



AGE-FRIENDLY MONTGOMERY

A COMMUNITY FOR A LIFETIME



Maryland (LRM) initiative, which aligns with his goal of leaving no one behind, including older adults.

“Our administration made a commitment to honor the lives and contributions of older Marylanders by expanding access to critical care and services,” said Gov. Moore. “If we are going to meet the 21st century needs of this rapidly changing demographic, we must evaluate our programs, advocate for change, target resources, and formulate data-driven policies with a whole-of-government approach.”

Through the LRM initiative, the Department of Aging will develop a plan to coordinate and build upon existing efforts across state agencies, private and philanthropic sectors, and other stakeholders to tackle real life challenges Marylanders face throughout their lifespan — including access to employment opportunities, a robust care workforce, adequate caregiver support and equitable healthcare.

“Aging well should be a right, not a privilege”
Maryland Department of Aging Secretary
Carmel Roques

Though this is a long-term plan that will be implemented in phases over the next ten years, the department has started engaging stakeholders and collaborating with state and local agencies to address key issues affecting Marylanders. The LRM plan should be presented to the governor on January 1, 2026. To learn more about the LRM initiative go to aging.maryland.gov.



Pictured (left to right) are: Multisector Planning Director Betty Romero, Deputy Secretary of Aging Jennifer Crawley, Governor Wes Moore and Secretary of Aging Carmel Roques as the Governor signed an executive order establishing the Longevity Ready Maryland Initiative last month.

Leaving No One Behind Including Older Adults

In six years, one in four Marylanders will be 60 years or older, with the proportion of this population expected to grow more rapidly – by some estimates three times as fast – than other groups. Increased life expectancy is good news, but it does not always equate with an enhanced quality of life, especially when considering socioeconomic factors, which play a key role in healthy aging and quality of life.

“Aging well should be a right, not a privilege,” said Maryland Department of Aging Secretary Carmel Roques. “Keeping up with the quickly changing demographics provides an opportunity to prepare for longer, healthier lives for all Marylanders by investing in future centenarians.”

Since joining Governor Moore’s cabinet, Secretary Roques has prioritized

the wellbeing of older people, their families, and caregivers across all of state government, promoting a bold vision where all Marylanders lead lives that are healthy, financially secure, socially connected, and purposeful throughout their lifespan.

“We won’t solve the issues of long-lived societies if all we do is focus on the challenges people face in the later years of life,” she explained.

“We must address broader societal issues like work, education, health and equity starting from birth and continuing throughout the retirement years.”

Governor Moore has shown his support of Secretary Roques and the Department of Aging by recently signing an executive order implementing the Longevity Ready

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