



**Pennsylvania House of Representatives
House Aging & Older Adult Services
Informational Meeting on the PA CareKit
Agenda**

Monday, September 29, 2025

9:30 a.m.

B-31 Main Capitol

9:30 a.m. Opening Remarks

- Chair Madden

9:35 a.m. Panel Presentation

- *Jason Kavulich*, Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Aging
- *Nathan Lampenfeld*
William and Hannah Penn Fellowship
The Department of Aging

10:25 a.m. Closing Remarks and Adjournment



PA CareKit

“There are only four kinds of people in the world: those who have been caregivers, those who are currently caregivers, those who will be caregivers, and those who will need caregivers.”

- Rosalyn Carter



Pennsylvania
Department of Aging



Pennsylvania
Department of Aging



Aging **Our Way, PA**

A Plan for Lifelong Independence



GOVERNOR
SHAPIRO
PENNSYLVANIA.GOV

Aging Our Way, PA

Context: Pennsylvanians Are Aging, We Are Preparing

- Older adult demographics are changing
- Multisector Plans for Aging (MPAs) are a national movement

Development: A Gold Standard in Record Time

- Over 20,000 Pennsylvanians contributed input to the Plan
- 30 state agencies are committed to the Plan, including partners outside the Governor's jurisdiction

Content: A 10-Year Roadmap to Aging Transformation

- 5 high-level priorities, 36 strategic approaches, 163 actionable tactics

Tactic #128:

- Develop a statewide Caregiver Toolkit, including information on supports and resources



PA CareKit



A collection of tools, information, and support



Supports caregivers through key challenges in the caregiving journey



Personal, practical, and ready for all kinds of caregivers



Options available digitally and in print



Project Tasks

Task 1

Project Launch & Visioning

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Vision Development
- Research

Task 2

Content Development & Review

- Subject & Topics
- Tools
- Language Accessibility

Task 3

Platform Development & Review

- *Understanding Your Needs Quiz*
- Site Organization

Task 4

Launch & Outreach

- Rollout
- Marketing & Media Campaign



Content Development Survey

- PDA launched a survey to inform the development of the toolkit and received 243 responses
- 88% of respondents identified as family or friend caregivers
- Key themes included:
 - Low Awareness of Resources
 - High Levels of Stress
 - Unrealistic Expectations and Progressive Challenges
 - Navigation Challenges
 - Considerations for Support



Key Design Elements

Visible &
Convenient

Realistic &
Encouraging

Clear &
Practical

Up to Date &
Accurate

Comprehensive
& Inclusive

Proactive &
Targeted



Thank You!

The PDA Executive and Program
Staff

Angie Bixler, PDA

Meredith Hughes, NAMI

Margaret Barajas, Ombudsman

Jamie Rose, Ombudsman

Quentin Burchfield, P4A

Lisa Scaffer, P4A

Carin Tinney, P4A

Denise Deiter, P4A

Holly Kyle, P4A

Karen Leonovich, P4A

Ernest London, P4A

Lisa Young, P4A

Renee Cunningham, PASC

Leslie Gillman, PADSA

Jen Hale, DHS

Stephanie Meyers, DHS

Candi Walton, DHS

Maria Dispenziere, DOH

Andrew Zechman, DOH

Melissa Myers, DOH

Melissa Hawk, DLI

Caroline Boehm, PID

Sandy Ykema, PID

Travis Davis, DMVA

Amanda Wolfe, DDAP

Danielle Spila, PennDOT

Charlotte McDaniel, PCOA

Jennifer Patten-Rudolph, PCOA

Debra Isenberger, PCOA

Janyce Collier, PCOA

Jennifer Drake, PCOA

Nancy Hodgson, LTCC

Shona Eakin, LTCC

Mark Gusek, LTCC

Mia Haney, LTCC

The Governor's Commissions

Melanie Smith, Alzheimer's
Association

Sara Murphy, Alzheimer's
Association

Stacie Bonenberger, JHF

Annelise Perry, JHF

Lisa George, JHF

Teresa Osborne, AARP

Janette Bisbee, HAP

Katie Noss, PACHC

ADvancing States

PHI

National Alliance for Caregiving

Family Caregiver Alliance

Tia-Maria Smith, KinConnector



Pennsylvania
Department of Aging



Questions?

“There are only four kinds of people in the world: those who have been caregivers, those who are currently caregivers, those who will be caregivers, and those who will need caregivers.”

- Rosalyn Carter



Pennsylvania
Department of Aging