



Joint Meeting of the RAISE Family Caregiving and Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (SGRG) Advisory Councils

September 21, 2022; 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm (ET)

The RAISE Family Caregiving (RAISE) and Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (SGRG) Advisory Councils convened for their second joint meeting to announce the delivery of the 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers (the Strategy) to Congress.

Call to Order and Welcome Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Alison Barkoff, Acting Administrator and Acting Assistant Secretary for Aging, at the Administration for Community Living (ACL). She thanked everyone in attendance for their participation and extended a special thank you to council members for their work on the Strategy. Greg Link, Director of ACL's Office of Supportive and Caregivers Services, announced the upcoming opportunity for the public to comment on the Strategy between October 1, 2022, through November 30, 2022.

The Honorable Xavier Becerra, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, thanked council members for their efforts and commitment over the past three years and encouraged them to celebrate what he described as a roadmap for moving forward and taking the steps necessary to strengthen the recognition and support of family caregivers. He shared with participants his own personal experience caregiving for his father.

Panel Presentation – National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers

A panel presentation was provided by the RAISE and SGRG council co-chairs during which an overview of the Strategy was provided, including how to use the four documents comprising the strategy to effect real change at the state and community levels. Presenters encouraged participants to take an active role in using the Strategy as a vehicle for change. Acting Administrator Barkoff concluded the panel presentation by highlighting the federal actions in the Strategy, noting the breadth of collaboration and commitment that went into the development of this component of the document.

Council Member Reflection & Discussion

Next, Lori Stalbaum from ACL's Office of Supportive and Caregiver Services led council members in a reflective discussion about their experiences over the past three years. Council members were asked to reflect on their work together, its significance, and what they hoped would be the longer-term impact of the Strategy. Council members were also asked to point out what they believed were the standout features of the Strategy, and what they hope their legacy as council members from this important work will be.

Tools for Implementation and Technical Assistance

Rani Snyder, Vice President of Program at the John A. Hartford Foundation, Wendy Fox-Grage, Senior Policy Fellow at the National Academy for State Health Policy, and Ana Beltran, Director of the Grandfamilies and Kinship Support Network National Technical Assistance Center at Generations United made presentations focusing on the tools and resources that are (or will be) available for successful implementation of the Strategy, including approaches for providing the technical assistance to ensure positive outcomes for caregivers and care recipients alike.

White House Domestic Policy Council Remarks

Jessica Schubel, Director of the Affordable Care Act and Healthcare for the White House Domestic Policy Council delivered remarks about long-term services and supports (LTSS), and the Biden administration's commitment to expanding access to Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS) and to supporting family caregivers who play such an important role in providing these services to millions of Americans who need them. She expressed appreciation to ACL, advisory council members, and the stakeholders who contributed to developing the National Strategy for the inclusiveness with which the breadth of family caregiving issues was considered and reflected in the Strategy.

Next Steps & Adjourn

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Greg thanked Alison, the ACL team, council members, stakeholders and partners. Greg also acknowledged the non-federal council members' contributions to drive a policy change to better recognize and support family caregivers and care recipients. Today's meeting marked the end of service for non-federal members of both councils.