MN Board on Aging

Susan Mezzenga | Chair
Mission of the Minnesota Board on Aging

Ensure that older Minnesotans and their families are effectively served by state and local policies and programs—in order to age well and live well.

Administrator
Partners with Area Agencies on Aging and others to administer and oversee the effective use of Older Americans Act and state funds to support older Minnesotans.

Advisor
Provides objective information and promotes public education on ways to meet the changing needs of Minnesota’s older population to age well and live well.

Advocate
Promotes policies to the State Legislature, the Governor, and State Agencies that fairly reflect the needs and interests of older Minnesotans.
Current policies and programs that highlight Age-Friendly

MBA
- Older Americans Act

Essential Community Supports

Alternative Care

DHS
- Elderly Waiver
- Nursing Home

Senior LinkAge Line®

Office of the Ombudsman for Long-Term Care
State agency or other government partners

- Corrections - Housing needs related to older inmates
- Higher Education - Lifelong Learning; Vulnerable Adult/APS
- MNDOT – MBA is largest funder of volunteer driver programs
- Commerce - Energy Assistance Programs, weatherization & Financial Fraud
- DNR - ADA accommodations at parks (in partnership with MN Council on Disability)
- MDH - Healthy Aging
Gaps/Opportunities in programs

Diverse communities & tribal nations
- Learn from them methods of collaboration
- Ensure funding opportunities available to all

Leverage MBA as existing advocate for community programs
- Expertise in Home & Community Based Services
- Aging network comprised of providers, partners and volunteers
Highlight a data/report that would inform an Age-Friendly Council

- Alzheimer’s Disease working group
- Survey of Older Minnesotans
- MN2030 Reports
- State Plan on Aging
- Health Care Choices
Thank You!

Susan Mezzenga

Chair, MN Board on Aging