

Many commenters thought housing issues should be considered separately from services.

Numerous commenters were concerned about the number of issues covered in the proposed agenda and the ability of delegates to deal with this vast array of issues. These commenters suggested limiting the number of issues to be addressed at the Conference to those considered most pressing and provided guidance on the issues they thought met this criterion. There were a number of very thoughtful letters suggesting how the issues and subissues could be linked both for discussion and for development of resolutions at the Conference.

## Part II. Conference Theme

The Policy Committee decided on a theme that combined aspects of the two top-ranked proposed themes. The theme for the Conference is: "America Now and into the 21st Century: Generations Aging Together with Independence, Opportunity and Dignity."

## Part III. Issues To Be Addressed at the Conference and the Structure of the Conference Program

This part of the notice addresses both the issues to be covered in the final agenda and the structure of the Conference program in which the issues are to be discussed and resolutions passed.

After considerable deliberation, the Policy Committee narrowed the focus of the Conference to four issues with several cross-cutting concerns which are to permeate both the discussion of the issues and the resolutions process. In the view of the members of the Policy Committee, these four issues are the ones considered most pressing and critical to aging policy based on the comments received on the proposed agenda and the recommendations generated by pre-conference events.

The attention to be focused on these four issues does not deny the importance of other issues and subissues included in the proposed agenda. However, the Policy Committee agreed with commenters that it would not be possible to cover adequately all these issues within the context of a three day conference and they made the decision to concentrate on core issues.

The list below specifies the four issues and the subissues to be covered under each issue. For each issue, cross-cutting concerns are repeated to emphasize their importance to the discussion of each issue. In addition, the relevant current Federal programs are named for each issue.

The four major issues and subissues determined by the Policy Committee are:

### *Assuring Comprehensive Health Care Including Long-Term Care*

- Promotion and prevention.
- Access to quality care.
- Continuum of care integrating community and social services.
- Medicare/Medicaid/Older Americans Act.
- Research and education.

#### Cross-cutting concerns:

Interdependence among generations and among members of extended families, and the responsibility of individuals to plan for changes that will occur throughout their lifespan; Unique contributions and needs of special populations, especially veterans, caregivers (including grandparents), rural elderly, women, minorities and individuals with disabilities

Current Federal programs: Medicare (Title XVIII of the Social Security Act), Medicaid (Title XIX of the Social Security Act), Older Americans Act, Veterans Health Benefits (Chapter 17, Title 38), Social Services Block Grant, food stamps, NIH programs

### *Promoting Economic Security*

- Employment.
- Social Security.
- Other retirement income and resources, including pension reform.
- Poverty and hunger.
- Tax policy.
- Discrimination.

#### Cross-cutting concerns:

Interdependence among generations and among members of extended families, and the responsibility of individuals to plan for changes that will occur throughout their lifespan; Unique contributions and needs of special populations, especially veterans, caregivers (including grandparents), rural elderly, women, minorities and individuals with disabilities

Current Federal programs: Social Security (Title II of the Social Security Act: Old-age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Benefits), Supplemental Security Income (Title XVI of the Social Security Act: Supplemental Security Income for the Aged, Blind and Disabled), Older Americans Act, Veterans Compensation and Pensions (Chapter 11, Title 38), vocational rehabilitation, adult education, Job Training Partnership Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act,

Employment Retirement Income Security Act

### *Maximizing Housing and Support Service Options*

- Range of options/availability.
- Affordability/financing/tax policies.
- Linking support services to housing.
- Consumer choice/decision-making/promoting independence.

#### Cross-cutting concerns:

Interdependence among generations and among members of extended families, and the responsibility of individuals to plan for changes that will occur throughout their lifespan; Unique contributions and needs of special populations, especially veterans, caregivers (including grandparents), rural elderly, women, minorities and individuals with disabilities

Current Federal programs: Public and Indian housing; section 202, Capital Advances for Housing the Elderly and section 811, Housing for the Disabled; section 231, Mortgage Insurance for Housing the Elderly; section 221(d) (3) and (4), Mortgage Insurance for Nursing Homes, Intermediate Care Facilities, and Board and Care Homes; section 236, Mortgage Interest Reduction Payments; Congregate Housing Services Program; Flexible Subsidy and Loan Management Set-aside Funding; Manufactured Home Parks; Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Insurance Demonstration; section 8, Rental Certificates and Rental Vouchers; Home Investment Partnership; Emergency Shelter Grants Program; Supportive Housing Demonstration Program; Farmers Home Administration housing; low-income home energy assistance; Community Service Block Grant; Community Development Block Grant; VA home loan programs (Chapter 37, Title 38)

### *Maximizing Options for a Quality Life*

- Resources for elders (community and social services/activities).
- Crime, personal safety and elder abuse.
- Spiritual well-being, ethics, values and roles.
- Image and roles of older people.
- Elders as resources and opportunities for volunteering.
- Isolation and loneliness.
- Legal issues.

#### Cross-cutting concerns:

Interdependence among generations and among members of extended