



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL ON AGING**  
*PO Box 45600 · Olympia, WA 98504-5600*

March 16, 2015

The Honorable Jay Inslee  
Governor of Washington  
PO Box 40002  
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee,

I'm writing on behalf of the Washington State Council on Aging (State Council). As you are aware, the State Council serves in an advisory capacity to you, the Secretary of the Department of Social and Health Services and Aging and Long Term Support Administration and is comprised of members representing all areas of the state and the Yakama and Colville Confederated Tribes Sovereign Nations.

On October 28, 2014, the State Council, in partnership with the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Councils, organized and executed an advocacy network listening pre-session for the 2015 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA). The final proceedings are attached.

The structure for the October 28, 2014 "listening session" was adopted following a White House-hosted roundtable discussion with leaders from across the aging community; it was broad enough to encompass the major issues for the next decade, but also reflected the unique perspectives of the local AAAs, the State Council on Aging and the Older Americans Act and it identified four theme areas. Those four areas became the general framework for the local event discussions, and the following statement of purpose was adopted:

*"An aging revolution is changing the world. The Washington State Regional Listening Session for the 2015 White House Conference on Aging will use collaborative expertise to define the challenges of that revolution and to consider the upside of longevity.*

*Participants will envision ways to meet those challenges and use those opportunities with positive, innovative ideas.”*

Retirement Security became ***“Economic Well-Being for the 3rd 30”***

Long Term Services and Supports became ***“The Longevity Promise – For Better or For Worse”***

Healthy Aging became ***“Engaged, Empowered and Active for Life”***

Elder Justice became ***“Bad Things Shouldn’t Happen to Good People”***

In order to ensure that all AAA Advisory Council and State Council on Aging members had adequate time and opportunity for input into the final set of recommendations, the following steps were taken after the event: 1. AAA Advisory Councils were presented with the draft recommendations at their next Advisory Council meeting and asked to vote to approve the recommendations. They were also given the opportunity to suggest other priorities where they saw major gaps. 2. Members of the Washington State Council on Aging ranked the priority recommendations and voted to approve the recommendations at their January 2015 meeting.

For more information on the proceedings or the listening session, contact Cathy Knight at W4A ([w4a@agingwashington.org](mailto:w4a@agingwashington.org)) or Dr. Cheryl Townsend Winter at WASCO ([c\\_townsend@msn.com](mailto:c_townsend@msn.com)).

Sincerely,



Barry Lamont Chair, Washington State Council on Aging

Cc: Jason McGill, Health Care Policy Advisor  
Jeanette Burket, U.S. Administration for Community Living/DHHS - Region X  
Kevin Quigley, Secretary DSHS  
Cathy Knight, State Director W4A  
Cheryl Townsend Winter, Vice Chair WASCOA