# Long-Term Services and Supports

#### **Prof. Marc Cohen**

Co-Chair, Academy Study Panel on Universal Family Care and Chair of Panel's LTSS Working Group

Clinical Professor, Department of Gerontology, McCormack Graduate School, University of Massachusetts, Boston

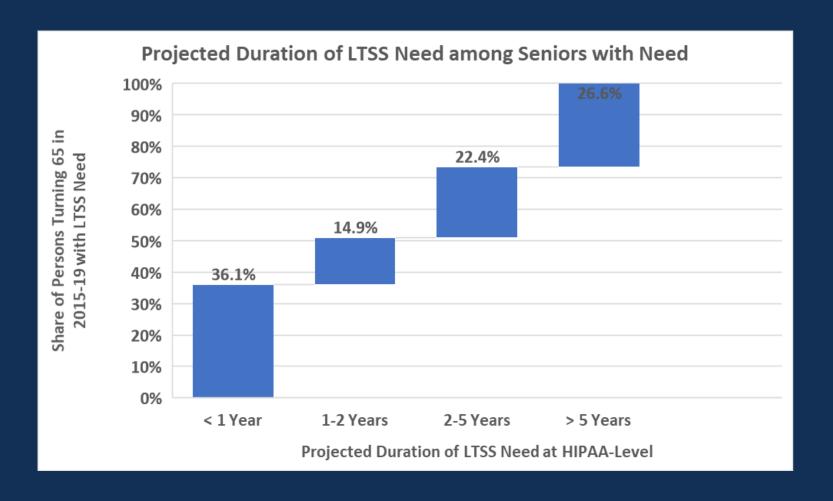
Co-Director, LeadingAge LTSS
Center @UMass Boston

Research Director, Center for Consumer Engagement in Health Innovation, Community Catalyst

# **Key Social Insurance Program Structure Considerations**

- Social insurance approach
- Eligible population
- Generational transition issues
- Timing and duration of coverage
  - First dollar (front-end coverage)
  - Catastrophic Coverage (back-end)
  - Comprehensive coverage
- Benefit eligibility criteria
- Level of benefit payment
- Form of benefit (cash-service reimbursement continuum)

# Who Would Benefit from Alternative Coverage Durations and Start Times?



Source: Melissa Favreault and Judith Dey, "Long-Term Services and Supports for Older Americans: Risks and Financing Research Brief," Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C., February, 2016,

# **Financing Sources and Considerations**

#### Sources

#### **Existing Federal Social Insurance Programs**

- Social Security
- Medicare Part A
- Medicare Parts B and D
- Medicare net investment income tax

#### **Existing State Social Insurance Programs**

- Workers compensation
- Unemployment insurance
- Paid family and medical leave

#### **Additional Potential Funding Approaches**

- Taxes
- Fees
- Premiums

#### **Considerations**

- Pay As You Go vs. Pre-Funding
- Size of tax base
- Fiscal sustainability
- Political sustainability
- Affordability
- Connection with program benefits
- Using more than one funding source

# **Payment & Delivery System Integration**

### Coordination of benefits with other payers

- Who is second payer?
- Coordination of benefits with private insurance

## Federal Medicaid funding issues

- How to assure no loss of Federal Matching
- Are program benefits considered income?

## Integration of LTSS and medical care

How to integrate with coordinated delivery systems?

# **Ultimate Goals**

- Improving access to LTSS. To what extent does the additional money brought into the LTSS system allow the purchase of additional services?
- Reducing family out-of-pocket spending. To what extent does the program provide financial relief?
- Reducing Medicaid spending. To what extent does the program reduce budgetary pressure on Medicaid?
- Financial sustainability/stability. Can the program be paid for over the long term in a stable manner?
- Political support and sustainability. Is the program structured in a way that will garner broad public support, likely to persist over time?