

## Eldercare in Washington State: Two Timely, Relevant, Peer-Reviewed Fact Sheets

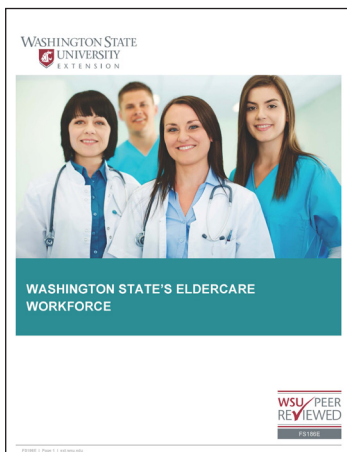
**Washington State is aging, and fast.** By 2030 the number of people age 65 and older will reach one out of every five. Does our state have a sufficient number of health care providers, right now, who are appropriately trained to meet the needs of our older adults? What about as their numbers swell over the next 15 years? Two peer-reviewed, companion fact sheets offer insight into these questions, and explore key policy implications for addressing the eldercare workforce.

### The William D. Ruckelshaus Center and the University of Washington Health Policy Center

announce the publication of fact sheets that are important to everyone interested in health care for older adults:

- *Washington State's Eldercare Workforce*
- *Aging in Place: A Policy Approach for Aging Well*

Together, these fact sheets tell a clear, compelling story about who provides care to older Washingtonians; what kinds of care they offer, and where; and policy approaches for ensuring that older adults receive appropriate, timely care.



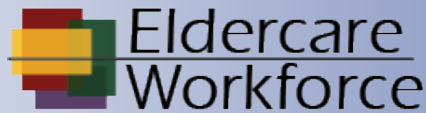
### *Washington State's Eldercare Workforce*

*Washington State's Eldercare Workforce* presents a new way to understand and define the formal and informal health care workforce that serves older adults – that is, the eldercare workforce. This workforce is described in four clear companion tables that policy makers and eldercare stakeholders can use to support individual and collaborative work to enhance eldercare in Washington State.

### *Aging in Place: A Policy Approach for Aging Well*

*Aging in Place: A Policy Approach for Aging Well* uses a community-based approach for providing care to older adults called “aging in place” to frame key eldercare workforce policy issues, including capacity of the workforce and access to its services. The discussion of each policy issue includes ideas for “What Can Be Done?” to support policy makers and stakeholders in developing and advocating for eldercare policy.





**When it comes to our eldercare workforce, everyone is a stakeholder.** The story these fact sheets tell is as interesting to health care and social service providers as it is to community organizations, advocacy groups, foundations, academic researchers, and policy makers at all levels of government. And the story is important to us all.

Washington State's universities can help advance solutions in eldercare policy by convening diverse and multi-disciplinary stakeholders for collaborative problem solving. With access to information, ideas, and resources from top researchers and academic leaders from every discipline involved in this complex issue, university-based centers such as the William D. Ruckelshaus Center and the University of Washington Health Policy Center are uniquely poised to act as neutral conveners to help all stakeholders in eldercare in our state share ideas, address conflicts, and build innovative and effective public policy solutions.

### More Detail on the Research

The partners' baseline study was designed to discover, assess and aggregate generally available information and data about:

- Types of health care providers for older adults in Washington State
- Current and anticipated supply and demand for this workforce
- Policy approaches to address capacity gap

Research activities included in-depth interviews with key stakeholders in health care for Washington's older adults, detailed reviews of 50 health care workforce-related websites for applicable information and data, and aggregate analyses of all collected information and data.

### View the Fact Sheets

The two fact sheets can be viewed and downloaded for free as PDFs at the Washington State University Extension Publications Online Store: <https://pubs.wsu.edu/>. They are currently featured on the homepage, and can also be found under Health and Wellness/Aging. Links to these PDFs are also available from the Ruckelshaus Center website at <http://ruckelshauscenter.wsu.edu/publications/>.

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