but feels like she was not being treated respectfully.

Lack of providers and staff that represent the diversity of the community

Caregiver coordinates additional services for older adult.

Need for medication management

Older adult receives food through Meals on Wheels, but it is not what he is used to, and they rarely eat the food, often doesn't get adequate nutrition.

Lack of culturally appropriate meal options through food provision services

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Older adult was not asked What Matters to them.

Older adult leaves current home and moves with family caregivers; cannot age in their home as desired.

Older adult is uncomfortable in new environment, does not have the same connections to neighbors and friends, retreats to himself and often stays indoors.

Need for deprescribing

Older adult was not asked What Matters to them.
OLDER ADULT IS RECENTLY DIAGNOSED WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA

Availability of mental health resources in the community for screenings and referrals

1. Referral made to psychiatrist and appointment is set up by social worker in PCP office

2. Social worker in PCP office connects older adult to local support group

3. Caregiver conducts research on Medicare, health care laws, community resources, etc., and can find local information on a central website

4. Caregiver contacts social worker at their PCP office to set up transportation to psychiatrist visits and support group meetings

5. Older adult attends support group but is the only person of color and feels uncomfortable.

6. Caregiver contacts local senior center to find additional options as is successful

7. Caregiver coordinates additional services for Older adult including Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), Meals on Wheels, and behavioral health services

8. Older adult struggles to manage medications.

Caregiver finds in-home care worker to visit daily to help manage medications and daily care.

Older adult is able to manage mental health condition, stay current on medications, and build some community through the support group.

Older adult can age safely in place at home as desired

Caregiver arranges meals on wheels delivery and works with in-home caregiver to arrange for preparation of additional meals that Older adult will eat.

Caregiver finds in-home care worker to visit daily to help manage medications and daily care.

Caregiver contacts local senior center to find additional options as is successful

Caregiver coordinates additional services for Older adult including Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), Meals on Wheels, and behavioral health services

Caregiver arranges meals on wheels delivery and works with in-home caregiver to arrange for preparation of additional meals that Older adult will eat

Support for medication management

Availability of culturally appropriate and nutrient-dense food options from CBOs

Availability of in-home care workers who are from the community

Future State

Older adult attends support group but is the only person of color and feels uncomfortable.

Caregiver contacts local senior center to find additional options as is successful

Caregiver coordinates additional services for Older adult including Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), Meals on Wheels, and behavioral health services

Caregiver arranges meals on wheels delivery and works with in-home caregiver to arrange for preparation of additional meals that Older adult will eat

Caregiver finds in-home care worker to visit daily to help manage medications and daily care.

Caregiver conducts research on Medicare, health care laws, community resources, etc., and can find local information on a central website

Caregiver contacts social worker at their PCP office to set up transportation to psychiatrist visits and to support group meetings

Caregiver contacts local senior center to find additional options as is successful

Caregiver arranges meals on wheels delivery and works with in-home caregiver to arrange for preparation of additional meals that Older adult will eat

Caregiver finds in-home care worker to visit daily to help manage medications and daily care.

Caregiver contacts local senior center to find additional options as is successful

Caregiver arranges meals on wheels delivery and works with in-home caregiver to arrange for preparation of additional meals that Older adult will eat

Caregiver finds in-home care worker to visit daily to help manage medications and daily care.
Care Journey Map Set 3

“I live in a suburban community, identify as White, I have a history of falls and mobility issues, and I am 80 years old. What Matters to me is to keep my independence while I continue to age”

“I want my mom to do what she loves: live actively with her loved ones and be independent”

- Older Adult’s caregiver
OLDER ADULT EXPERIENCES A FALL WHILE ALONE AT HOME AND IS TAKEN BY AMBULANCE TO EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

- Lack of preventive services in local community (food assistance, fall prevention programs)
- Lack of care coordination across sectors
- Lack of programs that help older adults understand their insurance coverage and benefits
- Lack of risk assessment and fall prevention programs in the community

Current State:

1. Older adult admitted to the hospital for surgery. Recovery will take 6-8 weeks and they will need full time caregiving support.

2. Caregiver finally finds bed in rehabilitation facility, but it is far away and not in older adult's community.

3. Older adult struggles with recovery, is no longer able to get outside and go for walks or go out with friends, leading to depression and loneliness.

4. Older adult is discharged from facility, referral made to PT. Caregiver struggles to arrange transportation to PT appointments, resulting in several missed visits.

5. Older adult needs help at home with basic care (getting around the house, cooking meals), caregiver struggles to arrange services and locate free or low-cost options.

6. Older adult continues to feel weak and nervous moving around alone at home, has several more close calls and almost falls again.

7. Lack of platforms to locate available support services

8. Caregiver is not able to find in-home support for older adult and cannot take time off work to provide the support they need.

Older adult moves into an assisted living facility where they can get a higher level of care, going against their wishes for how they wanted to age.

Lack of accessible and timely transportation

Lack of social programs for older adults with mobility challenges

Workforce shortages of in-home care providers

Workforce shortages among home health care workers

Lack of availability of services in local community

Lack of platforms to locate available support services

Lack of preventive services in local community (food assistance, fall prevention programs)

Health care affordability

Lack of programs that help older adults understand their insurance coverage and benefits

Lack of risk assessment and fall prevention programs in the community

Lack of accessible and timely transportation

Lack of social programs for older adults with mobility challenges

Workforce shortages of in-home care providers

Workforce shortages among home health care workers

Lack of availability of services in local community

Lack of platforms to locate available support services

Lack of preventive services in local community (food assistance, fall prevention programs)

Health care affordability

Lack of programs that help older adults understand their insurance coverage and benefits

Lack of risk assessment and fall prevention programs in the community

Lack of accessible and timely transportation

Lack of social programs for older adults with mobility challenges

Workforce shortages of in-home care providers

Workforce shortages among home health care workers

Lack of availability of services in local community

Lack of platforms to locate available support services

Lack of preventive services in local community (food assistance, fall prevention programs)
While at the rehabilitation facility, care coordinator works with older adult and family to make a PT referral and arrange transportation to visits.

Older adult admitted to the hospital for surgery. Recovery will take 6-8 weeks and they will need full-time caregiving support.

Transportation services are available and reliable in the older adult's community.

Available beds in health care facilities.

Care coordinator connects caregiver to agencies that can arrange for in-home care as needed for older adult.

Care coordinator works with caregiver to arrange a rehabilitation facility that will be covered by Medicare.

Older adult begins to feel more comfortable going out for short walks with support, can attend programs at local senior center and spend time outdoors.

Older adult and their caregiver feel confident that the older adult can stay at home with supportive services and regular visits from a home health care worker.

PT connects older adult to a fall prevention support program in the community to assess their home and set up preventive measures.

Support for caregivers to navigate available services.

Existence of platforms to locate available support services.

Future State.

Older adult has the supports needed to age in desired setting.

Hospital staff and direct care workers ask older adults what matters to them.

Support to navigate insurance coverage and benefits.

Care Coordination.

Support for caregivers to navigate available services.

Future State.

Sustainably funded programs for older adults offered in local community.

Availability of home health care workers.

Availability of home risk assessment and home modification services.

Future State.

Older adult experiences a fall while alone at home and is taken by ambulance to emergency department.

Future State.

Hospital staff and direct care workers ask older adults what matters to them.

Support to navigate insurance coverage and benefits.
Text Abbreviations

- ED = Emergency department
- CBO = Community-based organization
- CHW = Community Health Worker
- PCP = Primary Care Provider
- PT = Physical therapy or Physical Therapist
Appendix B: Driver Diagram

**KEYS (PRIMARY DRIVERS)**

1. What Matters
   - 1.1 Older Adult Centered Care
   - 1.2 Care Coordination & Navigation
   - 1.3 Culturally Centered & Equitable Care

2. Supportive System Factors
   - 2.1 Workforce
   - 2.2 Collaboration & Communication
   - 2.3 Access & Accessibility
   - 2.4 Caregiver Support

3. Supportive Financial Structure & Policy Landscape
   - 3.1 Affordable Care
   - 3.2 Program Funding

**COMPONENTS (SECONDARY DRIVERS)**

**TERtiary DRivers**

- Asking and acting on What Matters in all care settings
- Supporting older adults to advocate for their needs and wishes
- Education and training for older adults to navigate technology tools and platforms
- Effective discharge and transition planning between facilities and community or home-based services
- Medication management (including deprescription across settings of care)
- Provider and caregiver awareness and navigation of existing supports and resources
- Supportive and trusting provider relationships
- Designing programs with equity in mind to accommodate and support older adults from all races and cultures
- Processes to recognize and address implicit bias and interpersonal and systemic racism at all levels of the care system
- Readily available translation of services and materials
- Adequate staffing for health care and home-care settings
- Diverse workforce that reflects communities in which older adults live
- Education and training for staff on aging and older adult care
- Living wages, benefits, and career paths for frontline staff across sectors
- Information sharing between facility and community-based service providers
- Involving older adults, especially with marginalized identities, in the process of improving collaboration
- Supportive partnerships between organizations across sectors
- Accessibility of physical spaces where older adults live and receive care
- Availability of telehealth and remote care services
- Existence of services and facilities in local community
- Caregiver training and ability to support older adults
- Discharge planning and support for caregivers to navigate care transitions
- Support options for those without familial caregiver support
- Access to supplemental benefits to meet individual needs
- Medication affordability
- Support for older adults to understand their coverage and benefits
- Adequate program funding to cover needs
- Longer-term funding to support sustainability

**AIM**

All older adults can age in optimal health, in a setting that is aligned with their wishes, and in a system that is supportive and equitable.
## Appendix C: Change Ideas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Change Ideas</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Public Health</strong></td>
<td><strong>Health Care</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. What Matters</td>
<td>1.1 Older Adult Centered Care</td>
<td>1. Check with older adults regarding their comfort navigating key technology supports such as MyChart and telehealth</td>
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<td>2. Reconcile medications at key touch points and look to deprescribe medications where appropriate</td>
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<td>3. Train staff to provide older adults with options about care settings and discuss where they would prefer to age</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. Utilize What Matters tools and toolkit from Age-Friendly Health Systems as part of care delivery in all settings</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Across Sectors</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>1. Include older adults and their caregivers in community health needs assessments to understand needs of the community and integrate needs into state and community health improvement plans</td>
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<td>2. Partner with Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) to identify supportive services for aging in place in local communities</td>
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<td>3. Partner with community-based organizations to raise awareness about or create a local database or hub for available resources in individual communities or regions (No Wrong Door)</td>
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<td>4. Support older adults and caregivers to advocate for their needs and wishes in all care settings</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.2 Care Coordination &amp; Navigation</td>
<td></td>
<td>1. Create standard tools and checklists for discharge planning</td>
</tr>
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<td>2. Identify and incorporate electronic health record (EHR) features to support care coordination</td>
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### Across Sectors

1. Connect older adults with community-based organizations that provide counseling on the options available for care and support
2. Ensure older adults and caregivers have support to access follow-up services as needed upon discharge
3. Hire community health workers (CHWs), case managers, and patient navigators as core members of older adult's care team
4. Test follow-up processes to ensure care supports are received and adequate after discharge or transitions from services

### 1.3 Culturally Centered & Equitable Care

1. Collect and publish data on health disparities and link to quality and outcome measures
2. Conduct anti-ageism trainings
3. Ensure that all materials are provided in an older adult's primary language
4. Ensure that in-person translation services are provided in an older adult's and/or caregiver's primary language
5. Ensure processes exist for response and reconciliation in the event of discriminatory treatment
6. Provide implicit bias trainings for health care providers and staff and community service staff
7. Stratify health data by race and ethnicity, as well as other demographic factors relevant in your setting (such as religion, income level, and geography)

### 2. Supportive System Structures

#### 2.1 Workforce

1. Advocate for state licensing and certification requirements to include education on geriatric care and/or age-friendly care
2. Develop low-cost ways to translate documents
3. Develop systems for provider retention in all geographies for health care and home-care settings
4. Develop tools and trainings for staff that work with older adults (for example, Geriatrics workforce training)
5. Hire multilingual providers and staff (including care navigators and coordinators)
6. Partner with postsecondary education programs to incorporate training on aging and older adult care within educational or program curriculums (physician, nursing, social work, etc.)
7. Recruit and retain local staff to reflect diversity and language needs of the community
### 2.2 Collaboration & Communication

**Across Sectors**

1. Coordinate with community-based organizations to ensure access to or develop educational materials about available community resources for older adults in provider offices and senior centers.
2. Partner with aging services or community-based organizations to enhance or develop a trusted referral system that allows health care organizations to share data across sectors.
3. Develop structures to close referral loops.
4. Collaborate with partners from other sectors in funding opportunities.
5. Utilize existing referral networks such as the Michigan Health Information Network (MiHIN) or Care Connect.

### 2.3 Access & Accessibility

1. Connect older adults with providers of the appropriate equipment to access technology platforms, when required.
2. Partner with aging services or community-based organizations for transportation supports as required so that older adults can access services regardless of location and physical ability.
3. Partner with aging services or community-based organizations to provide access to multigenerational tutoring to set up and use technology.

**Across Sectors**

1. Center age-friendly practices in communicating information with older adults, e.g., have information written down and tailored to older adults and/or caregivers with varying literacy levels.
2. Conduct a walk-through of spaces with older adults and caregivers to identify and address barriers to access or risk of injury based on physical or cognitive ability.
3. Connect older adults and caregivers with training opportunities on how to use telehealth resources from a home health worker or community health worker.
4. Consider hub-and-spoke models to extend reach of services to rural and remote locations.
| 2.4 Caregiver Support | 1. Include caregivers in all discharge education and planning conversations  
2. Utilize caregiver resources from [Age-Friendly Health Systems](#) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. Financial Structure &amp; Policy Landscape</td>
<td>1. Provide information about and access to training, resources, and support groups for caregivers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3.1 Affordable Care | 1. Ask older adults and caregivers about affordability of their medications and other care needs and coordinate support as required  
2. Partner with advocacy organizations to build support for payment models that reimburse for or include care coordination across sectors  
3. Partner with aging services organizations (such as AARP and AAAs) to connect older adults with tools and resources to navigate their insurance coverage and benefits, considering varying language and literacy levels |
| Across Sectors | 1. Connect older adults with simplified tools for payment and insurance options and step-by-step caregiver guidance (for example, a community passport)  
2. Ensure access to or develop a website that assesses coverage and cost for services based on the older adult’s insurance coverage |
| 3.2 Program Funding | 1. Identity resources to help organizations navigate the complex funding landscape and relieve administrative burden |
| Across Sectors | 1. Advocate for long-term or multi-year age-friendly collaborations across sectors to promote strategic alignment and funding sustainability that reaches the local level  
2. Prioritize funding to projects and programs that are multi-disciplinary and will support collaboration between health care and public health entities (vs. siloed funding) |
## Appendix D: Process & Outcome Measures

### Process Measure Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Driver</th>
<th>Secondary Driver</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Numerator</th>
<th>Denominator</th>
<th>Reporting Frequency</th>
<th>Context to Consider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. What Matters</td>
<td>1.1 Older Adult Centered Care</td>
<td>Number (or %) of adults who report that their care is in alignment with their goals (measured by collaboRATE tool)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Care Coordination &amp; Navigation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number (or %) of older adults receiving services from a care coordinator or enrolled in case management program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Care Coordination &amp; Navigation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wait time for services: average number of days between referral made and when services start</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Culturally Centered &amp; Equitable Care</td>
<td></td>
<td>Patient experience questions from the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey (select the measures that are most relevant to your work)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Supportive System Structures</td>
<td>2.1 Workforce</td>
<td>Staff breakdown by race, ethnicity, and language (compared to wider community)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2.2 Collaboration & Communication

| % of older adults who leave the hospital with referral or warm handoff to desired support services in their community (or % of older adults connected to appropriate community support within 30 days of discharge) |

### 2.3 Access & Accessibility

| % of older adults in the community, service area, or public health who are able to access telehealth services (or % of visits for older adults being provided via telehealth) |

### 2.4 Caregiver Support

| % of patients with caregiver identified in chart |

### 3. Financial Structure & Policy Landscape

#### 3.1 Affordable Care

| % of older adults who report being able to afford medications each month |

#### 3.1 Affordable Care

| % of older adults who report not being able to get the care they need due to financial reasons |

#### 3.2 Program Funding

| % of programs supporting older adults that are on year-to-year or short-term grant funding |
### Outcome Measure Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Numerator</th>
<th>Denominator</th>
<th>Reporting Frequency</th>
<th>Context to Consider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of older adults who agree or strongly agree with the statement, “I get the care, supports, and services that I need and want when I need and want them”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of older adults who report being able to age in their desired setting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix E: Methods

To understand the current state of existing resources from the perspective of health systems, public health, and communities, interviews were conducted with organizations, older adults, and caregivers to identify exemplars of care, as well as gaps, across health and public health systems.

Stakeholder Interviews
The purpose of the stakeholder interviews is to support the development of a cross-sector improvement project to help older adults in Michigan to thrive. Between January 31 and March 16, 2022, IHI, in partnership with the MHA Keystone Center, and TFAH, spoke with local stakeholders to understand and identify gaps in resources, care, and systems, with the goal of improving the health of older adults in Michigan.

For the 15 interviews held, the stakeholders were representative of the following sectors: academia, advocacy, public health, health care, and government. A detailed list of stakeholders interviewed can be found in Appendix F.

The stakeholder interviews aimed to support our understanding of the current system. Questions were developed to assess the stakeholder’s view of the current system based on their setting, any barriers and root causes that prevent older adults from accessing the resources they need to live a healthy life, and recommendations for a better, cross-sector care continuum to improve the health of older adults.

The following themes emerged from the experiences of organizational leaders across multiple sectors in Michigan. This list is not exhaustive, and the themes identified do not exist in silos. The themes interact with one another and emerge from systemic issues facing cross-sector collaboration efforts for organizations.

Older Adult & Caregiver Interviews
Centering the experience of older adults and hearing from them directly was vital to the success of this initiative. To do so, Care Journey Maps were developed using qualitative data from interviews with older adults and caregivers in Michigan.

Between May 10 and August 18, 2022, semi-structured qualitative interviews were conducted with 13 adults over the age of 60 and/or caregivers in Michigan, to understand and identify care gaps and challenges for older adults in the state. Thematic analysis was used as the main methodology for this project. This project draws on 13 qualitative interviews, representing Michigan’s rural and urban areas and diverse communities. To obtain maximum variation in perspectives and experiences, recruitment occurred in five
Michigan cities and targeted White and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) residents. A diverse participant sample was obtained, with 38% of the participant sample (7 of 13 total participants) identifying as people of color, with diverse gender identities and socioeconomic statuses. Of the participant sample, the majority (53%) self-identified as White. Interviews included participants from rural (53%) and urban (38%) communities.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 11 of 13 total participant interviews were facilitated telephonically or virtually, although two interviews were conducted in person. Virtual, semi-structured interviews were conducted via the Zoom platform by members of the team, with audio and video recordings captured. Virtual, telephonic, and in-person interview transcripts were reviewed for accuracy and de-identified. Interviews were open-ended, approximately 1 hour in duration. Participant demographics such as age, racial/ethnic identity, health status, location, and gender identity were all self-described by participants prior to starting the interview.

The older adult and caregiver interviews aim to support our understanding of the current system. Questions were developed to assess the older adult’s view of the current system based on their setting, social determinants of health, and challenges that prevent them from accessing the resources they need to live a healthy life.

Qualitative Analysis

For both sets of interviews, qualitative analysis was conducted to understand the impact of the current system, existing bright spots, and recommendations from those most affected or closest to the systems, for how to improve the system. Below are the themes from each set of interviews:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder Themes</th>
<th>Older Adult &amp; Caregiver Themes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Access and navigation of services</td>
<td>• Access and navigation of services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cross-sector collaboration</td>
<td>• Affordability of care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Funding and payment structure</td>
<td>• Culturally centered care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “What Matters” to older adults</td>
<td>• Caregiver support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Workforce</td>
<td>• Care coordination &amp; case management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• “What Matters” to older adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Workforce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care

The data was also organized into the three categories below to dig deeper into the responses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current State</th>
<th>Future State</th>
<th>Bright Spots</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Interview Structure**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and because the convening organization for these interviews were not based in Michigan, the stakeholder interviews were facilitated virtually using Zoom. Interviews ranged from 30-60 minutes. Below is an outline of the interview format.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introductions</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Context Setting</td>
<td>3-5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview Questions</td>
<td>20-30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrap-up &amp; Next Steps</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example Interview Questions and Templates**

The following documents are examples of the stakeholder interview templates developed for this pilot project to develop the Three Keys:

- Older Adults & Caregivers
- Stakeholder Organizations
INTRODUCTION FOR OLDER ADULTS/FAMILY CAREGIVER

The purpose of these conversations is to understand the experience of older adults in Michigan and their caregivers in navigating the resources that are needed to live a healthy life. From the interviews we are creating a diagram called a “Care Journey map” that will compile the experiences from the older adults we are talking with. Please note your experiences and identity will remain anonymous. We hope this work will benefit other communities and states across the U.S.

Do you have any questions about our goals or the purpose of this interview? (pause/check for understanding and questions)
Stakeholder Interview Questions

Interview Format

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introductions</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Context Setting</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview Questions</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Indicates a priority question</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrap up &amp; Next Steps</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Introduction

- Introduce yourself, your role
- Have teammates introduce themselves

Context Setting

- Share the purpose of this conversation (see intro above for organizations and older adults)
- Provide framing: the questions are intentionally broad so that you, the collaborator, can respond in any way that matters to you as it relates to postsecondary transitions

The purpose of these conversations is to understand the experience of older adults and their caregivers in Michigan in navigating the resources that are needed to live a healthy life. From the interviews we are creating a diagram called a “Care Journey map” that will compile the experiences from the older adults we are talking with. Please note your experiences and identity will remain anonymous. We hope this work will benefit other communities and states across the U.S.

Do you have any questions about our goals or the purpose of this interview? (pause/check for understanding and questions)

Interview Questions

- Remind participants that this conversation is confidential between you and the collaborator, information will be shared, but the participants identity will not. Remind them they also can stop the conversation at any time.

Wrap-up & Next Steps

- What’s next?
  - Interviewing other adults to draft a map that compiles all of your experiences navigating resources for healthcare and other services into one map.
  - Would you be interested in providing feedback on our draft once created.
  - On completion of this interview, a VISA gift card of $100 will be provided to you.
    - Would you prefer we mail the VISA card to you or provide it electronically over email?
      - Email: What is your email address and back up email address?
      - Mail: Can you please provide your mailing address?
Older Adult:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guiding Questions</th>
<th>Reflections/Cited Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before we start, would you be willing and comfortable sharing a few aspects of</td>
<td>• Age:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>how you identify to support our understanding of how you experience care?</td>
<td>• Race:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If yes:</td>
<td>• Insurance status (SES):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. What is your age?</td>
<td>• Chronic illness(es):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. How would you identify your race? (If not sure, provide the following racial</td>
<td>• Rural or urban:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>categories):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. White alone, non-Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Black or African American alone, non-Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. American Indian and Alaska Native alone, non-Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Asian alone, non-Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, non-Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Some Other Race alone, non-Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Multiracial, non-Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Are you a Medicaid recipient? Are you a Medicare recipient?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. If yes: Do you have supplemental insurance in addition to having Medicare?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Do you have any chronic illness(es) or health conditions (i.e., diabetes, a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>respiratory condition, heart disease, etc.)?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Do you live in an area that you would call rural or urban?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Before we get started, we want to share an image with you that includes three areas in your community, what we call a care continuum: Your home, community services, and health care services. *(Show the older adult the image on page 6).* This image demonstrates the connections we are hoping to build between these three settings and how older adults navigate the resources necessary in these settings to live their fullest life.

*(Check for understanding):* Do you have any questions about this image?

Now, thinking about this image. Can you think about a time when you experienced a health event, (for example, an illness, a surgery or medical procedure, starting a new
medication or using a new assistive device like a cane, wheelchair, hearing aid, etc.)

[If no event, can you reflect on the experience of someone you care for or a loved one during their healthcare event]

[If time, ask for a second event]

Thinking about that event and looking at this diagram, can you walk us through how it went as your transitions through the different places where you or your loved one received care (in response to that event).

- Home
- Community
- Hospital

1. **What happened during that event?**

2. **In a perfect world, how would that event have gone differently?**

**Prompts for follow-up questions to get more detail**

Thinking about the health event you just described (see questions above) ...

*What did you struggle with during that experience?

Who helped / did not help?

*What supports and services were helpful to you? Which ones were not helpful?

*How did you feel?

*What would you change about how that event went?

**Follow-up questions:**

- What did you struggle with during that experience?
- Who helped / did not help?
- What supports and services were helpful to you? Which ones were not helpful?
- How did you feel?
- What would you change about how that event went?

**General Questions (after you are done with the health event questions)**

What supports and services do you or your loved one need to stay healthy and/or manage a particular health condition?

*What do you worry about with regards to your or your loved one's health or ability to stay healthy?
*Who or what helps / does not help you maintain a healthy life?

*Where do you go to seek trusted information that supports you in making health decisions to maintain a healthy life?

*What have I not asked you about that you think is important for me to know?

---

**Family/Caregiver Only:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guiding Questions</th>
<th>Reflections/Cited Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>As a family member (or community member), what matters to you for the older adult(s) in your life (or your community)?</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Are you familiar with the term ‘age-friendly’? If so, what does ‘age-friendly’ mean to you?</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>As you think about your older adult’s future, what supports and services are most critical? What’s missing?</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As a caregiver, can you recall any instance in navigating the care journey and experienced difficulty?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you aware of any organizations (like a health system or agency) that might benefit from participating in this initiative?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any geographies or communities?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What have I not asked you about that you think is important for me to know?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Questions**
Interview Format

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introductions</td>
<td>3 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Context Setting</td>
<td>2 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview Questions</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Indicates a priority question</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrap up &amp; Next Steps</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Introduction

- Introduce yourself, your role
- Have teammates introduce themselves

Context Setting

- Share the purpose of this conversation

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of these conversations is to support the development of a cross-sector improvement community to support older adults in Michigan to thrive. We see an opportunity to bring together two movements: Age-Friendly Health Systems (AFHS) and Age-Friendly Public Health Systems (AFPHS) to align strategies and recommendations for communities and states that are specific to older adult health, well-being, and equity. We intend to connect public health departments and healthcare organizations that are active in their respective age-friendly movements, together with additional stakeholders across the healthcare, public health, and community sectors. We are speaking with local stakeholders, like yourself, to understand and identify gaps in resources, care, and systems to improve the health of older adults in Michigan. With this information, our goal is to create a coordinated care model, ready to be piloted, that is designed to bridge the gaps across sectors. The output will be a model that identifies interventions that public health departments, community-based organizations, and health systems can implement to collaboratively support older adults in whatever place they call home. These interviews aim to support our understanding of the current system. Do you have any questions about our goals or the purpose of this interview? (pause/check for understanding and questions)

- Provide framing: the questions are intentionally broad so that you, the collaborator, can respond in any way that matters to you as it relates to postsecondary transitions

Interview Questions
• Remind participants that this conversation is confidential between you and the collaborator, information will be shared, but the participants identity will not. Remind them they also have the opportunity to stop the conversation at any time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guiding Questions</th>
<th>Reflections/Cited Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What does ‘age-friendly’ mean to you?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What does ‘age-friendly care’ mean to you?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What does providing successful older-adult care look like for you/your health system? How is that measured?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What systemic gaps have you experienced or are aware of that inhibit you from providing optimal care for older adults?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can you provide any examples of difficult situations you have encountered while trying to provide care to an older adult(s)?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you aware of any anchor institutions (like a health system or organization) that might be primed and ready to participate in this initiative?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any geographies or communities?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What did I not asked you about that you think is important for me to know?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Questions**

**Wrap-up & Next Steps**

• What’s next?
  o Interviewing 25-30 stakeholders and using their experience to draft a cross-sector care continuum map
  o There’s an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft in an expert meeting this spring – Are you interested?
## Appendix F: Stakeholder Organizations Interviewed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Setting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clare Tanner</td>
<td>Director, Center for Data Management and Translational Research</td>
<td>Michigan Public Health Institute</td>
<td>Public health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jo Murphy</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Michigan Medicare &amp; Medicaid Assistance Program</td>
<td>Government agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Wamsley</td>
<td>Deputy Director</td>
<td>Aging &amp; Adult Services Agency (AASA), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services</td>
<td>Government agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Daeschlein</td>
<td>Long-Term Care Specialist</td>
<td>Michigan Elder Justice Initiative</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Hughes</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Michigan State University School of Social Work</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Burger</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Michigan Association of Senior Centers</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Dedden Cooper</td>
<td>Manager of Advocacy</td>
<td>AARP, Michigan</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn Opel</td>
<td>Director, Research &amp; Strategic Initiatives and General Counsel of the Food Bank Council of Michigan</td>
<td>Food Bank Council of Michigan/ Michigan State University</td>
<td>Academic, public health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clare Luz</td>
<td>Director, Department of Family and Community Medicine</td>
<td>Michigan State University IMPART Alliance</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith Morris</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Elder Law of Michigan</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robyn Rontal</td>
<td>Director, Policy Analytics</td>
<td>Center for Health and Research Transformation, University of Michigan</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexis Travis</td>
<td>Senior Deputy Director, Public Health Administration</td>
<td>Michigan Department of Health &amp; Human Services</td>
<td>Government agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Moccia</td>
<td>Program Director, Senior ER</td>
<td>St. Mary Mercy</td>
<td>Health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Grijalva</td>
<td>Community Health Worker</td>
<td>Henry Ford Health</td>
<td>Health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracie Mason</td>
<td>Community Health Worker, Community Health, Equity, Wellness &amp; Diversity</td>
<td>Henry Ford Health</td>
<td>Health care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix G: Partner Organizations

The three core partners bring distinctive experience, relationships, and expertise in systems improvement, health care, public health, and the state of Michigan. These partners bring deep knowledge of the valuable age-friendly work that has been done in their respective areas of expertise and a keen awareness of the experience of older adults and caregivers.

**Michigan Health and Hospital Association (MHA) Keystone Center**

The MHA Keystone Center was founded in 2003 with a charge to identify and implement practices that improve health care safety and quality while reducing costs. The MHA Keystone Center is a founding member of Superior Health Quality Alliance, a joint venture to support health care quality improvement efforts across the care continuum for the upper Midwest. Funded by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund (MHEF), the MHA Keystone Center launched a successful first cohort of the Age-Friendly Health Systems Action Community in 2019, bringing to bear local expertise to build on the original initiative developed by core founding partners.

**Trust for America’s Health**

Trust for America’s Health (TFAH) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that promotes optimal health for every person and community and seeks to make the prevention of illness and injury a national priority. TFAH works with traditional (core public health at all levels) and nontraditional partners (organizations with which public health has not previously worked, e.g., aging services providers) on high-impact health issues. TFAH reports on and recommends evidence-based programs and policies that make prevention and health equity foundational to health and community systems at all levels of society.

**Institute for Healthcare Improvement**

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) is an independent not-for-profit organization based in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. For more than 25 years, IHI has used improvement science to advance and sustain better outcomes in health and health systems across the world. Through IHI’s convening partner role for the 100 Million Healthier Lives initiative, along with deep, outcomes-focused initiatives For more than five years, IHI has made it a strategic priority to redesign care to promote healthy aging and improve long-term care. IHI is the implementing organization for Age-Friendly Health Systems, which has expanded from five pioneer health systems to engage 20 percent of US health systems. Now in its third phase, the project is moving into outpatient care and post-acute care settings; and managing and growing the AFHS movement by engaging the macroenvironment to move beyond awareness to action. The AFHS movement is committed to care across the continuum — in the community, hospital, post-acute, and long-term care settings.
Appendix H: Project Timeline & Outcomes

The project, funded by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund (the Health Fund) started in September 2021 and ended in February 2023.

Outcomes & Key Activities:

The overall outcomes for the creation of a testable model include the following.

1. Literature review to identify exemplars of care, as well as gaps, across health systems, public health and communities
2. Identification of existing resources from the perspective of health systems, public health, and communities
3. Draft model for care of older adults across health systems, public health, and community-based organizations
4. Identification of outcome measures for testing across the Age-Friendly Ecosystem
5. Summary resources of findings, manuscript of learnings, and next steps for dissemination
6. Integration of learnings into Age-Friendly Health Systems and Age-Friendly Public Health Systems
References