

The SPAN Framework: Strengthening Aging and Disability Networks to Do More with Less and Curb Waste, Fraud, and Abuse

Monday, August 31, 2026
1:00-2:00pm EDT



Aging and Disability Networks must make their program operations more efficient to serve more people with constrained resources. SPAN (Sustainable Performance Aligned Networks) gives State Units on Aging, Area Agencies on Aging, and their public and private partners a practical framework for making operations more efficient and better able to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse. This session walks through all three core domains.

Presented By

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Panelists

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3 Core Domains

Sustainability

KEY TOOL: MAC Infrastructure

Aligns funding streams and taps new revenue through Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC).

Performance

KEY TOOL: Random Moment Survey

Tracks outcomes and uses data on how staff spend their time to reduce waste.

Aligned Networks

KEY TOOL: NWD Referral Systems

Clarifies agency roles, eliminates silos, and builds cross-agency referral infrastructure.

Enhanced MAC infrastructure provides more than just more money

- **Improving performance.** Robust MAC infrastructure that exceeds CMS standards (e.g., twice-daily stratified random moment sampling, quarterly worker-level cost documentation, and monthly supervisor reviews and data summaries) creates reliable data on staff time and activity costs, making operations more transparent and audit-ready.
- **Aligning networks.** States such as NE, MI, and NJ use MAC to bring partners beyond AAAs (e.g., CILs, 211, Brain Injury Alliance, Easterseals) into NWD/ADRC networks. These networks use MAC FFP to establish conditions for participation such as cross-training, referrals, and coordinated planning.