

1. 2025 Needs Assessment: OCPC

The results presented in this report are based on survey responses from older adults and caregivers who chose to participate. As AAAs were not able to randomly sample from all older adults or caregivers in each region, the findings may not fully represent all older adults or caregivers in the region. In this case, because AAAs surveyed people who attended certain events, were easy to contact, and so on, certain groups may be overrepresented or underrepresented based on who was surveyed. For example, if more survey respondents were people who attend senior centers, the results may not fully reflect the needs of homebound older adults or those who are less engaged with services. The data should be interpreted as insights from those who participated rather than a complete picture of all older adults in the Planning and Service Area (PSA).

In this report, N represents the total number of survey respondents for each specific question or category. Since not all participants may have answered every question, N can vary across different sections of the report. It provides context for interpreting the percentages, ensuring that the reported findings accurately reflect the number of individuals who responded to each specific item.

1.1. Reported Caregiver Supports

Support	Older Adults (%)
Respite Care	60%
Support Groups	46.7%
Financial Assistance	63.3%
Training and Education	40%
Medical Support	43.3%
Legal Assistance	30%
Transportation Services	43.3%
Home Modifications	36.7%
Care Coordination	53.3%
Mental Health Support	36.7%
Technology Support	23.3%
Information and Resources	33.3%
In-Home Care	53.3%
Nutritional Support	23.3%
Work-Life Balance Support	43.3%
Community Resources	43.3%

N = 30

Notes. The reported sample size (N) is the number of respondents who reported at least one support.

1.2. Reported Needs

Need	Older Adults (%)
Access to Services	53.3%
Affordable Health Care	56.1%
Access to Health Care	49.2%
Affordable Housing	38.3%
Housing Accessibility & Maintenance	45.5%
In-Home Support for Independence	58%
Long-Term Services & Supports	39.7%
Assistance Managing Other Expenses	32.8%
Legal Services	31.6%
Mental & Behavioral Health Support	27.7%
Nutrition Support	42.3%
Safety & Security	36%
Transportation Access	54.7%
Workforce Development	11.8%
Social Isolation	30%
Leisure, Recreation, & Socialization	45.3%
Civic Engagement/Volunteer Opportunities	23.6%
Learning & Development Opportunities	30.7%
Staying Active/Wellness Promotion	52.7%
Addressing Ageism	23.6%
Overcoming Language/Communication Barriers	9.9%
LGBTQIA+ Support	8.3%
Spirituality Support	15.7%

N = 433

Notes. The reported sample size (N) is the number of respondents who reported at least one need.

1.3. Reported Needs by Income

Need	Household Income < \$20,000 (%)	Household Income ≥ \$20,000 (%)
Access to Services	55.1%	42.9%
Affordable Health Care	46.9%	28.6%
Access to Health Care	30.6%	37.5%
Affordable Housing	26.5%	16.1%
Housing Accessibility & Maintenance	38.8%	25%
In-Home Support for Independence	55.1%	57.1%
Long-Term Services & Supports	32.7%	41.1%
Assistance Managing Other Expenses	32.7%	17.9%
Legal Services	28.6%	23.2%
Mental & Behavioral Health Support	20.4%	23.2%
Nutrition Support	42.9%	44.6%
Safety & Security	34.7%	28.6%
Transportation Access	51%	37.5%
Workforce Development	6.1%	7.1%
Social Isolation	36.7%	16.1%
Leisure, Recreation, & Socialization	28.6%	23.2%
Civic Engagement/Volunteer Opportunities	6.1%	7.1%
Learning & Development Opportunities	16.3%	14.3%
Staying Active/Wellness Promotion	30.6%	35.7%
Addressing Ageism	14.3%	3.6%
Overcoming Language/Communication Barriers	4.1%	1.8%
LGBTQIA+ Support	6.1%	5.4%
Spirituality Support	14.3%	19.6%

N (Income < \$20,000) = 49; N (Income ≥ \$20,000) = 56

Notes. Percentages reflect respondents who reported at least one need. Respondents who did not report household income are not included.

1.4. Ranked Needs

Needs Ranked	Ranked 1 (%)	Ranked 2 (%)	Ranked 3 (%)
Access to Services	15.8%	4.9%	3.1%
Affordable Health Care	16.1%	9.7%	4.3%
Access to Health Care	5.1%	6.4%	3.5%
Affordable Housing	10.6%	9%	4.7%
Housing Accessibility and Maintenance	5.5%	5.6%	4.3%
In-Home Support for Maintaining Independence	15.8%	13.5%	8.6%
Long Term Services & Supports	2.6%	6.7%	4.7%
Assistance Managing Other Expenses	0.4%	2.2%	4.3%
Legal Services	1.8%	1.9%	3.9%
Mental & Behavioral Health Support	0.4%	2.6%	2.7%
Nutrition Support	2.6%	5.6%	5.1%
Safety & Security	0.4%	4.5%	2.7%
Transportation Access & Availability	8.4%	8.2%	10.6%
Workforce Development	0.4%	1.1%	1.2%
Assistance Addressing Social Isolation	1.5%	0.7%	3.1%
Opportunities for Leisure, Recreation, & Socialization	3.3%	5.6%	9.8%
Civic Engagement / Volunteer Opportunities	0.4%	0.7%	2%
Learning & Development Opportunities	0%	1.9%	4.7%
Staying Active / Wellness Promotion	5.1%	7.5%	9.4%
Addressing Ageism and Age Discrimination	1.1%	0.4%	2.4%
Overcoming Language / Communication Barriers	0.7%	0.4%	0.4%
LGBTQIA+ Support	0.7%	0%	1.2%
Spirituality Support	1.1%	0%	1.6%
Other	0.4%	0.7%	1.6%

N = 274

Notes. The reported sample size (N) is the number of respondents who ranked at least one need. Columns 2-4 might not sum to 100% due to rounding.

1.5. Respondent Demographics

Age	Older Adults (%)
Less than 60	2.5%
60-69	19.7%
70-79	38.3%
80-89	30.6%
90 or older	8.8%
N = 441	

Gender Identity	Older Adults (%)
Woman	70%
Man	28.2%
Non-Binary, Gender Non-Conforming, or Genderqueer	0.2%
Don't Know	0.4%
Prefer Not To Say	1.1%
N = 447	

Race/Ethnicity	Older Adults (%)
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.2%
Asian	0.9%
Black or African American	8.6%
Latino	0.9%
Middle Eastern or North African	0.2%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.5%
White	85%
More than One	1.1%
Other Race/Ethnicity Listed	2.5%

N = 441

Notes. AGE classified a respondent as 'More Than One Race or Ethnicity' when the respondent selected more than one race or ethnicity. AGE classified respondents as 'Other Race/Ethnicity' when they selected 'Some other race or ethnicity' and no other category.

Language Spoken at Home	Older Adults (%)
English	88.8%
Arabic	0.2%
Cape Verdean Creole	4.7%
Chinese (including Mandarin, Cantonese)	0.2%
French	0.5%
German	0.2%
Greek	0.2%
Haitian Creole	1.6%
Irish	0.2%
Italian	0.5%
Language Unclear	0.2%
Lithuanian	0.2%
Portuguese	0.5%
Spanish	1.4%

Language Spoken at Home	Older Adults (%)
Tagalog	0.2%
Thai	0.2%

N = 430

Notes. Only languages spoken by at least 0.1% of respondents are listed.

English Proficiency	Older Adults (%)
Very Well	56.2%
Well	14.1%
Not Well	14.1%
Not At All	15.6%

N = 64

Notes. This table only includes people who speak a language other than English at home.

Household Income < \$20,000	Older Adults (%)
Yes	30.3%
No	55.6%
Prefer Not to Answer	14.1%

N = 412

MassHealth Membership	Older Adults (%)
Yes	31.3%
No	61.6%
I Don't Know	7.1%

N = 438

1.6. Reported Characteristics

Characteristic	Older Adults (%)
Experience issues with abuse, neglect, or exploitation	5.4%
Live with Alzheimer's or dementia	13.5%
Experience memory or thinking problems	29.9%
Need access to cultural or social activities	19.7%
Live with vision loss	19.4%
Live with hearing loss	31.3%
Live with physical disabilities	53.2%
Are in frail or weak health	18%
Are a grandparent raising grandchildren	3.4%
Have housing concerns	15.2%
Often feel lonely or isolated	24.8%
Need legal services	21.7%
Are part of the LGBTQIA+ community	4.8%
Have mental or emotional health issues	33.8%
Need help with meals or nutrition	34.6%
Live in a rural area	10.4%
Have employment or job-related needs	4.5%

N = 355