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# An Introduction to the Administration for Community Living

Rick Nicholls, Chief of Staff

Administration for Community Living

August 28, 2023

# About ACL

Created around the fundamental principle that older adults and people of all ages with disabilities should be able to live where they choose, with the people they choose, and with the ability to participate fully in their communities.

By funding services and supports and investing in research, education, and innovation, ACL helps make this principle a reality for millions of Americans.

One of ACL's greatest strengths is its nationwide aging and disability networks that reach into every community and are staffed and run by the people therein.

# ACL's Mission and Vision

## Mission

Maximize the independence, well-being, and health of older adults, people with disabilities, and their families and caregivers.

## Vision

All people, regardless of age and disability, live with dignity, make their own choices, and participate fully in society.

# History: ACL's founding in 2012

**Admin. On Aging**

**HHS Office of Disability**

**ACF Admin. for Developmental Disabilities**

**ACL**
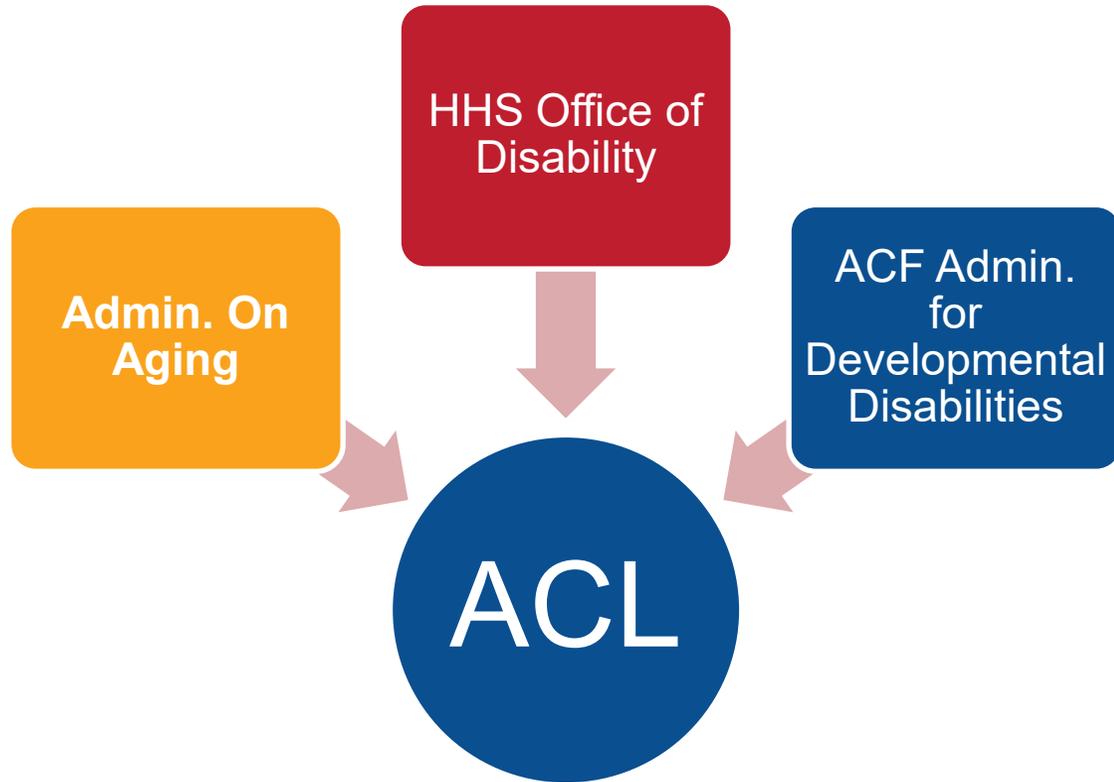
- Principal agency in HHS leading aging and disability programs

- Reduce fragmentation and promote consistency in federal programs and policy addressing community living

- Enhance access to quality health care and long-term services and supports for older adults and people with disabilities

- Complement community infrastructure as supported by Medicaid and other federal programs

# History: Transfer of Additional Programs

- FY 2014 and FY 2015 appropriations transferred:
  - State Health Insurance Program (SHIP)
  - Paralysis Resource Center
  - Limb Loss Resource Center

- The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014, transferred the following programs from Department of Education:
  - Independent Living Programs
  - Assistive Technology Program
  - National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR)

- HHS Secretary transferred Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Traumatic Brain Injury programs in October 2015

# ACL – Program Areas by Statute

**Older Americans Act:**
- Grants for State and Community Programs on Aging
- Activities for Health, Independence and Longevity
- Grants for Native Americans
- Vulnerable Elder Rights Protection

**Elder Justice Act:**
- Adult Protective Services

**Public Health Services Act (PHSA):**
- Alzheimer's Disease Supportive Services
- Lifespan Respite Care
- Chronic Disease Self-Management Education
- Paralysis Resource Center
- Limb Loss Resource Center
- Traumatic Brain Injury

**Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA):**
- Grants to Aging and Disability Resource Centers
- Grants to Area Agencies on Aging
- Grants to State Health Insurance Assistance Programs
- National Center for Benefits Outreach and Enrollment

**Rehabilitation Act:**
- Independent Living State Grants
- Centers for Independent Living
- National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research

**Omnibus Budget and Reconciliation Act (OBRA):**
- State Health Insurance Assistance Programs

# ACL – Program Areas by Statute (cont.)

**Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (Developmental Disabilities Act):**
- State Councils on Developmental Disabilities
- Developmental Disabilities Protection & Advocacy
- University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities
- Projects of National Significance

**Assistive Technology Act (AT Act):**
- Assistive Technology State Grants
- Protection & Advocacy for Assistive Technology
- Assistive Technology National Activities

**Help America Vote Act:**
- Protection & Advocacy Systems

**Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Act:**
- Protection and Advocacy for TBI
- TBI state partnership grant program

**Recognize, Assist, Include, and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act:**
- RAISE Family Caregiving Advisory Council
- 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers

**Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (SGRG) Act**
- Advisory Council to SGRG

**President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities (PCPID)** *(Executive Order)*
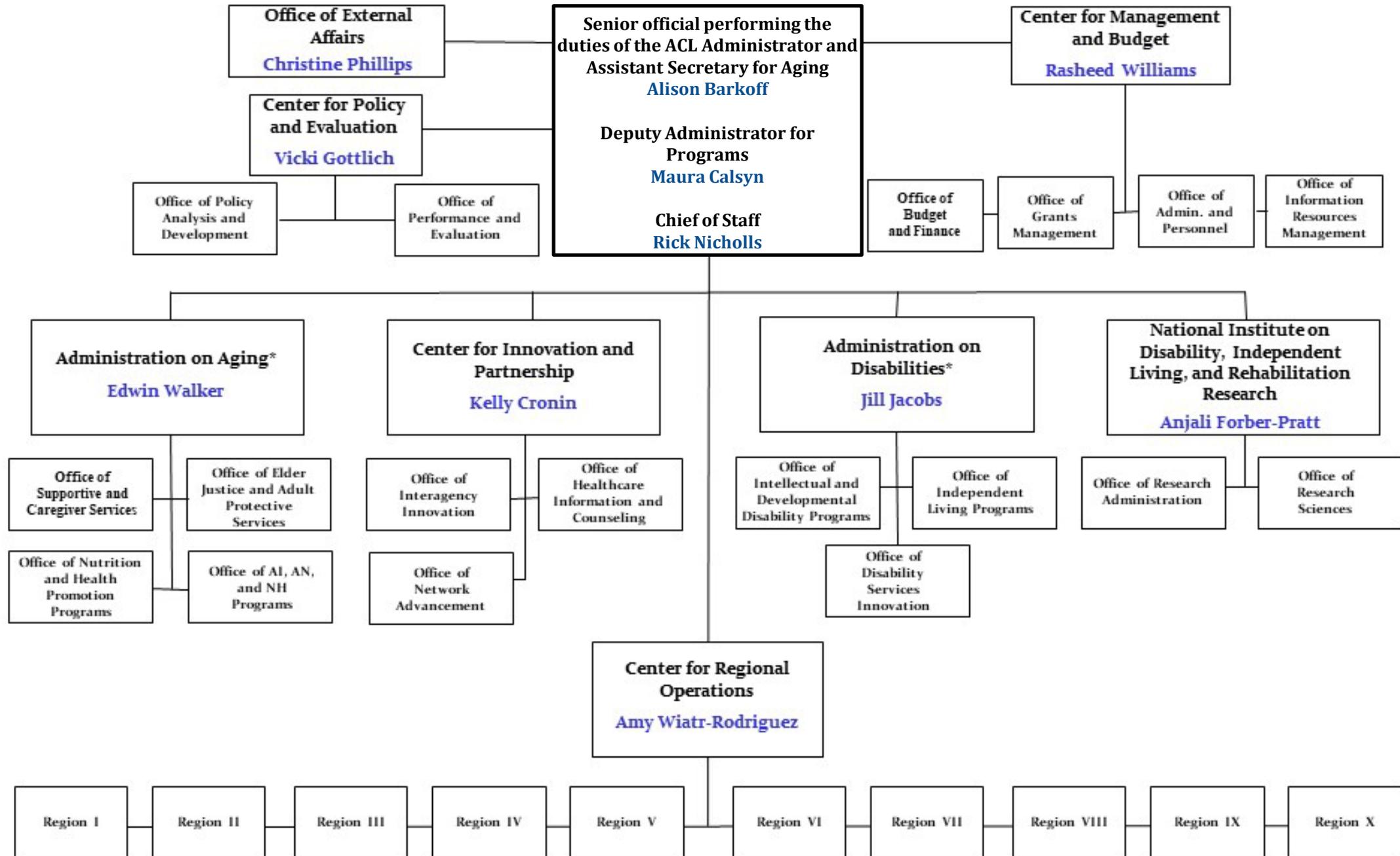
# ACL's Budget

FY 2023 total budget of **$2.65B**

FY 2024 budget request of **$3.14B**

- A $491 million increase above the FY 2023 enacted level
- Nearly $476 million increase for aging/disability programs
- Expand access to direct services
- Strengthen the caregiving infrastructure
- Protect rights and prevent abuse
- Establish adequate infrastructure
- Advance Equity

**Recent COVID-19 Supplemental Funds$3.2B**

- Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFRCA): **$250M in FY 2020**
- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act: **$1B in FY 2020**
- Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021: **$275M**
- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021: **$1.53B**
- Vaccine Access/Education: **$100 million** in partnership with CDC (2021)
- Public Health Workforce: **$150 million** (2022)
- Vaccination Programs: **$125 million** (2022)

# ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

**Office of External Affairs**
Christine Phillips

**Senior official performing the duties of the ACL Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging**
Alison Barkoff

**Deputy Administrator for Programs**
Maura Calsyn

**Chief of Staff**
Rick Nicholls

**Center for Management and Budget**
Rasheed Williams

**Center for Policy and Evaluation**
Vicki Gottlich

Office of Policy Analysis and Development

Office of Performance and Evaluation

Office of Budget and Finance

Office of Grants Management

Office of Admin. and Personnel

Office of Information Resources Management

**Administration on Aging***
Edwin Walker

Office of Supportive and Caregiver Services

Office of Elder Justice and Adult Protective Services

Office of Nutrition and Health Promotion Programs

Office of AI, AN, and NH Programs

**Center for Innovation and Partnership**
Kelly Cronin

Office of Interagency Innovation

Office of Healthcare Information and Counseling

Office of Network Advancement

**Administration on Disabilities***
Jill Jacobs

Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disability Programs

Office of Independent Living Programs

Office of Disability Services Innovation

**National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research**
Anjali Forber-Pratt

Office of Research Administration

Office of Research Sciences

**Center for Regional Operations**
Amy Wiatr-Rodriguez

| Region I | Region II | Region III | Region IV | Region V | Region VI | Region VII | Region VIII | Region IX | Region X |

# Office of the Administrator



**Alison Barkoff**
Performs the duties of ACL Administrator
and Assistant Secretary for Aging



**Maura Calsyn**
Deputy Administrator for
Programs

- Serve as advisors to HHS Secretary and other federal agencies on aging and disability
- Provide leadership and executive supervision to ACL and advocacy for populations we serve
- Establish national policies and priorities

# Office of the Administrator (Cont.)



**Rick Nicholls**
Chief of Staff



**Christine Phillips**
Director

- Chief of Staff and Executive Secretary
  - Policy Clearance
  - Controlled Correspondence
  - Legislative Affairs and Oversight
  - Freedom of Information Act

- Office of External Affairs
  - Communications Products and Website (www.acl.gov)
  - Media Inquiries and Outreach
  - Public Education Activities

# ACL Priorities

- COVID-19 Response
- Strengthen and Support Caregiver Infrastructure
- Expand Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS)
- Social Determinants of Health
- Protect Rights and Prevent Abuse
- Advance Equity

# Priorities: COVID-19 Response in 2023

| | |
|---|---|
| **COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccine Uptake Initiative** | • Awarded $125 million to build and leverage partnerships with local CBOs to reach older adults and people with disabilities (awarded in December; subawards ongoing)<br>• Focus on hardest to reach people in most underserved communities |
| **Test and Masks** | • ASPR partnering with ACL to allow our aging and disability networks to distribute test kits; 172 aging and disability organizations have delivered almost 200k test kits to date<br>• In partnership with ASPR and the WH, ACL's aging and disability networks received information re partnering with pharmacies to re-distribute masks |
| **PHE Unwinding** | • Released a notice letter to Older Americans Act grantees on February 9 re PHE changes<br>• Collaboration with other OpDivs in outreach and education re insurance coverage, treatment and service changes applicable to older adults and people with disabilities |
| **Long COVID** | • Continuing to lead the supports and services workstream<br>• Ongoing stakeholder engagement, particularly around long COVID and disability protections |

# Priorities: COVID-19 Vaccine Education and Access

## Eldercare Locator
(800) 677-1116
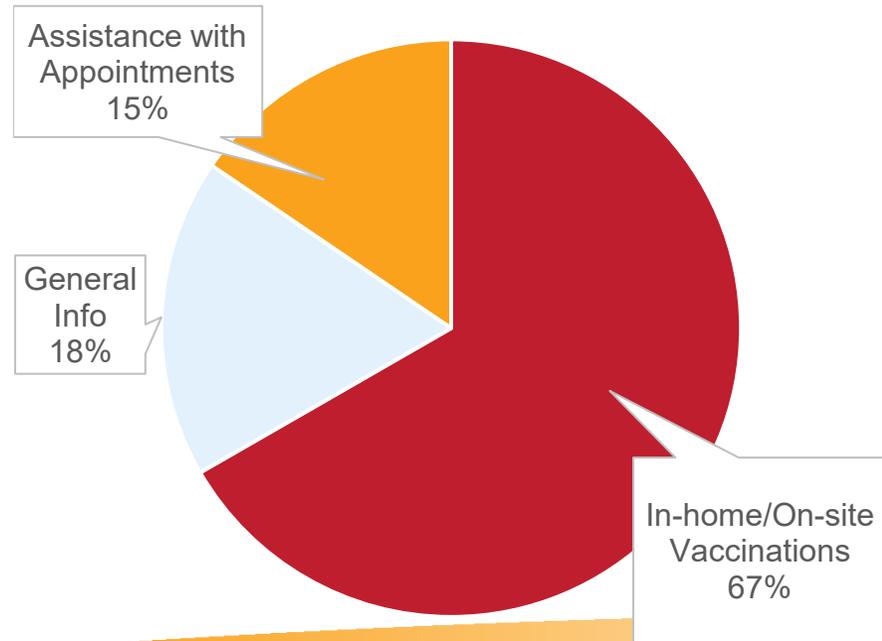
## Disability Information and Access Line (DIAL)
(888) 677-1199

Assistance with Appointments 15%

General Info 18%

In-home/On-site Vaccinations 67%

General Information, 26%

In-home/On-site Vaccinations, 48%

Assistance with Appointment set up, 26%
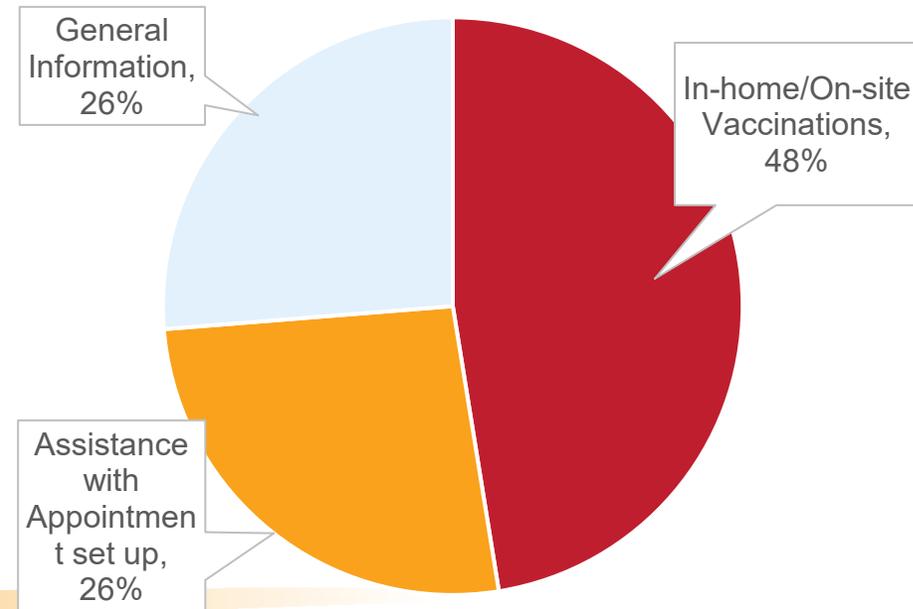
# Disproportionate Impact of Disasters

- Disabled people and older adults often:
  - Cannot evacuate, use shelters or get information because of accessibility issues
  - Lose access to critical services and durable medical equipment
  - Are placed in institutions and can't return home
  - Ultimately suffer worse outcomes

- ACL's networks are uniquely positioned to partner with emergency and public health agencies to prepare for and address gaps

- Inclusive planning/preparedness is a priority for Administration, Congress, and aging and disability stakeholders

# Priorities: Strengthening & Supporting Caregiving Infrastructure

## Direct Care Workforce

- National crisis: Long-standing shortages worsened by COVID
- People needing services are increasing
  - 1.3 million workers needed by 2030
- Service providers are:
  - Declining referrals – 77%
  - Cutting services – 58%
- Without DCW services:
  - Many forced to live in institutions
  - Health & safety in the community is at risk

## Family Caregivers

- 53m+ caregivers in the U.S. provide $470B in unpaid care each year

- COVID increased demands and reduced support

- Lack of support hurts caregivers'
  - Physical and mental health
  - Economic security ($522B in lost income each year)

# Priorities: Strengthening & Supporting Caregiving Infrastructure

## The Direct Care Workforce Crisis:

- Annual Turnover Rates:   42.8%. – 64.8%

- Vacancy Rates: 8.5% -11.2%

- Need 1.3 million more workers by 2029

- Demand for service is growing faster than the labor pool

PROJECTED POPULATION GROWTH BY AGE GROUP, 2016 TO 2060

- 18 to 64 Years Old
- 65 Years and Older
- 85 Years and Older

198%

92%

15%

2016  2020  2025  2030  2035  2040  2045  2050  2055  2060
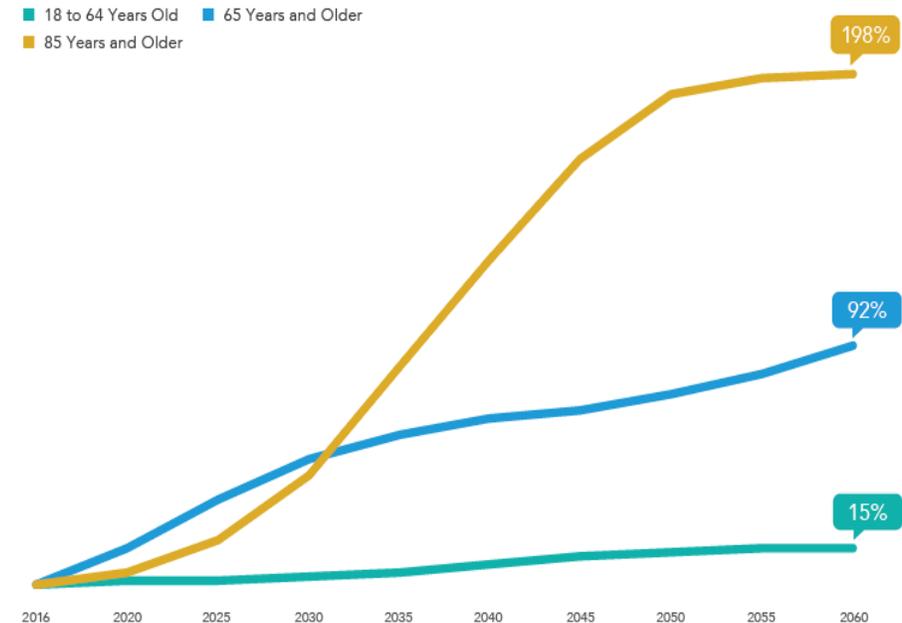
Chart Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2017. 2017 National Population Projections Datasets, Projected Population by Single Year of Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 2016 to 2060. https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2017/demo/popproj/2017-summary-tables.html; analysis by PHI (July 2020).

# Priorities: Strengthening & Supporting Caregiving Infrastructure

## Direct Care Workforce Capacity Building Center

Launched fall 2022

Curation of resources & online hub by spring 2023

Steering and Advisory Committees established in spring 2023

State TA begins fall 2023

## Collaboration between HHS and DOL

ACL & DOL exploring co-funding opportunities with FY 23 funding

## Presidential Care Executive Order

In development; expected release late March 2023

# Priorities: Strengthening and Supporting Caregiving Infrastructure

- National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers
  - [2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers](#)
  - [First Principles: Cross-Cutting Considerations for Family Caregiver Support](#)
  - [Federal Actions](#)
  - [Actions for States, Communities, and Others](#)
- RAISE Family Caregiver [Advisory Council](#)
- [Advisory Council](#) to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers

Developed by:
The Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage (RAISE) Act Family Caregiving Advisory Council
&
The Advisory Council to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Technical assistance provided by the Administration for Community Living  |  September 21, 2022
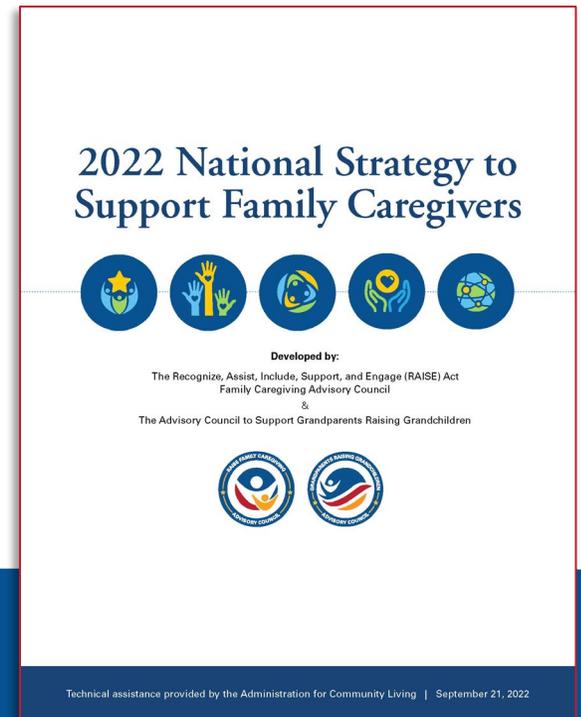
# Priorities: Expanding Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS)

- Collaboration with CMS
  - ARPA increased HCBS funding (Section 9817)
  - HCBS Settings Rule
  - Quality Measures
  - Money Follows the Person
- Direct care workforce
  - Work with CMS & ASPE
  - Collaboration with DOL

- Health & Safety
  - Elder Justice Coordinating Council
  - Living Well grants

- Employment

- Social Determinants of Health
  - Coordination of Housing and Services

Model Practices for State Incident Management and Investigation

Model Practices for Incident Management Audits

Model Practices for State Mortality Reviews

Model Practices for State Quality Assurance
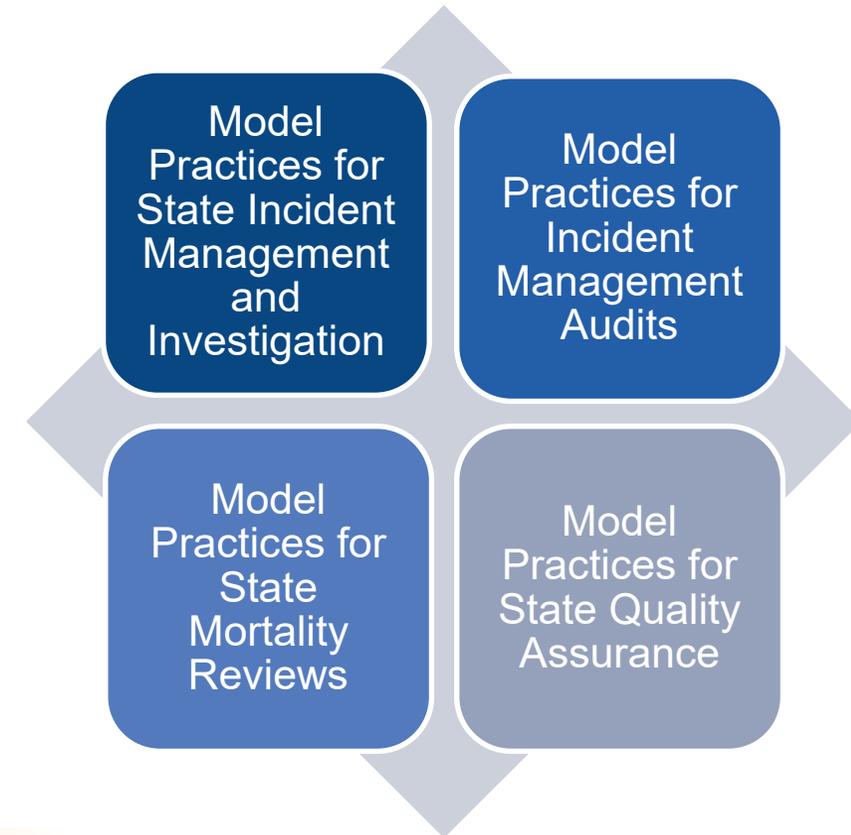
Four Model Practices from ACL & OCR Joint Report: Ensuring Beneficiary Health and Safety in Group Homes Through State Implementation of Comprehensive Compliance Oversight (2018)

# Expanding Access to HCBS and Other Critical Services

- HCBS Settings Rule
  - ACL staff part of the CMS implementation team
  - Review and approve all statewide transition plans by March and all Corrective Action Plans by fall 2023; Ongoing site visits (8 in 2022 and another 6 to 8 in 2023)
- Medicaid Access Rule
  - Collaborated with CMS on development of HCBS provisions
  - Particular focus on the direct care workforce, critical incident systems, and HCBS quality measures
  - Coordinating on roll-out (est. mid-April 2023)

# Expanding Access (cont'd)

- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
  - Leveraging ACL's networks for outreach, education, and plan comparison assistance for Medicare beneficiaries (ongoing)
- Behavioral health
  - ACL launched a national TA Center for people dually diagnosed with I/DD and behavioral health needs in Sept. 2022
    - Establishing advisory committee (now); curating resources & launching resource hub (summer 2023); providing state TA (beginning fall 2023)
  - Partnering with SAMHSA, ACF, HRSA and CMS
    - ACL & TA Center working with SAMSHA to embed dual diagnosis into their 988 and crisis work (ongoing)

# Social Determinants of Health

- Housing and Services Resource Center
  - Partnership between HUD and HHS (ACL, ASPE, CMS, SAMHSA, CDC) to coordinate TA and leverage resources
  - Developed cross-agency FY 23 priorities and activities plan
- Community Care Hubs (CCH)
  - Supporting partnerships between health care systems and CBOs focused on addressing health-related social needs
  - National CCH learning community co-funded with CDC fall 2022
  - Center of Excellence to align social and health services (NOFO 2023)
- Support for WH Hunger, Nutrition & Health Initiative (ongoing)

# The Housing and Services Resource Center



## Federal Partners

HHS:  ACL, ASPE, CMS, SAMHSA
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

The HSRC is a federally-coordinated approach to providing resources, guidance, and technical assistance and creating partnerships among:

- State Medicaid, disability, and aging agencies
- State and local public housing agencies & authorities
- Disability and aging networks and providers
- Behavioral health providers
- Housing and homeless providers

# Disability Employment

- **Interagency policy collaboration**:  ACL works closely with Departments of Labor, Education and other HHS agencies to expand opportunities for CIE
  - Interagency fact sheet on new funding opportunities for CIE (summer 2021)
  - 2 new documents in August 2022:
  - **Resource Leveraging & Service Coordination to Increase Competitive Integrated Employment for Individuals with Disabilities**
  - **A Framework for Community Engagement – A Pathway to Competitive Integrated Employment**
- **Disability Employment Technical Assistance Center** works with ACL's disability networks on strategies for systems change, coordination and collaboration at the state level to expand opportunities for CIE

# Priorities: Protecting Rights & Preventing Abuse

Elder Justice
Coordinating Council

- Identifies and proposes solutions to the problems surrounding elder abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation across the federal government.
- Charged with improving coordination among federal agencies.
- Has created the following products:
  - Eight Recommendations for Increased Federal Involvement in Addressing Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation
  - National Adult Maltreatment Reporting System (NAMRS)
  - Joint memorandum on Financial Institution and Law Enforcement Efforts to Combat Elder Financial Exploitation
  - Money Mule Initiative

**Protection & Advocacy Systems (P&A's)**

- Investigate suspected abuse or neglect and seek justice for victims and their families.
- Have access to records and facilities necessary to investigate abuse or neglect or to monitor the treatment and safety of residents.
- Pursue litigation and all other appropriate remedies under federal, state, and local law.
- Provide information and referrals regarding entitlements to services and other legal rights.
- Educate policymakers on needed reforms to disability-related laws and services.

# Priorities: Equity

- Reaching underserved and marginalized communities is at the core of what ACL does and is embedded in statutes authorizing ACL programs.

- ACL is implementing Executive Orders on Equity, which identify individuals with disability and older adults as underserved populations

- Taking an intersectional approach, inclusion of population across HHS and federal government



EQUALITY

EQUITY

EQUALITY=*SAMENESS*

EQUITY=*FAIRNESS*

Equality vs. Equity - by the Interaction Institute for Social Change | Artist: Angus Maguire.
Image Found: interactioninstitute.org
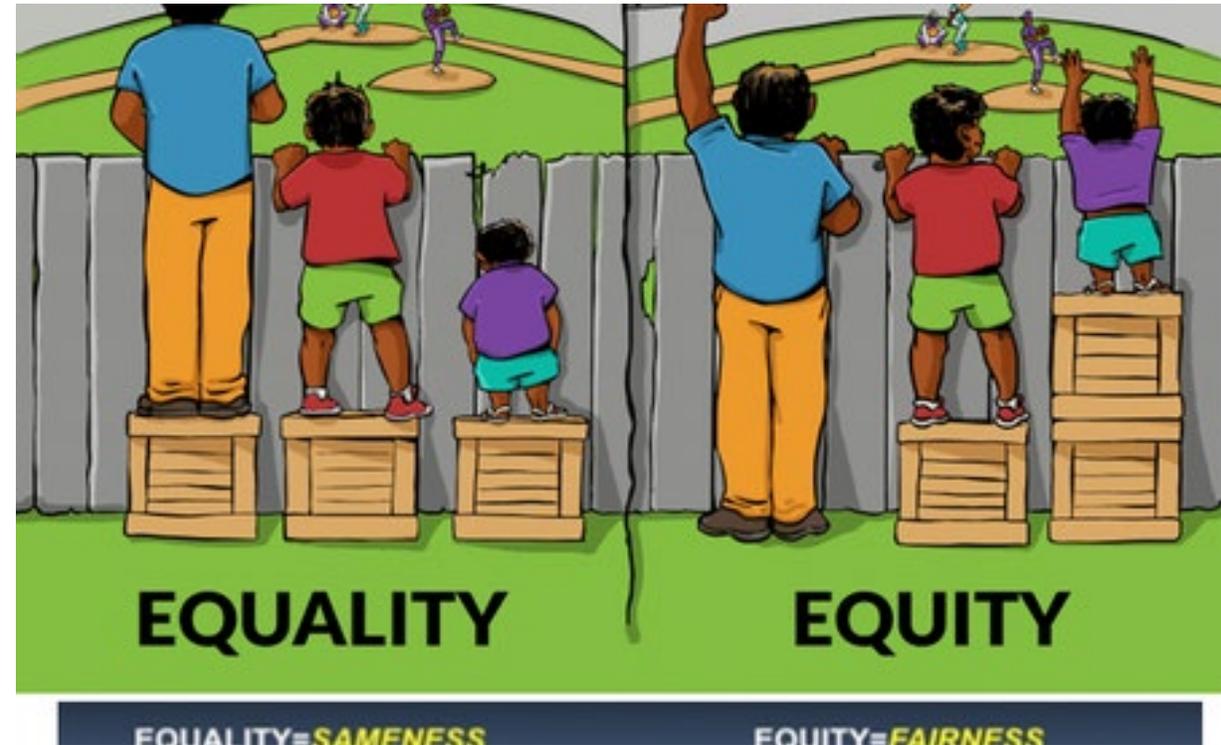
# Administration on Aging



**Edwin Walker**
Deputy Assistant
Secretary for Aging

- Administers programs operated under the Older Americans Act; Public Health Service Act; and Elder Justice Act

- Four Program Offices
  - Supportive and Caregiver Services
  - Nutrition and Health Promotion Programs
  - Elder Justice and Adult Protective Services
  - American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian Programs

# Administration on Aging (AoA)

*"Every State and every community can now move toward a coordinated program of services and opportunities for our older citizens."*

*President Lyndon B. Johnson, July 1965*

1965

- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Older Americans Act (OAA)

# The Older Americans Act (OAA)

*…assures that preference will be given to providing services to older individuals with **greatest economic need** and older individuals with **greatest social need** with **particular attention to low-income older individuals**, including **low-income minority older individuals**, older individuals with **limited English proficiency**, and older individuals residing in **rural areas**.*

OAA is administered by the Administration on Aging (AoA) and helps **over 10 Million older adults (1 in 7) remain at home** through low-cost, community-based services.

*($3 to $1 Return on Federal Investment)*

**AoA**

↓ ↓

**56 State Units & 274 Tribal Organizations**

↓ ↓

**618 Area Agencies on Aging**

↓ ↓

**More than 15,000 Service Providers & Hundreds of Thousands of Volunteers**

↓ ↓

**Provides Services and Supports to Nearly 1 in 7 Older Adults[*]**

| 223 million meals | 20.4 million rides | 49.2 million hours of personal care, homemaker & chore services | 3.3 million hours of case management | 792,000 caregivers assisted | 6.4 million hours of respite care | 559,451 ombudsman consultations |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

[*]Data Source: FY 2019 SPR and Title VI PPR

# The Population OAA Programs Serve

- Older adults with incomes below 150% of the federal poverty level.
- Older adults with additional risk-factors.
  - Examples: Lives Alone; Diabetes; Heart Condition; Minority; Rural
- Older adults at higher risk for ER visits & hospitalization.
  - Over 90% of OAA clients have multiple chronic conditions, compared to 68% of general older adult population (age = 65+)
  - 66% of Case Management Clients take 5 or more medications daily
- Older adults at higher risk for nursing home admission.
  - 42% of Home-Delivered Nutrition Clients require assistance with 3+ Activities of Daily Living (ADL).
  - 75% of Home-Delivered Nutrition Clients require assistance with 3+ Activities of Daily Living (ADL).

Data Sources:  2017 SPR; 2018 NSOAAP, 2017 CMS Multiple Chronic Conditions Prevalence;

# Older Americans Act
# Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)

- First comprehensive update in 30+ years

- Informed by stakeholder engagement
  - 2022 RFI received 900+ comments from 90+ entities
  - Multiple stakeholder listening sessions

- [NPRM released on June 16th, 2023](#)

- Additional details at [acl.gov/OAArule](http://acl.gov/OAArule)

NPRM Released June 2023

Comment period through August 15, 2023

Develop and publish Final Rule
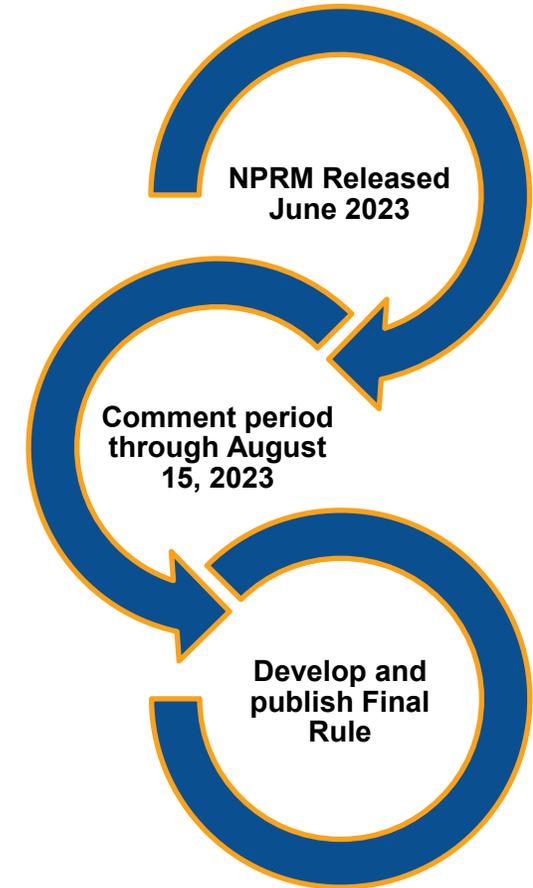
# OAA NPRM (cont'd)

**Advances Administration & HHS Priorities**

- Equity
- Social determinants of health, including nutrition
- Emergency preparedness & response
- Caregiving infrastructure, esp. family caregivers
- Preventative health
- Promoting HCBS
- Nursing home reform, esp. residents' rights

# Adult Protective Services (APS) Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)

- First rulemaking regarding APS coincides with first awards of federal base funding for state APS systems
- Establishes a minimum floor for states
- Key stakeholder engagement 2016 through 2021
- Will promote similar protections and service delivery across the country for older adults and people with disabilities
- NPRM to be released August/September 2023
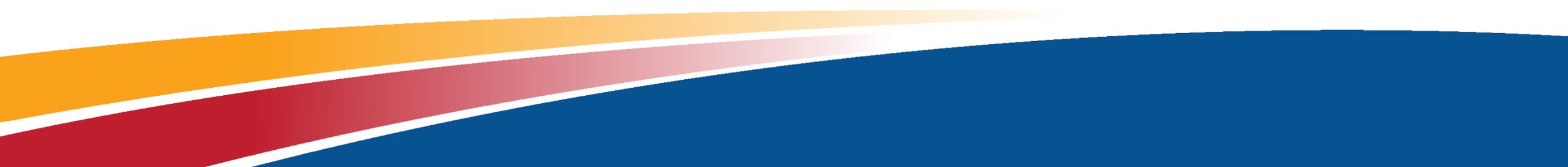
# Administration on Disabilities



**Jill Jacobs**
Commissioner



**Jennifer Johnson**
Deputy Director

- Administer programs operated under the Developmental Disabilities Act; Rehabilitation Act; Help America Vote Act; Assistive Technology Act; and Public Health Service Act

- Three Offices
  - Office of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Programs
  - Office of Independent Living Programs
  - Office of Disability Services Innovation

# The Developmental Disabilities Act

Seeks to *"assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families* **participate** *in the design of and* **have access** *to needed community services, individualized supports, other forms of assistance that promote* **self-determination, independence, productivity,** *and* **integration** *and* **inclusion in all facets of community life …"**

# State Developmental Disability (DD) Councils

Councils are charged with:

- Identifying the greatest challenges facing people with DD in their state or territory
- Bringing together businesses, service providers, agencies, policy-makers, and community groups to find solutions
- Developing and testing innovative new programs and service models
- Bringing the voices of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to policy-makers

Councils are:

- Federally funded
- Self-governing
- Appointed by a state's governor

*60% of council members must be people with DD or family members.*

# University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)

There are 67 UCEDDs across every state and territory. Centers, represent an expansive national resource for addressing issues, finding solutions, and advancing research related to the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

- Core Services:
  - Interdisciplinary pre-service preparation and continuing education
  - Research and public policy analysis
  - Information dissemination
  - Community services, including direct services, training, technical assistance, and model demonstration projects

# Protection and Advocacy Systems (P&A's)

- P&A's do the following:
  - Inform people of their rights
  - Investigate suspected abuse and neglect
  - Provide free legal representation to clients
  - Amplify the voices of the disability community
  - Engage in systems change work
  - Educate policymakers on the concerns of people with disabilities

- There are 57 P&A's across the nation.
- All P&A's operate independent of service providers.
- P&A's have legal authority to access records, facilities, and individuals when conducting investigations.

# Projects of National Significance (PNS)

These projects focus on the most pressing issues affecting people with DD their families.

They also help ACL to fill gaps identified by the community and quickly address new issues with a national scope.

- Examples:
  - Longitudinal data collection projects
  - Self-Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center
  - National Center on Advancing Person-Centered Practices and Systems
  - Community Collaborations for Employment

# Independent Living (IL)

- IL is a cross-disability movement rooted in the philosophy of "Nothing about us without us."

- In 1972, the movement gave birth to the Centers for Independent Living (CIL) in Berkley, CA.

- Ed Roberts (pictured to the right) and other disability rights activists were the founders of the CIL program.

- Today, there are over 350 CILs!
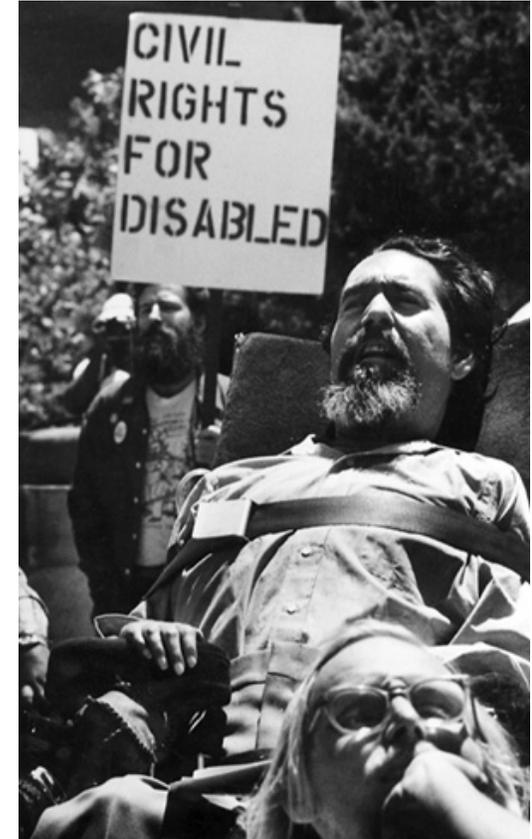
# Core IL Services

Assistance moving from institutions to the community

Information and referrals to services and practical resources

Support to avoid entering institutional settings

Training on IL skills

Help for young people transitioning to community living as an adult

Peer Counseling

Individual and Systems Advocacy

# Paralysis, Limb Loss, and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Programs

- **Limb Loss Resource Center** (operated by the Amputee Coalition) works to ensure the availability of, and access to, the most comprehensive, high-quality, evidence-based information, resources, and supports for people with limb loss and limb difference, their families, and their support networks.

- **The National Paralysis Resource Center** (operated by the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation) works to improve the quality of life for people living with paralysis through grants, information, and advocacy.

- **The TBI State Partnership Grant Program** helps states increase access to services and supports for individuals with TBI across the lifespan.

- ACL's **TBI Technical Assistance and Resource Center** helps grantees promote access to integrated, coordinated services and supports for people who have sustained a TBI, their families, and their caregivers. The Center also provides a variety of resources to non-grantee states, people affected by brain injury, policymakers, and providers.

- **Protection & Advocacy for Traumatic Brain Injury**

# President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities (PCPID)

- Provides advice and assistance to the President of the United States and the Secretary of Health and Human Services

- Promotes policies and initiatives that support independence and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities in their communities

- Improves quality of life for people with intellectual disabilities by upholding their full citizenship rights, independence, self-determination, and lifelong participation in their communities

# Center for Innovation and Partnership



**Kelly Cronin**
Deputy Administrator for Integrated Programs

- Administers programs operated under the Older Americans Act; Public Health Service Act; MIPPA; OBRA; and AT Act

- Three Offices
  - Office of Healthcare Information and Counseling
  - Office of Network Advancement
  - Office of Interagency Innovation

# Assistive Technology (AT) Act Program



- There are 56 state and territorial programs that serve approximately 500,000 people annually.
- AT Programs offer the following:
  - Help older adults and people with disabilities identify AT solutions
  - Device demonstration and short-term loan programs ("try before you buy")
  - Reuse programs that provide gently used devices at substantial savings
  - Financing options

# Partnership: Housing

- Ongoing partnerships with HUD, ASPE, CMS, Health Plans, Housing Providers, States and Communities
- New **ACL Housing Resources TA Center** promotes cross-sector partnerships across federal, state, local, tribal, private, and nonprofit organizations working in the housing, home and community-based services, homelessness services, and health sectors.



**Housing and Services**
Resource Center

# Partnership: Transportation

- ACL supports the development of convenient, affordable, and accessible transportation options
- Longstanding partnership with the Federal Transit Administration and Coordinating Council on Access & Mobility (CCAM) members

- **Transit 4 All:** an inclusive and coordinated transportation-planning project that has funded a series of pilot projects across the nation

# Partnership: The VA's Veteran Directed Care (VDC) Program

The Veterans Health Administration's VDC program provides veterans with greater choice and control over their services and supports

- **Veterans can:**
  - Choose the services and supports they use
  - Hire their own workers, including family and friends
  - Live in their own home and community
  - Achieve goals meaningful to them

- **VA Medical Center (VAMC) Responsibilities:**
  - Determine eligibility for VDC
  - Provide a monthly budget
  - Refer veterans to a VDC provider
  - Approve veterans' spending plan
- **VDC Provider Responsibilities:**
  - Listen to veteran's goals and needs
  - Help veterans plan for your services
  - Connect veterans to community resources
  - Serve as a visible and trusted organization in the community

# The LTSS Puzzle: The Need for a Coordinated No-Wrong Door System
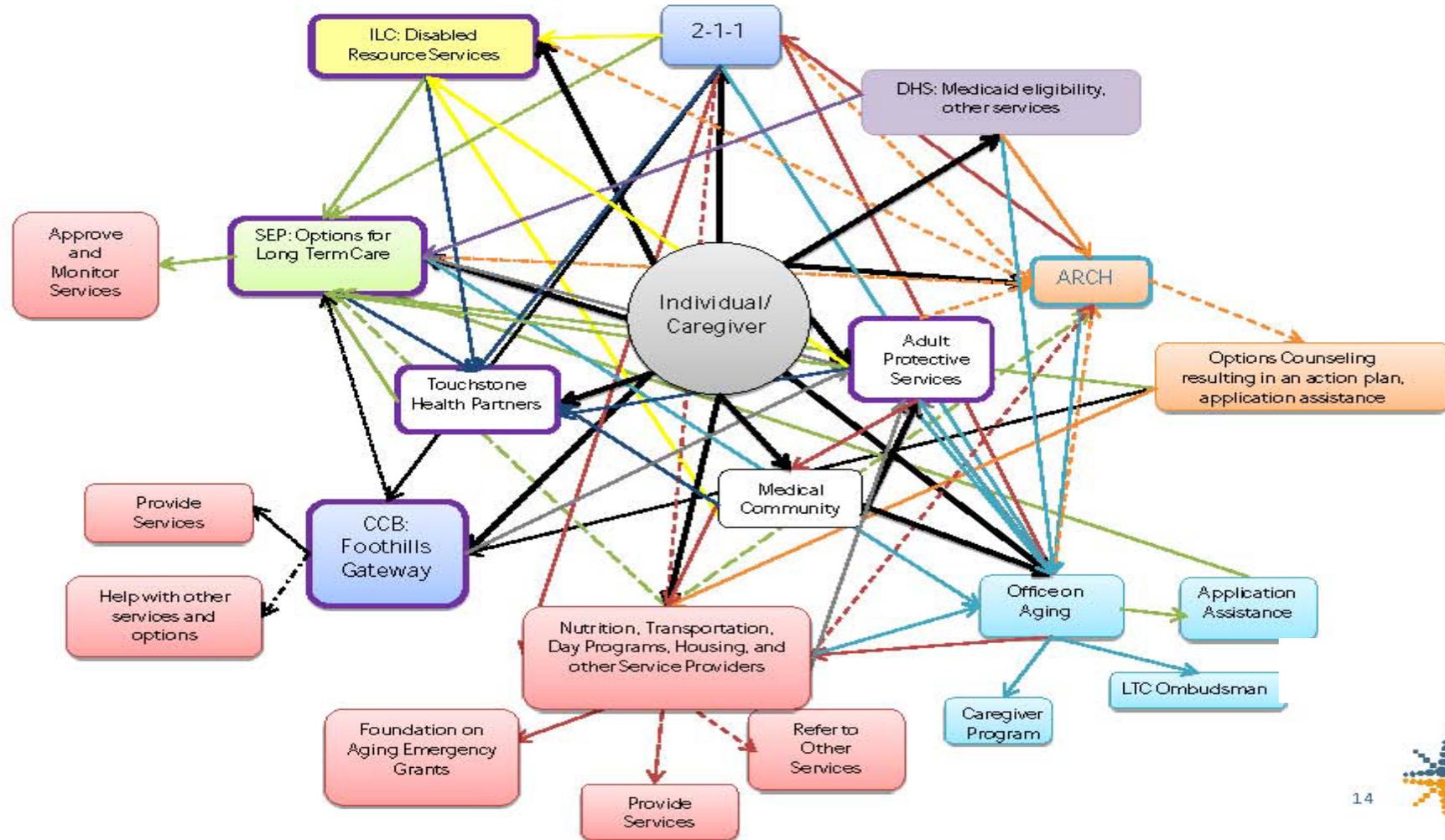
# No Wrong Door (NWD) System Vision

A single system available to **all populations** who need or may at some point need Long-Term Supports and Services (LTSS) and **all payers** who help to finance LTSS.

The NWD System seamlessly connects individuals to the full range of LTSS community-based options available.

Through a network of community-based organization (CBOs), NWD expands access to services and supports, **helping individuals and their caregivers** navigate resources they need with a **person-centered approach.**

Coordinated at the state level by a strong governance structure to coordinate policy, technology/data infrastructure and resource allocation across the network of CBOs.

# State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

- **Mission:** to empower, educate, and assist Medicare-eligible individuals, their families, and caregivers through objective outreach, counseling, and training, to make informed health insurance decisions that optimize access to care and benefits.
- **54 Grantees:** One in every state, DC, PR, & USVI (2/3 in State Units on Aging; 1/3 in Dept of Insurance)
- Provide one-on-one assistance to Medicare beneficiaries who prefer or need information, counseling, and enrollment assistance beyond what they are able to receive on their own through other sources
- Built on over 3,300 local partnerships with AAAs, CILs, senior centers, and other community organizations to host 14,000 team members (approx. 50% are volunteers)



SHIP

State Health Insurance
Assistance Program

**Navigating Medicare**

# Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)



## Mission

To empower and assist Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers to prevent, detect, and report health care fraud, errors, and abuse through outreach, counseling, and education

- **54 State Projects:** One in every state, DC, PR, GU, and USVI with 6,900 team members nationally
- **SMP's goals:**
  - To prevent Medicare fraud before it happens via public outreach and one-on-one assistance and
  - To report suspected issues as quickly as possible to the proper investigators
- SMP is known as a trusted OIG & CMS partner and provides a direct link from Medicare beneficiaries to fraud investigators
  - Example: OIG credits SMP with first notifying them of genetic testing schemes in 2019.

# Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers (MIPPA) State Grants

- MIPPA provides additional funding to existing infrastructure created by SHIPs, AAAs, and ADRCs
- Funding is for
  - Conducting outreach to low-income Medicare beneficiaries
  - Assisting low-income Medicare beneficiaries with enrollment into the Part D Low-Income Subsidy (LIS/Extra Help) and the Medicare Savings Programs

- Projects exist in every state, DC and PR, but not all states receive all three funding streams (state's decision)
- Most recently reauthorized with 2021 Budget = Level funding through FY 2023.
- Annual Amounts:
  - $15M for SHIPs
  - $15M for AAAs
  - $5M for ADRCs

# National Center for
# Benefits Outreach & Enrollment (NCBOE)

- The NCBOE MIPPA grant was awarded to the National Council on Aging (NCOA)

- $15M in funding in FY 2022

- NCOA will:
  - Serve as the resource center for MIPPA grantees
  - Establish **Benefits Enrollment Centers (BECs)** to assist Medicare beneficiaries with limited income and assets apply for Extra Help, Medicare Savings Program, SNAP, LIHEAP, etc.
  - Foster the use of cost-effective benefits outreach and enrollment strategies
  - Promote the use of **Benefits Check-up,** a web-based decision support, screening, and enrollment tool that screens for a wide range of benefits for those with limited income and assets
  - Maintain an online information clearinghouse of promising practices related to benefits outreach and enrollment



*NOTE: Alaska and Hawaii BECs not pictured in map above*

https://www.ncoa.org/centerforbenefits/

# National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research

**Anjali Forber-Pratt**
Director

**Kristi Hill**
Deputy Director

- Administers research grant programs authorized under Sections 202 and 204 of the Rehabilitation Act

- Sponsors grantees to generate new disability and rehabilitation knowledge and promote its use and adoption

- Two Offices:
  - Research Sciences
  - Research Administration

# NIDILRR's Mission

To generate new knowledge and to promote its effective use:

To improve the abilities of <u>individuals</u> with disabilities to perform activities of their choice in the community

To expand <u>society</u>'s capacity to provide full opportunities and accommodations for its citizens with disabilities

# What NIDILRR Funds (Annual Budget of $119M)

**Research & Development**
- Interventions and products to improve long-term outcomes and community living

**Capacity Building**
- Training young investigators and retraining clinicians to pursue research careers

**Knowledge Translation**
- Promoting the use of R&D findings by people with disabilities, their families, and other stakeholders

# Breadth of Responsibility
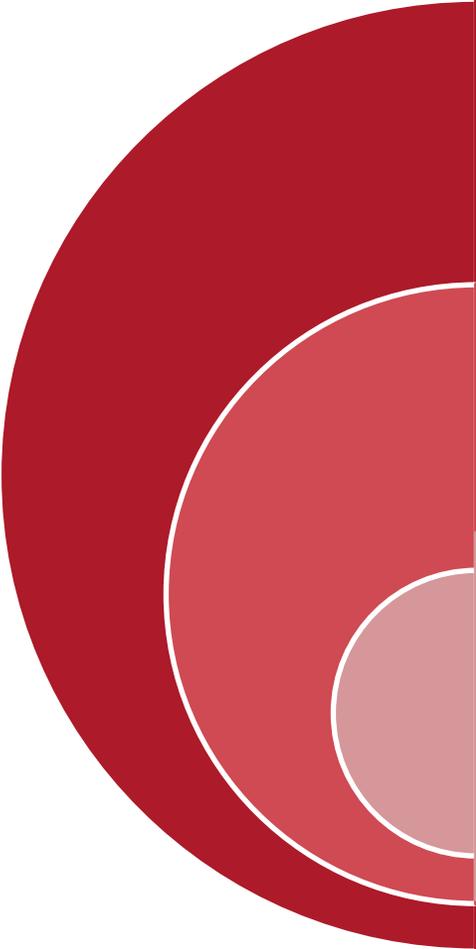
| | |
|---|---|
| Populations across the lifespan | • Children<br>• Transition age<br>• Adults<br>• Aging |
| Cross-disability | • All disabilities<br>• Specific programs target SCI, TBI and Burn Injury |
| Focus on Health and Function, Employment, Community Living and Participation | • Justified by the Rehabilitation Act of 1972 as amended most recently in the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 |

# Center for Policy and Evaluation



**Vicki Gottlich**
Director, Center for Policy and Evaluation

- Advises and supports the Immediate Office of the Administrator in developing effective federal policies to address the needs of older adults and people with disabilities

- Collects and analyzes data on populations and services, and evaluates the effectiveness of programs

- Strategic Planning

- Two Offices:
  - Policy Analysis and Development
  - Performance and Evaluation

# ACL's Office of Policy Analysis and Development (OPAD)

- Policy leadership on addressing COVID-19, promoting and expanding HCBS, addressing systemic barriers to Community Living, promoting Quality of Care, etc.
- Development and Publication of [Policy Issue Briefs](#)
- [Regulatory and Guidance Documents](#)
- Policy Coordination and Collaboration across HHS and the Executive Branch

# ACL's Office of Performance and Evaluation (OPE)

**Three focus areas:**

1. [Program Evaluation and Evidence Building](). Oversees and supports number of evaluations; develops annual evaluation plans and agency research agendas; implements the agency evaluation policy and learning agenda (aka evidence building plan).

2. [Performance Management.]() Provides performance data for agency budget reporting and Reports to Congress; operates the ACL data governance council.

3. Data, Statistical Reports, and Resources. Oversees ACL's public data portal ([www.AGID.ACL.gov]()) and produces a range of toolkits, job aids, and briefs.
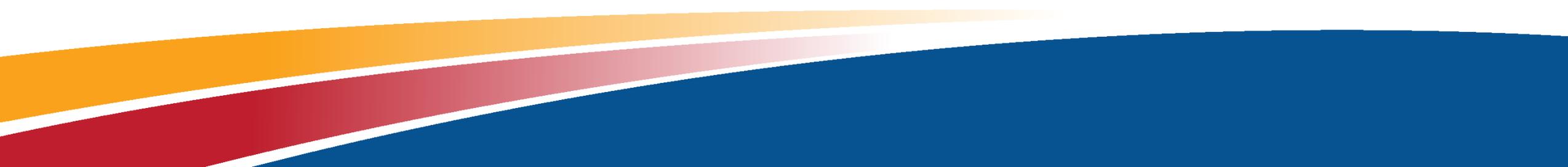
National Center on Advancing Person-Centered Practices and Systems (NCAPPS)
https://ncapps.acl.gov/

# Center for Management and Budget



**Rasheed Williams**
Deputy Administrator for Management and Budget

- Direct and coordinate all ACL administrative and resource management activities, and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of ACL's operations

- Executive Officer, CFO, CIO, Grants Management Officer, and Human Capital Officer

- Four Offices:
  - Administration and Personnel
  - Budget and Finance
  - Grants Management
  - Information Resources Management

# Center for Regional Operations



**Amy Wiatr-Rodriguez**
Director, Regional Operations

- ACL's 'eyes and ears,' advocates, and liaisons at the regional level
- Works closely with federal, state, tribal and local organizations
- Represents ACL's mission, goals, objectives and initiatives to the Aging and Disability Networks, other federal agencies, and the public
- Administration and oversight of Older Americans Act programs including TA in coordination with AoA

# 10 ACL Regional Administrators
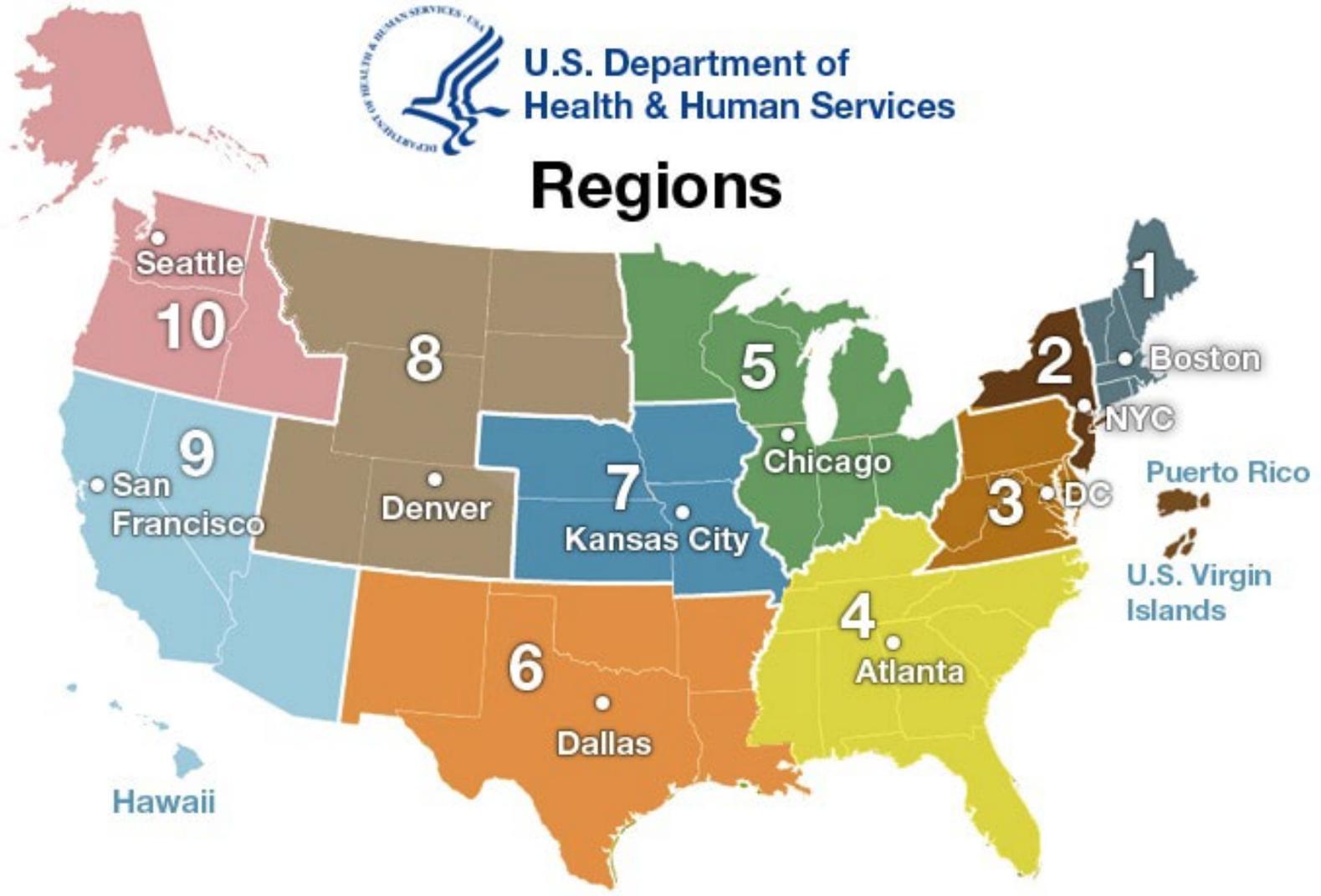
# ACL Regional Administrators

**Region I: CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT**
**Jennifer Throwe**
Boston, MA

**Region II: NY, NJ, PR, VI**
**Rhonda Schwartz**
New York, NY

**Region III:  DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV**
**Stephanie Cole**
Philadelphia, PA

**Region IV: AL, FL, GA, KY,  MS, NC, SC, TN**
**Costas Miskis**
Atlanta, GA

**Region V:  IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI**
**Lacey Boven**
Chicago, IL

**Region VI: AR, LA, OK, NM, TX**
**Derek Lee**
Dallas, TX

**Region VII: IA, KS, MO, NE**
**Cynthia Brammeier**
Kansas City, MO

**Region VIII: CO, MT, UT, WY, ND, SD**
**Percy Devine**
Denver, CO

**Region IX: CA, NV, AZ, HI, GU, CNMI, AS**
**Fay Gordon**
San Francisco, CA

**Region X: AK, ID, OR, WA**
**Louise Ryan**
Seattle, WA

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ForCommunityLiving

# Questions?

# Thank you!