January LTCCC Break-Out Groups

Goal: to develop the 2021-2022 LTCCC Policy Agenda based on the following four policy priority areas, previously developed at the December LTCCC meeting.

Next Steps: Each breakout group will have a facilitator – please identify a note-taker and someone to watch the time. Identify tangible next steps the LTCCC can take regarding each policy recommendation.

Considerations:

- **Avoid duplication of existing efforts:** assess existing community groups where LTCCC participation is lacking a focus on older adults and adults with disabilities in the long-term care system;
- **Keep in mind the current climate:** for example, a public awareness campaign may not get traction given the pandemic and vaccine prioritization efforts;
- **Similarly**, policy recommendations should be made with no additional financial resources;
- **Consider Partners:** Potential actions may align with existing efforts of current LTCCC workgroups (Behavioral Health and Social Engagement);
- Policy recommendations will not inevitably lead to a workgroup and may be a time-limited effort rather than ongoing.

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Policy recommendation #1: Focus on (intergenerational) technology training opportunities.

"The recommendation is to perhaps form a short term advisory committee to outline the COVID protocols necessary to create a large volunteer group of young people who will visit and hopefully teach seniors and people with disabilities how to get more technologically engaged. The point is to help reduce social isolation."

Suggested Action: consider moving as a subcategory of #3; group consensus needed.

Policy Recommendation #2: Ensure that LTCCC members (especially community representatives) are sitting or providing expertise on any policy and/or decision-making bodies related to COVID.

"LTCCC Members and consumers should be represented on all decision-making bodies (vaccine committee, health order discussions, CCC)"

Potential Next Steps: LTCCC engage the Community Branch to increase awareness of needs of older adults and adults with disabilities across the long-term care system.

Potential Partners: COVID Command Community Branch**,** COVID Command Team

Policy Recommendation #3: Focus specifically on telehealth, which may include: the accessibility of telehealth, training required for the use of telehealth and opportunities to engage with partners on next steps and/or a specific policy around advancing the accessibility and availability of telehealth, such as a summit.

> **Potential Next Steps:** LTCCC to identify existing efforts to increase access to technology to ensure telehealth is occurring across the long-term care system.

> **Potential Partners:** Tech Council, MOD, DPH, MOHCD, DAS, LTCCC workgroups, and other community partners

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Recommended Policy #4: Explore opportunities, such as a public health campaign, that highlight service barriers and the mental health impact of social isolation.

> **Potential Next Steps:** Since a public health campaign could be costly and hard to get traction on in the middle of COVID, shift focus to ensuring LTCCC representation within existing Mental Health SF workgroup, advocating on behalf of older adults and adults with disabilities across the long-term care system.

> **Potential Partners:** Behavioral Health workgroup, Social Engagement workgroup, and Tech Council