

# The National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers

## From Strategies to Lasting Impact

The Act On RAISE campaign, supported by a cornerstone investment by the John A. Hartford Foundation, brings together stakeholders across the aging, serious illness, and disability communities to drive action on and strengthen the 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers (National Strategy). The National Strategy is the nation's first-ever whole-of-society blueprint for supporting America's 53 million family caregivers providing complex care.

### National Strategy Goals

1

Increase awareness of, and outreach to, family caregivers

2

Advance inclusion and engagement of family caregivers within care teams

3

Advance innovations in family caregiver services and supports

4

Strengthen financial and workplace security of family caregivers

5

Advance a family caregiver national research and data collection strategy

### Stakeholder Engagement

During 2023-2024, the Act On RAISE campaign engaged in strategic outreach and education with diverse partners to:

- Increase awareness of the National Strategy across the caregiving ecosystem.
- Assess barriers to implementation.
- Identify and align around collective priority areas to drive implementation and strengthen the National Strategy.



### Key Accomplishments

✓ Helped to secure \$20 million in new federal funding to support the implementation of the 2022 National Strategy and \$2 million in new funding for states to implement the National Strategy.

✓ Built a coalition of over 120 national Campaign Partners to make their voice heard on the importance of National Strategy implementation.

✓ Informed the development of the 2023 Executive Order on Increasing Access to High-Quality Care.

✓ Organized roundtable discussions with key federal agencies about National Strategy action and family caregiver support.

## Act on RAISE Recommendations to Strengthen the National Strategy Framework

These recommendations for Congress, the RAISE Council, and federal agencies outline key steps to strengthen the impact of the National Strategy and deliver meaningful support for family caregivers.

### Congressional Policymakers

- **Increased federal investment:** Increase authorized funding and appropriations for the National Family Caregiver Support Program (Title III-E) and Projects of National Significance to at least \$410 million (from \$207 million).
- **Reauthorization of the RAISE Family Caregiving Act:** Reauthorize the RAISE Act through the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA) to ensure continued implementation and updating of the National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers.

### RAISE Council Leadership

- **Congressional action plan:** Develop comprehensive policy and legislative recommendations to advance National Strategy priorities. Identify and communicate to Congress the need for new or expanded authorities, policy changes, and funding needed by the RAISE Council and federal agencies to successfully implement the National Strategy.
- **Time bound actions and impact:** Establish clear timelines and outcome metrics to track National Strategy implementation and impact. Monitor and report both internal milestones and on the community-level impacts of implementation.

### Federal Agency Leadership

- **Boldly leverage existing authorities:** Fully leverage existing authorities to advance National Strategy outcomes through rulemaking. For example, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) added new codes for Caregiver Training Services to their annual Physician Fee Schedule (PFS), enabling healthcare providers to offer these services.
- **New funding mechanisms:** Identify and fully utilize existing statutory authorities and available funding that can support national and state efforts to implement the National Strategy. This includes mapping current demonstration authorities and flexible funding streams that could advance caregiver support initiatives aligned with the goals of the National Strategy.
- **Invest in data and research infrastructure:** Invest in robust data collection and reporting efforts to assess how family caregivers access and utilize government-funded programs, benefits, and resources. Ensure data can be disaggregated by key demographics to identify disparities in access, measure program effectiveness, and understand service gaps across different caregiver populations.

## Act On RAISE Steering Committee

- National Alliance for Caregiving (Chair)
- AARP
- Alzheimer's Association / Alzheimer's Impact Movement
- Caring Across Generations
- Diverse Elders Coalition
- Elizabeth Dole Foundation
- Justice in Aging
- National Council on Aging
- National Health Council
- Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers
- The Arc
- USAging