

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MEDIA CONTACT**

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**Vermont Recognized by AARP as 5<sup>th</sup> Nationwide in the Delivery of Long-Term Services and Supports**

*AARP Releases its 2020 State Scorecard on Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS); A State Scorecard on Long-Term Services and Supports for Older Adults, People with Physical Disabilities, and Family Caregivers.*

WATERBURY, VT – Vermont is proud to be ranked 5<sup>th</sup> overall in the nation in the delivery of long-term services and supports, showing improvement over the 2017 scorecard results in Quality of Life & Quality of Care, and Support for Family Caregivers.

The AARP Scorecard, published every three years, is a compilation of state data and analysis—designed to showcase measures of state performance for creating a high-quality system of care to drive progress toward improvement in services for older adults and people with physical disabilities, and their family caregivers.

The Agency of Human Services (AHS) through the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) is responsible for managing LTSS on behalf of older Vermonters. Some of the contributing work by AHS, DAIL and its partners include the expansion of Medicaid services allowing more people to access critical LTSS, the large variety of Medicaid funded service options for Vermonters who need support, , helping people with disabilities to secure meaningful employment, and the variety of family caregiver and respite supports provided through Medicaid programs and Older Americans Act funded services. Vermont is proud of the work that we have done to rebalance our system of supports, ensuring that older Vermonters and Vermonters with disabilities have the choice to receive services in their own homes, and in their own communities.

DAIL Commissioner Monica Caserta Hutt notes that, “DAIL and our community partners and providers have worked hard to build a system of care for older Vermonters and Vermonters with disabilities that honors choice, independence and meaningful connection to community. We are thankful for the commitment of providers and caregivers who provide services to their fellow citizens, especially during the challenges of the current COVID-19 pandemic. There is still work



to be done but we are proud to have our state continue to stand as a national leader in delivery of long-term services and supports”.

2020 AARP Scorecard: <http://www.longtermscorecard.org/databystate/state?state=VT>

**Vermonters may call 211** for more information about long-term services and supports in their area.

***About the Department of Disabilities, Aging & Independent Living (DAIL):***

*Our mission is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.*

<https://www.facebook.com/DAILVT/>

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