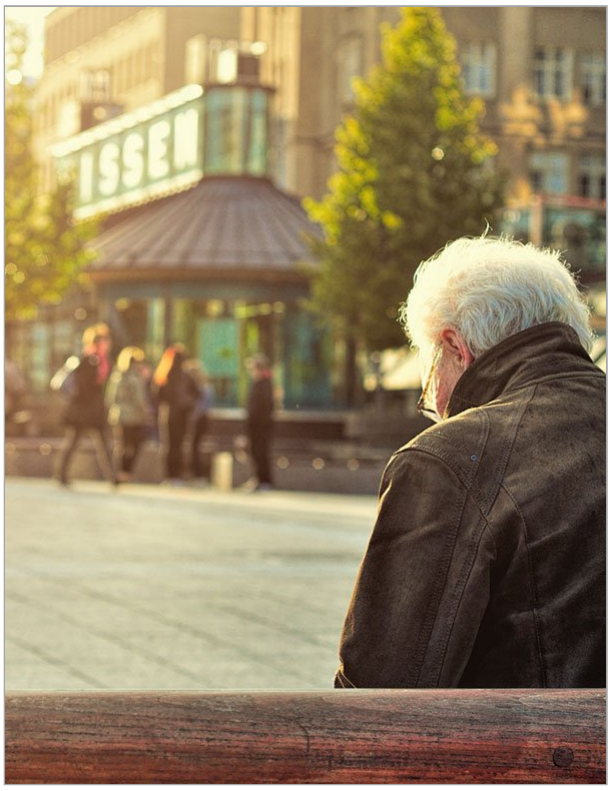
Center for an Urban Future
Innovative Ideas. Independent Policy.



Commentary/Op-Ed - March 2019

State must prepare for its aging future

The number of seniors statewide has jumped significantly over the last decade. Governor Cuomo and state lawmakers have proposed an increase in funding for services that help older New Yorkers stay in their homes, but they should take new steps to support this growing population.

by Jonathan Bowles and Beth Finkel

The number of New Yorkers over 65 grew 26 percent over the past decade, and they now make up a larger share of the population than ever before.But state funding hasn't kept pace with this rapid demographic shift. While Governor Cuomo and state lawmakers have proposed an increase in funds for services that help older New Yorkers remain in their own homes as they age, it's not enough to meet the needs of the growing older adult population. State lawmakers should increase funding further to include critical support programs that directly benefit older New Yorkers. In this op-ed in The Daily Gazette, CUF Executive Director Jonathan Bowles and AARP New York State Director Beth Finkel push lawmakers to make new investments to ensure that more New Yorkers can grow older with dignity and security.

Read the op-ed here.

This op-ed is a continuation of the Center for an Urban Future's extensive research on the needs of New York's older adults, including the recent study *New York's Older Adult Population is Booming Statewide*, which was generously supported by **AARP**. **MetLife Foundation** and the **Frank E. Clark Charitable Trust** generously supported *The New Face of New York's Seniors* report and **Capital One** generously supported the report, *Starting Later: Realizing the Promise of Older Entrepreneurs in New York City*. Later this year, a more comprehensive report will be published about the growth in older adults in New York City and the need to improve and rethink services for older adults in New York City, which is being supported by**The Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Foundation**, **The Altman Foundation**, and **The New York Community Trust**.

Photo Credit: Huy Phan/Unsplashed

General operating support for CUF has been provided by **The Clark Foundation**, the **Bernard F. and Alva B. Gimbel Foundation**, the **Lucius N. Littauer Foundation**, and the **Altman Foundation**.

Center for an Urban Future is an independent, nonprofit think tank that generates innovative policies to create jobs, reduce inequality and help lower income New Yorkers climb into the middle class. For 20 years, CUF has published accessible, data-driven reports on ways to grow and diversify the economy and expand opportunity that are anchored in rigorous research, not preconceived notions about outcome. Our work has been a powerful catalyst for policy change in New York City and serves as an invaluable resource for government officials, community groups, nonprofit practitioners and business leaders as they advocate for and implement policies to address some of New York's biggest challenges and opportunities.

RELATED PRESS

Opinion: It's Time to Make NY a #FairCity4AllAges

City Limits, by Margaret Chin and Katelyn Hosey, March 26, 2019

The Distressing Math of NYC's Future Senior-Housing Need

City Limits, by Toni Kamins, April 24, 2019

New study calls for more services as Staten Island senior population grows

Staten Island Advance, by Paul Liotta, March 12, 2019

The Empire State Is Graying

The Wall Street Journal, by Kate King, February 27, 2019

The aging of New York: How the population is growing older at a remarkable pace

Democrat & Chronicle , by Joseph Spector, February 27, 2019

New study says Rochester is aging faster than other cities in NYS

WXXI News, by James Brown, February 27, 2019

Report: Capital Region population rapidly aging

The Record, March 04, 2019

Advocates See 'Broken' Budget Process for City's Seniors

City Limits, by Roshan Abraham, March 14, 2019

CENTER FOR AN URBAN FUTURE
120 Wall Street, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10005

cuf@nycfuture.org © All Rights Reserved.