

Dana Marie Kennedy



Dana Marie Kennedy is the State Director for AARP Arizona with more than 25 years as a leading advocate for working families, retirees, and women at the local, state and national levels.

As State Director, Kennedy is making AARP the go-to organization for Arizonans who are 50 plus. AARP is championing issues that matter most to families such as healthcare, employment security and retirement planning and preventing fraud and abuse. Her focus includes helping people age in place-- living independently in their homes for as long as possible, family Caregiving, helping to keep energy costs affordable. Partnering with our aging community on issues important to older Arizonans and creating collaboration and innovation to solve difficult problems with limited resources is a key priority.

Kennedy holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work and a Certificate in Gerontology from California State University Long Beach and a Master's in Social Work from Boston University where she also acquired Certificates in Human Service Management and Gerontology.

Kennedy is a graduate of the Women's Campaign School at Yale (Class of 2007) and Valley Leadership (Class 34) and a Flynn Brown Fellow. Kennedy was named Arizona Social Worker of the year in 2015 and Phoenix Business Journal top women in Business, 2017. She served on the Mayors Commission for Disability (2011-2014) and the Alzheimer's Task Force. She has acted as a Liaison for the Governor's Commission on Aging and the Arizona Caregiver Coalition. Kennedy served as a District Senior Advisor and Casework Director for U.S. Arizona Congresswoman Kyrsten Sinema.

Kennedy is an endurance athlete and spends her free time training for triathlons and marathons. She has completed 10 marathons and numerous triathlons including Ironman Arizona in Tempe in 2013, Kona in 2015 and Santa Rosa in 2017.