

## **Media Release**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 24, 2017**

#### **VERMONT AWARDED FIRST-EVER PACESSETTER PRIZE FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS (LTSS)**

*The State of Vermont recognized as leader in the field of aging and disability by The SCAN Foundation.*

**Waterbury, VT** - Vermont has been awarded the inaugural Pacesetter Prize for Affordability and Access, in recognition of its continued progress in improving the lives of older adults and younger people with disabilities across the state.

Vermont was selected as the Pacesetter Prize winner for Affordability and Access because of its innovative practices in providing accessible, affordable, quality health and LTSS coverage for its residents. The prize was awarded based on Vermont's performance on AARP's 2017 [Long-Term Services and Supports State Scorecard](#): Vermont moved up from being ranked 19<sup>th</sup> in the 2011 Scorecard to 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation in 2017, exhibiting more improvement in Affordability and Access than any other state. It has also risen through the ranks in overall LTSS performance, moving from being ranked 20<sup>th</sup> in 2011 to 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation in 2017.

Governor Phil Scott states that, "the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL), in conjunction with many valued community partners, has worked hard to build a system of care for older Vermonters and Vermonters with disabilities that honors choice, independence, meaningful connection to community, and affordability. There is still work to be done, but we are proud to have Vermont stand as a national leader in delivery of long-term services and supports, and we are truly honored that our great state has been selected as the inaugural recipient of The SCAN Foundation's Pacesetter Prize."

"Vermont's commitment to reducing costs while increasing access to long-term services and supports for its residents has made it a pacesetter," said Bruce Chernof, MD, President and CEO of The SCAN Foundation. "These actions are fundamental for states to prepare, particularly for the growing population of older Americans, and we commend Vermont for leading the way."

The Pacesetter Prize will be formally presented to the State of Vermont at the Waterbury State Office Complex on Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at 6pm. The event is free and open to the public and press. Light refreshments will be served. Governor Phil Scott, members of





**State of Vermont**  
**Dept. of Disabilities, Aging & Independent Living**  
280 State Drive HC 2 South  
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020  
[www.dail.vermont.gov](http://www.dail.vermont.gov)

[phone] 802-241-2401  
[fax] 802-241-0386

*Agency of Human Services*

Vermont's Congressional delegation, Agency of Human Services Secretary Al Gobeille, DAIL Commissioner Monica Caserta Hutt, key State legislative leaders and partners in the delivery of LTSS will be in attendance to celebrate this collaborative achievement.

###

To learn more about The SCAN Foundation and Pacesetter Prize, visit <http://www.TheSCANFoundation.org/Pacesetter-Prize>. To schedule an interview or to RSVP to attend, please contact Monica White, Director of Operations at the State of Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living, at [Monica.White@vermont.gov](mailto:Monica.White@vermont.gov) or (802) 241-0354.

#### **About The SCAN Foundation**

*The SCAN Foundation is an independent public charity dedicated to creating a society where older adults can access health and supportive services of their choosing to meet their needs. Our mission is to advance a coordinated and easily navigated system of high-quality services for older adults that preserve dignity and independence. For more information, visit [www.TheSCANFoundation.org](http://www.TheSCANFoundation.org)*

#### **About the State of Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL)**

*The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.*

<http://dail.vermont.gov/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/DAILVT/>

