



The Honorable
Michigan State Senate
PO Box 30036
Lansing MI 48909-7536

The Honorable
House of Representatives
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

The Honorable Governor
Gretchen Whitmer
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Legislator:

As we approach Senior Action Week, May 15-19, we are reaching out to ask for your support in the FY23-24 budget. Thankfully, COVID is fading as an immediate health crisis, but older adults are still facing critical issues that impact their ability to stay independent in their homes. The Area Agencies on Aging Association, aging network partners, and advocates for seniors across the state are urging legislators to **take action and ensure funding in the budget for critical supports and services in the following areas:**

- **Support Family and Informal Caregivers** by investing one-time funding of **\$16.8 million** to develop and implement a Caregiver Resource model that will identify, serve, and support caregivers.
- **Support and Strengthen the Direct Care Workforce** by supporting the DCW Wage and Training Workgroup's recommendation of a **\$4 per hour** DCW wage increase.
- **Support and Strengthen the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program** by adding 33 new full-time positions at an estimated total cost of **\$3 million**.
- **Increase Access to Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS)** by supporting the Silver Key Coalition's request for a **\$9 million** increase for ACLS Bureau in-home services and a **\$1 million increase** for home delivered meals in the ACLS FY24 budget.
- **Expand Access to MI Choice** by bringing equity between HCBS and institutional care by rebalancing state expenditures.

We are grateful for your continued support in all that you do for older adults, and especially in addressing these critical issues. For details on the platform of legislative action, visit 4ami.org or call {local CEO} at {phone number}.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

(Print Name)

(City/County) **Additional comments on back

Additional Comments (optional):
