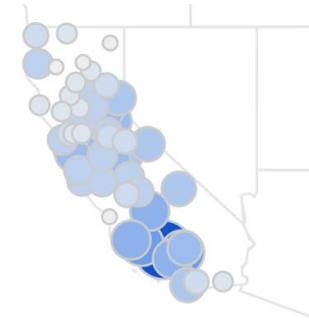


## Best Practice Survey Results *Executive Summary*

In preparation of making recommendations to the state's legislature in July 2018, the California Task Force on Family Caregiving designed a survey to understand current state of caregiver services in the state. The Research and Administrative Team at the University of Southern California (USC) prepared, distributed, and analyzed this survey on the Task Force's behalf and with their input.

Collected from August to December 2017, responses to the online survey came from 75 organizations across California providing direct services to caregivers. Respondents including disease-specific organizations (e.g., Alzheimer's Association) (23%; 17), Area Agencies on Aging (13%; 10), Caregiver Resource Centers (12%; 9), and others. The most frequent services provided by these organizations included education on self-care (80%; 59), communication skills (73%; 54), legal issues (72%; 53), and support groups (72%; 53).



Survey responses  
across California

### Key findings:

- Most organizations offered at least one type of caregiver intervention (65%; 45). The most common evidence-based interventions were Powerful Tools for Caregivers (20%; 9) and Savvy Caregiver/Cuidando con Respeto (16%; 7). Many other interventions described in write-in responses were not evidence-based.
- Most programs had eligibility criteria for services (69%; 51), but changes in funding sources led to often-changing criteria.
- 60% (44) of organizations routinely offered a caregiver assessment, although items included on assessments varied considerably.
- 88% (54) of organizations indicated they tailored services to meet specific cultural needs. Write-in responses revealed organizations employed innovative ways to do so, including consulting with partner organizations, assessing cultural competency of organizations receiving referrals, and hiring diverse staff.
- Most organizations (79%; 49) provide support to caregiver juggling competing roles, such as being an employee. The most frequent approaches to support employed caregivers included education (40%; 18) and emotional support and counseling (27%; 12).

Overall, findings suggest that California has a flexible and dedicated network of caregiver support services, but there are considerable holes and weak spots to address. Strengthening this network could prevent caregivers from slipping past services without getting support that could make their role more manageable.