## MPA Now a DOH Bureau

## The HCP Advocate 9.2.2025

HCP's Public Policy team remains engaged with the <u>Master Plan for Aging (MPA)</u> Coalition, a stakeholders group that was instrumental in the MPA's conception. At this month's meeting, the Department of Health (DOH/the Department) announced an internal restructuring: the MPA will now operate as a Bureau rather than a Center within the Department. As part of this shift, many DOH staff who had been dedicated to the MPA are being reassigned to other departments. An updated organizational chart has not yet been released.

The new Bureau of Multisector Planning, as it is called, will fall under the auspices of the Center for Long Term Care, Licensure, Planning, and Finance. This Center is one of five that are organized under the umbrella of the Office of Aging and Long-term Care (OALTC). OALTC oversees much of the work that is relevant to the home care sector, including surveying, budgets, and procurement.

Andy Lebwohl is the new Director of this well-established Center. Ana Sofia Winans will head up the new Bureau of Multisector Planning, which will oversee and drive MPA initiatives. The Bureau will continue to work with the Office for the Aging, as well as the Department of State's <a href="Smart Community Planning Program">Smart Community Planning Program</a>.

The DOH plans to establish an MPA steering committee comprised of staff from at least five agencies. A formal strategy soon for stakeholder engagement on the MPA and its implementation is expected soon. Through its role in the MPA Coalition, HCP will remain actively engaged in offering feedback to the state's MPA team.

At a recent Coalition meeting, the Department emphasized that the MPA is a tool to assign priorities, and in light of resource limitations, it won't necessarily translate into a dedicated budget line item.