

# Evaluation of the California Department of Aging's Local Aging and Disability Action Planning (LADAP) Grant Program

Progress Report

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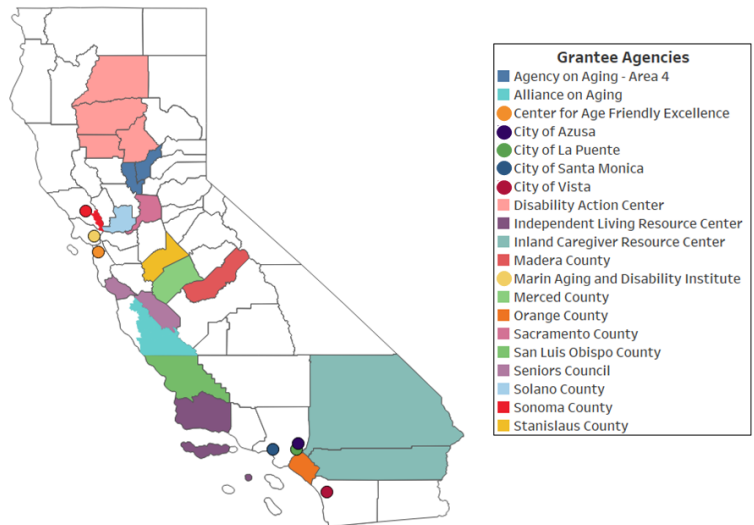
## Acknowledgements

This work is a collective effort with many dedicated individuals sharing a vision and contributing their time, energy, and effort to develop Local Aging and Disability Action Plans. We want to acknowledge the LADAP grantees and their representatives who took the time to participate in focus groups, learning labs, and office hours, and complete surveys and progress reports. Furthermore, evaluation and technical assistance activities were guided by Jackie Siukola Tompkins and Carroll De Andreis from the California Department of Aging.

## Executive Summary

The vision of the California Department of Aging (CDA) is “an age and ability friendly California where we choose where and how we live throughout our lives.” CDA’s Local Aging & Disability Action Planning (LADAP) Grant Program seeks to support local communities in planning for and addressing the needs of California’s older adults, people with disabilities, and professional and family caregivers of today and tomorrow. The Budget Act of 2022 allocated \$4.5 million one-time General Fund dollars over three years (fiscal years 2022-25) to CDA to support this grant program. Twenty-one grant applications (15 in Phase 1 and 6 in Phase 2) were selected to receive up to \$200,000 each to support LADAP initiatives within their local community, defined as a city, a group of cities, a county, a group of counties, or Tribal land(s).<sup>1</sup> CDA contracted with the University of California, Davis - Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing, Family Caregiving Institute (UC Davis FCI) to conduct an evaluation of the LADAP Grant Program.

Of the 20 agencies who received funding, eight identified as County governments, four identified as city governments, and eight identified as non-profit organizations. Two grantees applied as consortia of organizations. The grantees represent diverse geography, varied catchment areas, population density and demographic characteristics.



Baseline analysis of six major LADAP objectives revealed that grantees were in different starting places, as expected. About half had already initiated community awareness, six had established a local Advisory Committee, about half had engaged community leaders and elected officials, and 16 had identified existing data to inform their community assessment while others plan to engage the community to assess needs and priorities. Priorities align with either the California Master Plan for Aging five bold goals or the AARP eight Domains of Livability. Grantees are ambitious in their planning, identifying an average of 10 primary priorities with a range of 4 – 22. We anticipate that priorities will solidify as the grantees complete community needs assessments and address feasibility. Grantees have identified a variety of sustainability strategies, including creating lasting awareness of aging and disability issues, changes to programs, securing additional funding, assuring accountability, and monitoring progress. CDA and UC Davis offer both technical assistance and office hours, building capacity for action and forming a learning community across the state. Grantees have been highly engaged in these resources.

In summary, 20 grantees have commenced planning in diverse communities across California. Their plans are being formulated in consultation with their communities and they are already contemplating sustainability. We recommend uniform reporting, supporting disability inclusion, and offering ongoing engagement and technical assistance to enable grantees to develop feasible, actionable, achievable, and sustainable plans that address local priorities.

<sup>1</sup> One agency, the Marin Aging and Disability Institute (MADI), received funding in both Phase I and Phase II.