



# Why We Need to Face Aging: Facts at a Glance

## OUR SOCIETY IS AGING

At least 60,000 Minnesotans will turn 65 every year now through 2030.<sup>i</sup> That's like a new city the size of Lakeville springing up every year, populated entirely by seniors.

As baby boomers reach retirement age, Minnesota's senior population will double.<sup>ii</sup>

By 2020, there will be more seniors in Minnesota than school kids.<sup>iii</sup>

If our student population increased as quickly as our aging population between now and 2030, we would need 1,200 new classrooms and 1,200 new teachers every year.

By 2030, 25% of Minnesota adults will be age 65 or older.<sup>iv</sup>

## WE WILL NEED MORE OPTIONS FOR CARE...AND MORE PEOPLE TO PROVIDE IT

Making a comprehensive range of care options available in more communities will keep seniors living more independently for longer.

In many Minnesota communities, care facilities are an important source of medical care and health information, as well as the largest local employer.

Over the next decade, we will need another 25,000 professional caregivers in Minnesota, in large part to care for our rapidly growing senior population.<sup>v</sup>

## ALL MINNESOTA SENIORS DESERVE TO RECEIVE THE CARE THEY NEED

According to a statewide scientific survey of Minnesota adults conducted in November 2013 by the Long-Term Care Imperative:<sup>vi</sup>

91% of Minnesotans agree that the state should provide the funding needed for day to day services for older adults who cannot afford long-term care services on their own.

63% of Minnesotans agree that the most important role of government in aging care is to make sure that all older adults are treated equally and fairly when receiving services that improve their quality of life.

<sup>i</sup> Minnesota State Demographic Center, December 2014, Minnesota Population Projections by Age and Gender, 2015-2065

<sup>ii</sup> Accessed 2/4/16 <http://mn.gov/admin/demography/data-by-topic/aging/>

<sup>iii</sup> Accessed 2/4/16 <http://mn.gov/admin/demography/data-by-topic/aging/>

<sup>iv</sup> Accessed 2/4/16 <http://mn.gov/admin/demography/data-by-topic/aging/>

<sup>v</sup> Accessed 2/4/16 <http://www.bls.gov/spotlight/2015/employment-and-wages-in-healthcare-occupations/home.htm>

<sup>vi</sup> Survey administered to 630 randomly selected adult residents across the State of Minnesota. Professional interviewers conducted the survey by telephone between November 19th and December 4th, 2013. The results of the study are projectable to all adult residents in State of Minnesota within  $\pm 4.0\%$  in 95 out of 100 cases.