



# SEAGO

## Area Agency on Aging, Region VI MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

**DATE: Thursday, October 17, 2019**

**TIME: 10 A.M.**

**PLACE: UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
124 SOUTH CURTIS AVENUE  
WILLCOX, ARIZONA**

### A G E N D A

- |  |                               |    |
|--|-------------------------------|----|
| 1. Call to Order, Introductions  | Jaime Aguilar                 |    |
| 2. Servants At Work /Census 2020 presentation  | Dale O’Neill/Zaida Bustamante | 2  |
| 3. Approval of Minutes of July 18, 2019 ***  | Jaime Aguilar                 | 8  |
| 4. Open floor for nominations to vacant seats ***  | Jaime Aguilar                 | 9  |
| 5. ACOA member representing SCC and Douglas seat ***                                       | Jaime Aguilar                 | 10 |
| 6. Census Complete Count Committee   | Laura Villa                   | 18 |
| 7. Alert SFY20 Technical Assistance Federal fiscal year 22-25                              | Laura Villa                   | 37 |
| 8. SEAGO-AAA Program Updates-Newsletter  | Laura Villa                   | 39 |
| 9. AZ4A OAA Memo-Advocacy  | Laura Villa                   | 47 |
| 10. Information Exchange   | Jaime Aguilar                 |    |
| 11. Schedule Next Meeting Date- <b>January 16, 2019</b><br>(Third Thursday of the Quarter) | Jaime Aguilar                 |    |
| 12. Adjournment  |                               |    |

\*\*\*Agenda items requiring action by the Advisory Council on Aging.NOTE: All agenda items are subject to action by the Advisory Council on Aging. individuals with disabilities who require special accommodations may contact Laura Villa at (520) 432-2528 extension 208 at least 72 hours before the meeting time to request such accommodations.####



# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING  
**FROM:** LAURA VILLA, AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** OCTOBER 17, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** SERVANT'S AT WORK (SAW'S) and CENSUS 2020

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Description:

Mr. Dale O'Neill, South District President of SAW's, will be presenting a brief overview of their program, how they work and the difference they make in our communities. SEAGO-AAA is honored to partner with them to help make the lives of the elderly in our region safer.

Ms. Zaida Bustamante will provide you with a brief presentation on the Census 2020 process and will be available for questions.

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below

**MINUTES**  
**Advisory Council On Aging Meeting**  
**United Methodist Church**  
**124 South Curtis Avenue**  
**Willcox, Arizona**  
**July 18, 2019**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Arnold Lopez, Thatcher	Kim Jackson, Whetstone
Cheryl Christensen, Pima	Leslie Lambert, Bisbee
Eva Harper, Safford	Linda Huffstetler-Dearing, Patagonia
Frank Montoya, Clifton	Royce Hunt, Graham County Unincorporated
Jaime Aguilar, Greenlee County Unincorporated	Saundra Gaines, Safford
Kathy Spangler, Benson	Valadee Crotts, Duncan
Kim Burks, Cochise County Unincorporated	Norma Sullivan, Tombstone

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Arnoldo Montiel, Santa Cruz County

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Ann Mihalik, Patagonia Assisted Care Agency	Stephanie Nabor, Graham County Case Manager
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**STAFF PRESENT:**

Laura Villa, AAA Program Director	
Carrie Gibbons, AAA Management Analyst I	Karen Enriquez, AAA FCSP Care Coordinator

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Jaime Aguilar called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Introductions were made.

**2. PACA INTRODUCTION**

Ann Mihalik from Patagonia Assisted Care Agency in Patagonia provided a brief history of their organization which opened its doors in 2007. PACA (the "Highway 82 Team") has been awarded AAA funds for SFY20 to assist with needs in Santa Cruz County and potentially hopes to expand to Northern Cochise County. They are the newest provider for AAA. Ann also answered questions from the members.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 18, 2019**

Jaime Aguilar called for a motion to approve the April 18, 2019 minutes. Approved.

**MOTION: Linda Huffstetler-Dearing**

**SECOND: Saundra Gaines**

**ACTION: UNANIMOUS**

**4. OPEN FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS\*\*\***

Jaime Aguilar reviewed the bylaws and announced that there are currently three (3) vacancies for members to represent incorporated cities, towns and the unincorporated portions of each county. The current vacancies apply to Santa Cruz unincorporated areas of Rio Rico or Sonoita, Cochise County areas of Douglas and Sierra Vista. Nominated representatives will commence their term on the date once approved and appointed by the SEAGO Executive Board which is scheduled for August 16, 2019.

Valadee Crotts expressed concern about the 90 day period that has to pass before a member whose term is expiring may continue to serve if they wish and there is no one interested in serving. He commented that in the past, there was a Greenlee County member who was elected for a 3-year term during the 90-day period, but that person only attended one meeting and that's when he returned to the ACOA.

Laura Villa explained that it is up to the Council to decide how they wish to handle a situation where a member wants to continue to serve, even though their term is ending. She stated that the 90 day period was decided by the Council a few years ago, but if there is a desire to revisit this, then the topic can be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Jaime Aguilar stated he believes that it is important to fill the positions as expeditiously as possible. Arnold Lopez asked if the member whose term is expiring is allowed to vote during the 90-day period. Laura explained that the member is not allowed to vote until they are approved by the Executive Council, so that there is potential for a vote to be lost during that 90-day period. There have been times when some members have attended the meetings by phone because without their participation, there would be no quorum so a meeting could not be held. Carrie Gibbons is responsible for following up with members to ensure attendance. Jaime explained that the amendment was created for just that purpose: to ensure there would be enough members to continue to carry out the business of the Council. Valadee commented that it is important for members to attend. Leslie asked how to designate a proxy when a member cannot attend. Carrie explained the process and Laura encouraged members to follow up with Carrie with proxies in the event they cannot attend a meeting in the future.

#### **5. UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP TERMINATION**

Jaime explained that Kathy Spangler was not present at the last ACOA meeting and therefore could not be considered for a re-appointment after her term ended 5-19-19. Kathy is eligible to serve on the council for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term if she wishes and with Council approval. Kathy expressed interest in continuing for the 2-year period.

**MOTION: Royce Hunt**

**SECOND: Linda Huffstetler-Dearing**

**ACTION: UNANIMOUS**

#### **6. ACOA MEMBER SEAT CHANGE \*\*\***

Mr. Arnold Lopez who currently represents the City of Thatcher for Graham County will be retiring from his Thatcher employment and has given notification to the Area Agency on Aging as form of transparency and respect to the Bylaws.

Mr. Lopez who resides in Safford has expressed an interest in his continued participation on the council and would like to be considered. Per the Bylaws as long as there is no objection he can continue. This request was brought to the attention of the Chairman of the SEAGO Executive Board and there was no objection as Mr. Lopez has been a dedicated and valuable asset to the Council and to the county he represents.

Laura explained that if there were no objections from the Council, there would be 2 representatives from Graham County, but both would be from Safford instead of one from Safford and one from Thatcher, as well as one from unincorporated Graham County. Laura stated Mr. Lopez would continue to represent Thatcher.

Valadee Crotts made a motion to approve Mr. Lopez to represent the Thatcher of Graham County seat to be made to the SEAGO Executive Board.

**MOTION: Valadee Crotts**  
**SECOND: Leslie Lambert**  
**ACTION: UNANIMOUS**

## **7. GACA REPORT**

Carrie Gibbons advised that there was no update posted to the GACA website, so she has no information to share with the Council. She will monitor the GACA website and forward any information to the Council members once it does become available. Laura Villa explained that the meeting took place 7/12/19 and that SEAGO AAA did submit a report even though they were unable to attend. She encouraged members to register on the GACA website if they would be interested in representing SEAGO AAA at the meetings and report GACA activity to the ACOA membership since there is currently no one bringing information from the State level to the ACOA meetings.

## **8. ALERTS: SFY20 INITIAL ALLOCATIONS**

On May 1, 2019 DES/DAAS Department of Economic Security Division of Aging and Adult Services issued ALERT SFY-20-2A through 20-6A 2020 Allocations.

The Alert includes one-time state funding of SSBG in the amount of **\$73,712** allocated to SEAGO-AAA Region 6 and **\$235,135** which is to be used to eliminate the waitlist for Non-Medical Home and Community Based Services. The allocations made on the COB are based on percentages of HCBS waitlist enrollments held by each county case management program. The Alert also includes Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP) funding allocation of **\$2,569**. Laura directed members to the Alert issued by DES in their packets where the final COB shows where the funding has been allocated based on additional funding as well as the subaward allocations approved by the Executive Board for your information.

## **9. SEAGO-AAA PROGRAM UPDATES-NEWSLETTER**

Laura Villa explained that SEAGO-AAA has issued its grantees with their allocation amounts which are to start July 1, 2019 per the agreements developed pursuant to the Request for Applications for SFY20, with options to renew subawards for up to an additional four (4) years. Some changes that you will see are:

- South Eastern Arizona Legal Aid (SALA) did not apply for funding for the current period. AAA will set those funds as unobligated until we can find someone who is willing to provide services in the four-county region. We are open to suggestions.
- A new service provider Patagonia Assisted Care Agency was brought on board for Eastern Santa Cruz and potentially for Northern Cochise County for HCBS services.
- Karen Enriquez has been hired as the Family Caregiver Support Program Care Coordinator who will oversee the program. She began employment on July 8<sup>th</sup> and is becoming familiar with the AAA, its programs and the FCSP in order to begin her journey with us.
- End of Life Program is running smoothly as planned in Cochise County. Recently, volunteer facilitators have been recognized for their support and efforts in making this wonderful program a success. Ronnie Squyres is currently working closely with Lynette Smith of Graham County who will be the designated coordinator overseeing this program in both Graham and Greenlee Counties. Lynette is motivated and excited to bring the program to this area and is even willing to assist with the Northern parts of Cochise County. Lynette is a registered nurse with Haven Home Health and Hospice and has a group of dedicated, passionate nurses who are already known in those areas. They have all received Train the Trainer course and are ready to start TLC workshops.

- On May 28<sup>th</sup> DES-DAAS submitted to Administration of Community Living (ACL) a grant for Innovations in Nutrition Programs and Services for \$750, 000 for a 3 year period. The final decision will be announced by September 1, 2019 and work plan begins. Currently, with DAAS program development funds AAA has been testing and running the machines. We have connected with U of A research team to work on a plan for when these funds are granted. If these funds were not granted we will continue to look for funding opportunities that will allow us to reach our goals. We will begin by deploying a Freeze Dryer to those counties who do not require a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) plan and start the pilot program. There is way more to come on these efforts and we feel confident that ACL will grant us this opportunity to move forward.
- Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging (AZ4A) has hired a part time coordinator Maddy Baines to provide assistance to the association. Maddy will coordinate advocacy among other duties. She will be spending some time with each region and learning about their needs in order to help us better advocate. I will keep you posted as when she is scheduled to visit our region. Any information that you feel that should be shared with her from your respected areas please let me know.
- ACOA members will receive training on what you can do to better serve your communities as a council member. Our goal is to bring Maddy in October and have her lead the way for us all to continue being great.

Laura provided an update on Ramona and thanked all those who stepped in to help during her absence.

#### 10. AZ4A OAA Memo-Advocacy

The Older American's Act is due for re-authorization in September 2019. The Act was originally signed by President Lyndon Johnson on July 14, 1965. Ms. Villa encouraged members to tell their elected officials how important the OAA is to you and the communities you represent. She asked everyone to help get the word out and how it would affect our older population among others if this act would not to go through.

#### 11. INFORMATION EXCHANGE

**Kim Jackson** shared that Huachuca City is working hard to get their Senior Center up and running. Arnold Lopez is interested in information on End of Life for the Safford area. He asked if members knew where their at-risk residents are in the event of power outages. **Saundra** thanked Laura and SEAGO staff for the SEAGO Conference on Aging. Royce Hunt stated she enjoyed the conference as well; it was her first chance to attend and she really enjoyed hearing Sandy Markwood from Washington DC. Royce shared that Ramona MacMurtrie was her first guest on the SEACUS Facebook Live broadcast, where they discussed home health, hospice and palliative care. They are trying to get more information out to their family caregivers. The SEACUS conference is scheduled for October and will focus on prevention and taking ownership of your healthcare. Royce shared that the Food Bank is offering additional food for congregate sites. They provide a list of items available and then deliver. Eva Harper stated she is going to be working on updating the Resource Directory. **Kim** shared that she will be attending the Rural Transportation Support in October in Tucson to learn more about how they can provide better transportation options for their rural area. They have been approached by VICAP to offer a 5311 program fare-based transportation program in Willcox. She stated their Board is mixed about it; it's not specific to elderly and disabled, and it would not start until October of next year if approved. **Norma** reported on the grassroots committee in Tombstone. Their clinic has closed and they are working closely with Chiracahua Clinic to open as a medical equipment. They are also working closely with Huachuca City on transportation for Tombstone and Sierra Vista. VICAP and the Legacy Foundation are helping with that. 3 stops in Huachuca City; 2 in Tombstone for anyone who needs to get to Sierra Vista for essential needs. Created 200 Vial of Life packets to distribute to

their residents. Vial of Life is a packet that contains 2 stickers and an information sheet to list medical information on the resident. The packet is kept on the refrigerator; the sticker goes on the front door that tells first responders to go to the refrigerator for medical information when the resident may not be able to speak for themselves. They are working with the fire department on how to get patients from the road to the helicopter pad. They are also trying to get their ambulance service back. **Valadee Crotts** stated that the Blake Foundation is having trouble finding a driver. Jaime Aguilar shared that on September 14, there is going to be a scholarship Hispanic Heritage Corporation and it's a good cause. They will have 3 different mariachi and dance groups. There's going to be a teacher who is going to be recognized at the age of 88 who is recently widowed and she just keeps going. She's very energetic and still rules with an iron fist. She started in 1953 and was his music teacher. As she was walking out of choir at church, this teacher yelled out to him, "Hey! You're singing in the choir! And this is not a request!" She truly has been a great teacher and continues to be so; she is infectious. Laura Villa announced that SEAGO AAA will be working on request for applications and will be preparing for that from the state since we need to reapply. The Area Plan on Aging needs updating and we will be reaching out to most of the membership to complete surveys and needs assessments. The Plan update takes months to complete and staff will be very busy with that. Staff will also be busy with Programmatic Monitoring being done by the State in 2020. AZ4A will be held in Tucson also in 2020 and SEAGO AAA decided that hosting a Conference on Aging every year is too much, so we are cutting back to every other year during the odd number years. Laura stated that there is a Case Manager retreat coming up soon and we want to give them a little TLC. Details are still being worked out. Royce Hunt requested a Case Manager phone call to discuss the changes from the new contracts and Laura and Carrie responded that one will be set up sometime in August. Laura explained the process for gathering information for the needs assessments and surveys for our target population and caregivers. Arnold Lopez offered to research the ability to mail out the assessments with utility bills in the areas where cities and towns still mail them. Carrie Gibbons announced that she is going to New Orleans at the end of the month with Shi Martin and expects to be learning a great deal. She is also attending a workshop to learn how to more effectively fulfill her administrative duties. She also explained that she heard comments about how we identify at-risk residents and how the counties and case managers are working to address those issues. Karen Enriquez announced that her first workshop is coming up in August and has several more in the works. Leslie Lambert stated she gave her emergency manager a stack of Are You OK cards to register their at-risk residents and share the info with County Emergency Operations. She has been working with a man who works with veterans and described some of the projects he has been involved in and provided dates and locations for a couple of events. She stated she has checked out the POW program and they are coming to the area in August. She wanted to put more emphasis on emergency preparedness planning and partnering, especially regarding the 2020 census. **Kathy** shared that Shi Martin from SEAGO AAA presented at their second annual Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 14 with Banner Health Care case managers from Cochise, Graham and Greenlee counties. Billy Cloud from APS talked about fiduciary responsibilities. Olive Garden donated food. They hope to hold it again in Sierra Vista. Sept 7, the City of Benson is having their second annual Lantern Festival, which was a huge success last year with over 2000 people in attendance. **Linda Huffstetler-Dearing** stated that part of what they are doing with their grant money is to have ADA compliant bathrooms since there is no place in in their area of town that currently provides access for that. She is in process of writing grants to upgrade the building and Plan B is to obtain a loan from a resident with a very low interest rate. She stated they had 2 calls from people from in Sierra Vista for DME and encouraged the members to think about churches or other organizations in their towns and cities who might be willing to store some items of DME which would make them more easily accessible to residents needing them in their areas. She will bring some of the most common items that are lent in her truck to anyone who is willing to run a lending program in their area. It is important that the items be tracked and returned. Contact her at [dearhuff@yahoo.com](mailto:dearhuff@yahoo.com) if interested. All she needs is a letter from the organization stating that they have received the items for inventory purposes. They are always looking for

letters from clients whose lives have been positively impacted by the Lending Shed. The South 32 Mine provided the grant to upgrade their bathroom.

**12. NEXT MEETING DATE- OCTOBER 17, 2019 (Third Thursday of the Quarter)**

Jaime Aguilar announced the next meeting date for ACOA.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

President Aguilar called for a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION: Arnold Lopez**

**SECOND: Royce Hunt**

**ACTION: UNANIMOUS**

Respectfully submitted.

Heather Glenn  
Office Specialist

DRAFT



# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING  
**FROM:** LAURA VILLA, AREA AGENCY ON AGING PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** OCTOBER 17, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** NOMINATIONS TO VACANT SEATS

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The Advisory Council on Aging's (ACOA) revised bylaws dated May 19, 2007, state under Article III-Membership section 1, that the ACOA consists of eight representatives from Cochise County, four from Graham and three from Greenlee and Santa Cruz County.

Section 2 states, at least ten of the eighteen members shall be age sixty or older, and shall include persons in greatest economic or social need, minority individuals, and participants in services funded through the SEAGO Area Agency on Aging.

Section 9 states, members appointed by SEAGO Executive Board shall serve a term of three years (3). Each member shall be limited to two (2) consecutive terms. However, in the event that a vacancy cannot be filled in 90 days, a previous member can be reappointed. The Advisory Council on Aging may submit the name of a member to the Executive Board for reappointment for an additional term.

**Currently, there are three (3) vacant seats and members are selected to represent incorporated cities, towns and the unincorporated portions of each county. The current vacancies apply to Santa Cruz unincorporated areas of Rio Rico or Sonoita, Cochise County areas of Douglas and Sierra Vista.**

Nominated representatives will commence their term on the date once approved and appointed by the SEAGO Executive Board which is scheduled for November 22, 2019.

Action Requested:                      Information Only                       Action Requested Below

**Proposed representatives to the SEAGO Executive Board for appointment to fill vacancies.**



# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING  
**FROM:** LAURA VILLA, AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** OCTOBER 17, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** NOMINATION FOR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY UNINCORPORATED  
SEAT FROM RIO RICO AND COCHISE COUNTY SEAT IN DOUGLAS

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Description:

Monica Romero resides in Rio Rico and is currently a support coordinator with the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) through DES. Monica holds a BA in Humanities with over 14 years of experience in social services support from older adults, children and now, DDD patients of all ages. Monica's role has been from case management, eligibility interviewer to support coordinator as she focuses on those in greater need. DDD is one of the areas we have not yet touched and Monica is interested in dedicating her efforts in supporting our role in this community for the DDD population.

It has been a challenge to find someone who will be dedicated and willing to represent our Cochise seat in Douglas. Mr. Gary Clark is happy to return to the Advisory Council on Aging for a new term. The Area Agency on Aging is honored to hold his interest as he has dedicated many years on the Council and provides valuable information to the Council as well as a dedicated advocate in his community.

**A motion to approve Mrs. Romero to represent unincorporated seat of Rio Rico.  
A motion to approve Mr. Gary Clark to represent Cochise county Douglas seat.**

**Recommendation to be made to the SEAGO Executive Board November 22, 2019**

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below



# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING  
**FROM:** LAURA VILLA, AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** OCTOBER 17, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** CENSUS 2020 COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE

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## Description:

The 2020 Census is fast approaching; we are less than 170 days from Census Day - April 1, 2020. We are COUNTING on each and every one of you to help us obtain a complete and accurate count, by ensuring everyone gets counted once, only once, and in the right place.

**Yours and Everyone's Response Matters:** The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community.

- Every year, \$675 billion dollars in federal funding are at stake for communities like ours. Federal funding goes to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.
- Our Representation is impacted: The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.
- It is our Civic Duty! Article 1, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution mandates that the country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.

SEAGO-AAA along with the Census bureau specifically partnership specialist Iris Almazan who oversees Cochise, Graham and Greenlee and Zaida Morineau-Bustamante who covers Santa Cruz county helped us facilitate a Complete Count Committee on **October 3, 2019** in Benson. The purpose of this committee meeting was not to duplicate efforts already happening in our region but was to invite those entities that are not yet part of a committee. We had representation from Cochise and Greenlee County who attended the meeting and learned about the upcoming timeline as well as the purpose of the committee. This group will be meeting again on **Tuesday November 5, 2019** we hope that they will bring more organizations to the table and help us reach our goals. As you all know, the AAA receives its Older American's Act funding from the federal government based on a formula that consists of population. Our main concern is that our rural communities are at risk of not participating in the process. The AAA's intention is to raise awareness, educate and facilitate for those hard to reach areas to participate. The upcoming meeting will focus on developing work plans

and strategies for innovative and engaging ways to reach our communities. We ask that attendees prepare by bringing a list of events and opportunities happening in your respective communities.

If you are not yet part of a CCC please get involved in your areas, learn and assist.

**Attachments:** Census Survey sample, four Ways to Respond, Hard to Count, Key Dates, Guidelines for Partners,

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below

# The 2020 Census

## 4 Ways to Respond



### 1. Secure Internet

New and Quick, Respond Online.

It's safe, secure and confidential. Your information and privacy are protected. It's economical both for you and for the taxpayers. It's greener saving trees and it's user friendly—offering you help screens and the ability to review your answers.



### 2. Respond by Phone

Our enumerators are ready to take your information question by question from the convenience of your phone from any location.



### 3. Respond by Mail

Wait until you receive your paper form through the mail or dropped at your residence. It can be filled out at home and dropped into your mailbox or post office.



### 4. In-person Interview

Our enumerators will visit residences that choose not to self respond.

## Multiple Languages Available

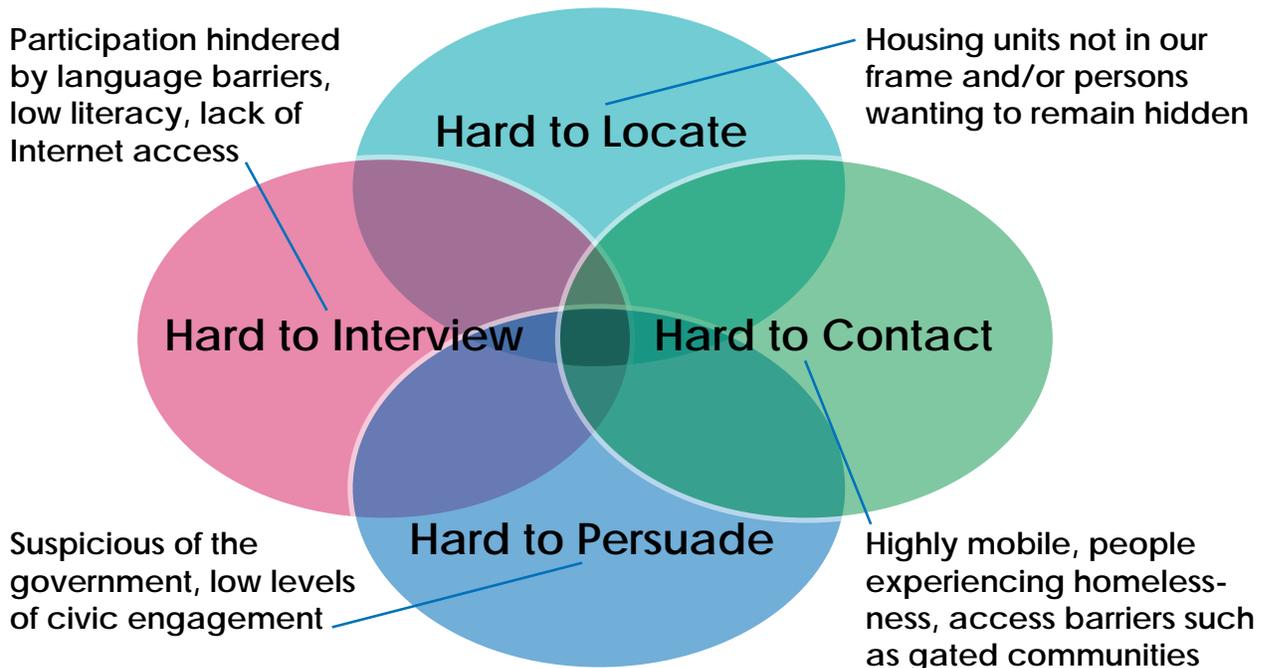
Phone & Internet		Paper Mailer	In-Person Interview
English	Spanish	English & Spanish	Numerous Community individuals hired to interview others in their own community and language
Chinese	Vietnamese		
Korean	Russian		
Arabic	Tagalog		
Polish	French		
Japanese	Portuguese		
Haitian Creole			

Each completed survey  
is a building block to  
a better America.

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United States  
Census  
2020

# Hard-To-Count Populations



The Hard-to-Count include those who are hard to locate, households that may not appear on the census address list or people who may want to remain hidden. Some populations are hard to contact because they are highly mobile, experiencing homelessness or living in gated communities. Hard-to-count populations can be those that are hard to persuade because they lack trust in the government or the way their data will be used. They can also be hard to interview because of language barriers or low Internet access. Many people fall under more than one of these designations, which is why we are implementing the most robust outreach effort in the history of the Census Bureau.

## Hard-to-count populations can fall into many categories.

- Young children under the age of 5.
- Highly mobile people.
- Racial and ethnic minorities.
- Non-English speakers.
- Low income people.
- People experiencing homelessness.
- Undocumented immigrants.
- People who distrust the government.
- LGBTQ persons.
- People with mental or physical disabilities.
- People who do not live in traditional housing.



## The 2020 Census will take the following steps to find and count the Hard-to-Count populations.

- **We will make sure to identify where people live when we build our address list.**

The training for our staff includes clues for identifying hidden housing units, as well as instructions on inquiring about hidden housing units. Our Local Update of Census Addresses Operation provides the opportunity for tribal, state and local governments to review and provide input on the Census Bureau's address list.

- **We will start the 2020 Census count early in January 2020, with a special operation designed for Northern Alaska.** We know we can only reach the population living there when the tundra is frozen and people are reachable in their villages. We also will work in partnership with village elders to identify enumerators who speak the local language and can translate and facilitate the collection of census response data.

- **We will make it as easy as possible for people to be counted.** When the 2020 Census begins in March 2020, for the first time we will offer three response options: Internet, telephone and paper. People can respond in 12 non-English languages over the phone or via the Internet.

- **We will hand deliver the 2020 Census to areas without standard mailing addresses** because we know we cannot use our standard procedures in these areas. We will also do this in areas hit by natural disasters like hurricanes or ravaged by forest fires.

- **Census takers will knock on the door of those who do not respond.** They will be hired from the communities they work in so that they are familiar with and speak the language of, the neighborhoods where they are working.

- **We have a special operation for people who live in prisons, nursing homes, college/university housing and other group homes, known as the "Group Quarters Operation."** We will work with the administrators of these facilities so that they can assist us in making an accurate count.

- **We will go to great lengths to count those who are experiencing homelessness.** We will work with our partners to identify service-based locations like emergency and transitional shelters, soup kitchens, mobile food vans and targeted non-sheltered outdoor locations.

Understanding the communities who have traditionally had low response rates is critical for the success of the 2020 Census, Reaching the hard-to-count is woven into the entire design of the 2020 Census. Our partners and local leaders are key and by working with them, we will do everything we can to count everyone once, only once and in the right place.



U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

Shape  
your future  
START HERE >







# Guidelines for Partners

## Supporting Self-Response in the 2020 Census

People can respond from anywhere, anytime—online, by phone, or by mail. New opportunities for partners make helping people to respond easier than ever!

Partnership is a key component to a complete and accurate count for the 2020 Census, and the U.S. Census Bureau is excited to already have thousands of partners working to help.

Take a look at the guidelines on the back of this fact sheet. They will help ensure partners are able to assist in the right ways.

[2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020CENSUS.GOV)

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your future  
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United States®  
Census  
2020

## SUPPORTING SELF-RESPONSE IS WELCOME

### Partners can support the Census Bureau by:

- Helping people understand that responding to the 2020 Census is important and safe.
- Encouraging response to the mailed or hand-delivered materials from the Census Bureau.
- Assisting people who are disabled. For example, helping a person who is visually impaired dial the appropriate phone number to respond to the questionnaire.
- Providing language assistance to non-English speaking households. For example, assisting a non-English speaking individual find the appropriate language page online to respond to the questionnaire.
- Providing links to [2020census.gov](https://www.census.gov), where people can easily respond.
- Encouraging people to call the 2020 Census phone line to respond in English or any of the other 12 languages available for self-response.
- Providing access to computers and tablets for on-the-spot access to the 2020 Census website at places like conferences, public events, community centers, health care facilities, places of worship, and shopping areas.

### It is important to remember:

- Partners should not attempt to collect 2020 Census data through websites or apps, over the phone, or in person.
- Partners should not go door-to-door to promote the census or collect information.
- Partners should not encourage anyone to respond to the census on behalf of a household in which they do not live.

### SUPPORTING SELF-RESPONSE MUST BE DONE RIGHT

No one other than Census Bureau employees, not even officials from tribal, state, or municipal governments, should go door-to-door to collect information for the 2020 Census. This could cause confusion for households that have already responded and households who have not yet responded and must be interviewed by census takers. This can also discourage response by elevating concerns of a potential scam, intrusion, or other unlawful activity. A key component of our communications effort is to raise awareness of how to identify an official census taker.

Only data collected by census takers employed by the Census Bureau are protected under Title 13, U.S. Code. Census Bureau employees take an oath to ensure that respondent information is used for statistical purposes only and not for any other reason. Census Bureau employees cannot share information with anyone else, including law enforcement—not the FBI, ICE, or even local police.



# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING  
**FROM:** LAURA VILLA, AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** OCTOBER 17, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** ALERT SFY20-12 FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2022-2025 AREA PLAN

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**Description:**

On August 28, 2019 DES-DAAS issued SFY20-12 Alert which focuses on the FY2022-2025 Area Plan. In preparation for this process, staff will be putting together a timeline which will be shared with the Council in the upcoming meeting. Group discussions will be scheduled to develop strategies on how communities can reach as many people as possible to complete needs assessment surveys and ways to assist residents in filling them out. While we have plenty of time, we should begin strategizing now so we will be ready when the time comes.

**Attachments:**

Technical Assistance Area Plan on Aging

:

Action Requested

Information Only

Action Requested Below



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

Douglas A. Ducey  
Governor

Michael Traylor  
Director

August 28, 2019

To: Area Agencies on Aging  
Pima County Career One-Stop

From: Frank Migali   
DES Deputy Assistant Director of Community Services Programs  
Division of Aging and Adult Services

Subject: State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2020 Revised Allocations and Technical Assistance

The following ALERTS are attached:

<u>ALERTS</u>	<u>FUND SOURCE/TYPE</u>
SFY-20-5B	Senior Community Service Employment Program – Allocations and Performance Goals
SFY-20-11B	Other Funds – Refugee Resettlement Program Allocations
SFY-20-11C	Other Funds – Lifespan Respite Adult Day Health Center Grant Allocations
SFY-20-12	Technical Assistance – Federal Fiscal Year 2022-2025 Area Plan on Aging Instructions

ALERTS are subject to change as additional information is received by the Division pertaining to the funding sources identified.

ALERTS are available on the Division website using the link:  
<https://www.azdes.gov/daas/alerts>

Should you have any questions regarding the attached ALERTS, please contact your assigned Contract Specialist.

cc: Molly McCarthy, Frank Migali, Cindy Saverino, Ben Kauffman, Bridget Casey, Jose Mercado, Lei Ronda Golden-Grady, Kelly Garrett, Alina Girbovan, Matt LeCrone, Mark Radan, Michael Coen, Jutta Ulrich, Mary Kingston, Charles Shipman, DAAS FSA Team, DAAS file

## Technical Assistance for SFY-2020

Technical Assistance ALERTS are generated periodically to update contractual and/or programmatic requirements and/or clarifications. Please ensure that appropriate Area Agency on Aging personnel are aware of this technical assistance.

### Area Plans on Aging

To focus on the commonalities that already exist among the goals and objectives among the Administration for Community Living, Administration on Aging Strategic Plan, State Plan on Aging, and the eight Area Plans on Aging, the following three goals are to be incorporated into the 2022-2025 Area Plans on Aging:

- Streamline access for all eligible adult Arizonans to the integrated array of quality care available by all state aging services and promote resources for individuals that are physically and sensory challenged. Access and Promotion of Statewide
- Increase awareness and understanding of aging issues and help prepare Arizona for an aging population.
- Increase the ability of older adults to remain active, healthy and living independently in their communities.
- Strengthen Arizona's economy by fostering an integrated and well-trained informal, paraprofessional and professional workforce.

Attached are the Area Plan Format Instructions (Attachment A), Area Plan Assurances (Attachment B), Request for a Direct Service Waiver (Attachment C), Request for an Adequate Proportion Waiver (Attachment D), and Request for a Cost Sharing Waiver (Attachment E).

The following calendar is provided as a quick reference of dates to keep in mind throughout the planning process:

- August 2020 – January 2021 – conduct needs assessment, compile results
- February 2021 – April 2021 – draft plan, prepare waiver(s), conduct public input sessions
- May 1, 2021 – submit waiver(s) request(s) and Area Plan to the Division of Aging and Adult Services
- June 1, 2021 – receive approval/denial of waiver(s)
- July 1, 2021 – Area Plan become effective
- October 1, 2021 – submit action plan for strategic objectives
- **December 31 and June 30 of each year – submit semi-annual progress reports on action plan.**

Chapter 2000 – Area Plan on Aging - The chapter includes the following sections: Area Plan on Aging, Collecting Public Input, Targeting of Services/Identification of Needs, Developing Goals and Objectives, Requesting Waivers, Program Development and Coordination, and Service Contributions.

**Technical Assistance  
for SFY-2020**

This policy can be accessed at: <https://des.az.gov/services/aging-and-adult/partners/daas-policy-chapter-2000>

Should you have questions or require additional information, please contact Cindy Saverino at (602) 542-6446 or via e-mail at [CSaverino@azdes.gov](mailto:CSaverino@azdes.gov).

Region: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

**The components of the Area Plan on Aging include:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Verification of Intent
- \_\_\_\_\_ Part I - Introduction to the Area Plan on Aging
- \_\_\_\_\_ Part II - Description of the Area Agency on Aging
- \_\_\_\_\_ Part III - Needs Assessment
- \_\_\_\_\_ Part IV - Goals, Objectives, and Action Plans
- \_\_\_\_\_ Part V - Preference to Older Persons with Greatest Economic or Social Need
- \_\_\_\_\_ Part VI - Key Changes to Service Delivery
- \_\_\_\_\_ Part VII - Approved Waivers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Part VIII - Budget
- \_\_\_\_\_ Part IX - Area Agency on Aging Services to be funded by Geographic Area
- \_\_\_\_\_ Part X -Appendix

**PART I - INTRODUCTION TO THE AREA PLAN**

The following narrative must be included in the introduction section of the Area Plan on Aging:

An Area Plan is the document submitted by an Area Agency on Aging to the State Agency on Aging in order to receive awards or contracts from the State Agency's grant provided under the Older Americans Act, as amended. The Area Plan contains provisions required by the Act, the Federal rules and regulations, State policies, procedures, and assurances and commitments that the Area Agency will administer activities funded under the plan in accordance with all Federal and State requirements. The plan is the blueprint by which the Area Agency develops and administers a comprehensive and coordinated system of services and serves as the advocate and focal point for older people in the Planning and Service Area.

Conceptually, the plan must represent a process, which translates needs assessment information into the establishment of priorities for funding and services.

The Area Plan on Aging, as a planning document, has three major purposes, as follows:

- 1) The Area Plan serves as the planning document which identifies needs, goals, objectives, and the activities that will be undertaken by the Area Agency on Aging relative to programs for the older persons in the Planning and Service Area.
- 2) The Area Plan represents a formal commitment to the State Agency, which describes the manner in which the Area Agency on Aging plans to utilize the Older Americans Act funds, and how it will carry out its administrative responsibilities.
- 3) The Area Plan is viewed as "the blueprint for action" which represents a commitment by the Area Agency on Aging that it will fulfill its role as the planner/catalyst/advocate on behalf of older persons in the Planning and Service Area.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**      \_\_\_\_\_ **No**

**PART II - DESCRIPTION OF AREA AGENCY ON AGING AND ITS NETWORK**

Should be **clear and concise**, no more than 8 paragraphs in and address the following questions:

1. Are you a single-purpose agency to administer programs for older persons? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Are you a separate organizational unit within a multipurpose agency which functions only for the purposes of serving as the AAA? If so, describe the nature and organizational placement of the separate unit? \_\_\_\_\_
3. If you are a Tribal Area Agency on Aging, how do you coordinate with the programs and services outlined in the Older Americans Act Title VI? \_\_\_\_\_

4. How your agency organized and what is the nature and scope of its work and/or its capabilities? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What methods are used by your agency to carry out AAA responsibilities? (examples: clear delineation of the roles and responsibilities of project staff, consultants and partner organizations, how they will contribute to achieving the plan's objectives) \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the network for which you operate? (Examples: service delivery system, advisory council, partnerships, funders, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_
7. How do you assure coordination and integration of multiple fund sources? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What is the approach that will be used to monitor and track progress on the Area Plan on Aging? \_\_\_\_\_
9. How is competition used by you in arranging for services for elderly individuals and their caregivers? \_\_\_\_\_
10. How have you coordinated activities and long-range emergency preparedness plans along with local emergency response agencies, local governments, state agencies responsible for emergency preparedness and other entities involved in disaster relief? \_\_\_\_\_
11. How have you partnered with faith-based and community organizations in order to assist older individuals and their families meet home and community-based needs? \_\_\_\_\_

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**The following should be included in the appendix:** Area Agency on Aging Organizational Chart, Regional Advisory Council Membership, Listing of Programs and Services

**PART III - NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

Should be **clear and concise**, no more than 8 paragraphs and address the following questions:

- What procedure was used to conduct the needs assessment? (Examples: survey instrument, public information gathering sessions, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_
- What was the rationale for using the particular procedure(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who was involved in the assessment? What methods were used to ensure that the views of older individuals with greatest economic or social need, with particular attention to low-income minority individuals and individuals residing in rural areas, older individuals who are Native Americans, individuals at risk of institutional placement, and older individuals with severe disabilities were considered? \_\_\_\_\_
- What was the role and makeup of strategic partnerships? (examples: identification of other organizations, funders, and/or consumer groups) \_\_\_\_\_
- What information collected from the needs assessment process was used to build the plan? \_\_\_\_\_
- What major barriers were anticipated or encountered? \_\_\_\_\_
- How were these barriers overcome? \_\_\_\_\_
- What prior planning activities or approaches were used? \_\_\_\_\_

**The following should be included in the Appendix:** Needs assessment instrument and Results collected from the needs assessment

Sample format for documenting information collected:

COMMENT/ISSUE	SOURCE	ACTION TAKEN

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**PART IV – GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTION PLANS**

Should be **clear and concise**. The following three Arizona Aging 2021 Plan goals are to be incorporated:

- Streamline access for all eligible adult Arizonans to the integrated array of quality care available by all state aging services and promote resources for individuals that are physically and sensory challenged. Access and Promotion of Statewide
- Increase awareness and understanding of aging issues and help prepare Arizona for an aging population.
- Increase the ability of older adults to remain active, healthy and living independently in their communities.
- Strengthen Arizona’s economy by fostering an integrated and well-trained informal, paraprofessional and professional workforce.

Goals and related objectives; 1) ensure preference is given to older persons with greatest economic or social need with particular attention to low-income minority, marginalized and older individuals residing in rural areas and individuals at risk of institutional placement as defined in [P.L. 109-365 §306(a)(1), 306(a)(4)(A), 306(a)(4)(B)]. In addition, where a new service is to be developed, the goals and strategic objectives should guide the development effort.

Sample format of action plan:

<b>Goal:</b>			
<b>Objective:</b>			
<b>Action Step</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Output/Outcome</b>

**PART V - PREFERENCE TO OLDER PERSONS WITH GREATEST ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL NEED**

Should be **clear and concise** no more than 4 paragraphs and address the following:

- How will you ensure that the needs of “preference” are being met? \_\_\_\_\_
- How will you incorporate published demographic information into your outreach and service delivery? \_\_\_\_\_
- How will you use outreach efforts to identify individuals eligible for assistance under the Older Americans Act, with special emphasis on older individuals with greatest economic and social need, with particular attention to low-income minority individuals, individuals residing in rural areas, individuals who are Native Americans, individuals at risk of institutional placement and individuals with a severe disability within your planning and service area? \_\_\_\_\_
- How will you ensure that your service provider(s) will satisfy the service needs of low-income minority and marginalized individuals, individuals residing in rural areas, individuals who are Native Americans, individuals at risk of institutional placement and individuals with a severe disability in the area being served by the service provider? \_\_\_\_\_
- How will you ensure that your service provider(s), to the maximum extent feasible, will provide services to low-income minority individuals, individuals residing in rural areas, individuals who are Native Americans, individuals at risk of institutional placement, and individuals with a severe disability in the area being served by the service provider? \_\_\_\_\_
- How will you ensure that your service provider(s) will meet the specific objectives established by the Area Agency on Aging for providing services to low-income minority and marginalized individuals, individuals residing in rural areas, individuals who are Native Americans, individuals at risk of institutional placement and individuals with a severe disability in the area being served by the service provider? \_\_\_\_\_
- How will community-based organizations be involved in a meaningful way in the planning and implementation of the Area Plan on Aging? \_\_\_\_\_

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**PART VI – KEY CHANGES TO SERVICE DELIVERY**

Should be **clear and concise**, no more than 8 paragraphs and address the following questions: (This section should also provide the initiatives in which the Area Agency on Aging is or will be involved.

- What are the key changes in your service delivery system and why are those changes being made? (Direct delivery of Case Management and the capacity challenge of finding service providers in rural areas throughout your planning and service area should be included in this response.) \_\_\_\_\_
- How will you strengthen programs to provide important protections against threats to the independence, well-being, and financial security of older adults? \_\_\_\_\_
- How will you continue to help older adults to avail themselves of the Medicare benefits available to them? When responding, please make sure to focus on the State Health Insurance Assistance Program and the Senior Medicare Patrol as two separate programs. \_\_\_\_\_
- What is your involvement in improving the coordination of transportation services to assist older individuals in communities within your planning and service area? \_\_\_\_\_
- What strategies will you use to modernize nutrition programs and senior centers in your planning and service area to target Boomers? \_\_\_\_\_
- What strategies will you use to offer and/or expand self-directed care options? \_\_\_\_\_
- What strategies will you use to coordinate with the health care system in your planning and service area to avoid duplication of services and maximize available resources? \_\_\_\_\_
- What strategies will you implement to support consumer control and choice in your planning and service area? \_\_\_\_\_
- Describe the planned efforts you will coordinate that will prevent, protect, detect, assess, intervene, and/or investigate elder abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of vulnerable adults under Title VII? \_\_\_\_\_
- What is your plan to streamline access to services to ensure your Non-Medical Home and Community-Based Services Client Waitlist is manageable while addressing the continued concern of client unmet needs? \_\_\_\_\_

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**PART VII - APPROVED WAIVERS**

This section should provide a **clear and concise** listing of the approved waivers received by the Area Agency on Aging for the planning period. The listing may be substituted with copies of the approval letters for the waivers requested.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**      \_\_\_\_\_ **No**

**PART VIII - BUDGET**

This section should provide a detailed budget for the first year of the planning period. (Attach a copy of the Area Agency on Aging State Fiscal Year 2021 Contract Operating Budget)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**      \_\_\_\_\_ **No**

**PART IX - AREA AGENCY SERVICES TO BE FUNDED BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA**

This section should provide a **clear and concise** listing of the anticipated allotments of Area Agency on Aging resources for the delivery of services within the various geographical areas of the Planning and Service Area, i.e., counties, cities, etc.

Sample format for documenting services funded:

	<b>Service #1</b>	<b>Service #2</b>	<b>Service #3</b>	<b>Etc.</b>
<b>City/PSA A</b>				
<b>City/PSA B</b>				
<b>Etc.</b>				

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**      \_\_\_\_\_ **No**

### Area Plan Assurances

**By signing this document, the authorized official commits the Area Agency on Aging to performing all listed assurances and required activities.**

(2) Each area agency on aging shall provide assurances that an adequate proportion, as required under section 307(a)(2), of the amount allotted for part B to the planning and service area will be expended for the delivery of each of the following categories of services-

(A) services associated with access to services (transportation, health services (including mental health services), outreach, information and assistance (which may include information and assistance to consumers on availability of services under part B and how to receive benefits under and participate in publicly supported programs for which the consumer may be eligible), and case management services);

(B) in-home services, including supportive services for families of older individuals who are victims of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders with neurological and organic brain dysfunction; and

(C) legal assistance;

and assurances that the area agency on aging will report annually to the State agency in detail the amount of funds expended for each such category during the fiscal year most recently concluded.

(4)(A)(i)(I) provide assurances that the area agency on aging will—

(aa) set specific objectives, consistent with State policy, for providing services to older individuals with greatest economic need, older individuals with greatest social need, and older individuals at risk for institutional placement;

(bb) include specific objectives for providing services to low-income minority older individuals, older individuals with limited English proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas; and

(II) include proposed methods to achieve the objectives described in items (aa) and (bb) of subclause (I);

(ii) provide assurances that the area agency on aging will include in each agreement made with a provider of any service under this title, a requirement that such provider will—

(I) specify how the provider intends to satisfy the service needs of low-income minority individuals, older individuals with limited English proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas in the area served by the provider;

(II) to the maximum extent feasible, provide services to low-income minority individuals, older individuals with limited English proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas in accordance with their need for such services; and

(III) meet specific objectives established by the area agency on aging, for providing services to low-income minority and marginalized individuals, older individuals with limited English

proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas within the planning and service area; and

(4)(A)(iii) With respect to the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which such plan is prepared, each area agency on aging shall--

(I) identify the number of low-income minority older individuals and older individuals residing in rural areas in the planning and service area;

(II) describe the methods used to satisfy the service needs of such minority older individuals; and

(III) provide information on the extent to which the area agency on aging met the objectives described in clause (a)(4)(A)(i).

(4)(B)(i) Each area agency on aging shall provide assurances that the area agency on aging will use outreach efforts that will identify individuals eligible for assistance under this Act, with special emphasis on--

(I) older individuals residing in rural areas;

(II) older individuals with greatest economic need (with particular attention to low-income minority individuals and older individuals residing in rural areas);

(III) older individuals with greatest social need (with particular attention to low-income minority individuals and older individuals residing in rural areas);

(IV) older individuals with severe disabilities;

(V) older individuals with limited English proficiency;

(VI) older individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders with neurological and organic brain dysfunction (and the caretakers of such individuals); and

(VII) older individuals at risk for institutional placement; and

(4)(C) Each area agency on agency shall provide assurance that the area agency on aging will ensure that each activity undertaken by the agency, including planning, advocacy, and systems development, will include a focus on the needs of low-income minority, marginalized older individuals and older individuals residing in rural areas.

(5) Each area agency on aging shall provide assurances that the area agency on aging will coordinate planning, identification, assessment of needs, and provision of services for older individuals with disabilities, with particular attention to individuals with severe disabilities, and individuals at risk for institutional placement, with agencies that develop or provide services for individuals with disabilities.

(6) Each area agency will:

(6)(F) in coordination with the State agency and with the State agency responsible for mental health services, increase public awareness of mental health disorders, remove barriers to diagnosis and treatment, and coordinate mental health services (including mental health screenings) provided with funds expended by the area agency on aging with mental health services provided by community health centers and by other public agencies and nonprofit private organizations;

(9) Each area agency on aging shall provide assurances that the area agency on aging, in carrying out the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman program under section

307(a)(9), will expend not less than the total amount of funds appropriated under this Act and expended by the agency in fiscal year 2000 in carrying out such a program under this title.

(11) Each area agency on aging shall provide information and assurances concerning services to older individuals who are Native Americans (referred to in this paragraph as "older Native Americans"), including-

(A) information concerning whether there is a significant population of older Native Americans in the planning and service area and if so, an assurance that the area agency on aging will pursue activities, including outreach, to increase access of those older Native Americans to programs and benefits provided under this title;

(B) an assurance that the area agency on aging will, to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate the services the agency provides under this title with services provided under title VI; and

(C) an assurance that the area agency on aging will make services under the area plan available, to the same extent as such services are available to older individuals within the planning and service area, to older Native Americans.

(13)(A) Each area agency on aging shall provide assurances that the area agency on aging will maintain the integrity and public purpose of services provided, and service providers, under this title in all contractual and commercial relationships.

(13)(B) Each area agency on aging shall provide assurances that the area agency on aging will disclose to the Assistant Secretary and the State agency--

(i) the identity of each nongovernmental entity with which such agency has a contract or commercial relationship relating to providing any service to older individuals; and

(ii) the nature of such contract or such relationship.

(13)(C) Each area agency on aging shall provide assurances that the area agency will demonstrate that a loss or diminution in the quantity or quality of the services provided, or to be provided, under this title by such agency has not resulted and will not result from such non-governmental contracts or such commercial relationships.

(13)(D) Each area agency on aging shall provide assurances that the area agency will demonstrate that the quantity or quality of the services to be provided under this title by such agency will be enhanced as a result of such non-governmental contracts or commercial relationships.

(13)(E) Each area agency on aging shall provide assurances that the area agency will, on the request of the Assistant Secretary or the State, for the purpose of monitoring compliance with this Act (including conducting an audit), disclose all sources and expenditures of funds such agency receives or expends to provide services to older individuals.

(14) Each area agency on aging shall provide assurances that funds received under this title will not be used to pay any part of a cost (including an administrative cost) incurred by the area agency on aging to carry out a contract or commercial relationship that is not carried out to implement this title.

(15) provide assurances that funds received under this title will be used-  
(A) to provide benefits and services to older individuals, giving priority to older individuals identified in paragraph (4)(A)(i); and  
(B) in compliance with the assurances specified in paragraph (13) and the limitations specified in section 212.

---

Signature and Title of Authorized Official

---

Date

**REQUEST FOR A DIRECT SERVICE WAIVER**

\_\_\_\_\_ hereby requests a waiver of the requirement to  
(Area Agency on Aging)  
award sub grants or contracts to service providers for the services identified in this  
request.

1. Identify the service(s) to be delivered by the Area Agency.

2. Identify criteria for which the waiver is warranted:

a. Provision of the service(s) by the Area Agency on Aging is necessary to assure an adequate supply of such service.

b. The service(s) is directly related to the Area Agency on Aging's administrative functions.

c. The service(s) can be provided more economically, and with comparable quality, by the Area Agency on Aging.

3. Describe the rationale for the identified criteria (this must be completed for each service):

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and Title of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**REQUEST FOR AN ADEQUATE PROPORTION WAIVER**

\_\_\_\_\_ hereby requests a waiver of the requirement to  
(Area Agency on Aging)

expend an adequate proportion of Title III-B funds as set in the State Plan on  
Aging for:

1. Identify the Priority Service Category and respective percentage to be budgeted and expended:

a. Access Services (minimum 16%) \_\_\_\_\_ Percentage

b. In-Home Services (minimum 8%) \_\_\_\_\_ Percentage

c. Legal Services (minimum 4%) \_\_\_\_\_ Percentage

2. Describe the rationale that services furnished for the priority services category(ies) in the planning and service area are sufficient to meet the need for the services in the area:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and Title of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**REQUEST FOR AN ADEQUATE PROPORTION WAIVER**

\_\_\_\_\_ hereby requests a waiver of the requirement to  
(Area Agency on Aging)

expend an adequate proportion of Title III-B funds as set in the State Plan on  
Aging for:

1. Identify the Priority Service Category and respective percentage to be budgeted and expended:

a. Access Services (minimum 16%) \_\_\_\_\_ Percentage

b. In-Home Services (minimum 8%) \_\_\_\_\_ Percentage

c. Legal Services (minimum 4%) \_\_\_\_\_ Percentage

2. Describe the rationale that services furnished for the priority services category(ies) in the planning and service area are sufficient to meet the need for the services in the area:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and Title of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**REQUEST FOR A COST SHARING WAIVER**

\_\_\_\_\_ hereby requests a waiver of the  
(Area Agency on Aging)

requirements to implement cost sharing within the following area:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(identify planning and service area or applicable county/counties)

for the following permitted service:

- Respite Care
- Personal Care/Attendant Care
- Homemaker/Housekeeping
- Adult Day Care

1. Identify the reason for the waiver:

a. A significant proportion of persons receiving services under this Act subject to cost sharing in the Planning and Service Area have incomes below the threshold established in the Division of Aging and Adult Services policy.

b. Cost sharing would be an unreasonable administrative or financial burden.

2. Describe the rationale for the identified reason:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and Title of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

<b>DIVISION OF AGING &amp; ADULT SERVICES</b>						
<b>CONTRACT OBLIGATION FOR SFY 2020</b>						
<b>REGION 6</b>	<b>SFY 2019 CARRYOVER</b>	<b>INITIAL SFY 2020 ALERTS</b>	<b>TOTAL SFY 2020 ALERTS</b>	<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) SFY 2020 ALERTS</b>	<b>REVISED TOTAL SFY 2020 AWARDS</b>	
<b>1. STATE ADMIN.</b>	\$ -	\$ 53,108.00	\$ 53,108.00	\$ -	\$ 53,108.00	
<b>2. OAA ADMIN. III C-1</b>	\$ -	\$ 133,393.00	\$ 133,393.00	\$ -	\$ 133,393.00	
<b>3. OAA ADMIN. III-E</b>	\$ -	\$ 15,271.00	\$ 15,271.00	\$ -	\$ 15,271.00	
<b>4. SSBG ADMIN.</b>	\$ -	\$ 58,674.00	\$ 58,674.00	\$ -	\$ 58,674.00	
<b>5. TITLE III-B</b>	\$ -	\$ 388,578.00	\$ 388,578.00	\$ -	\$ 388,578.00	
<b>6. TITLE III-C1</b>	\$ -	\$ 338,991.00	\$ 338,991.00	\$ -	\$ 338,991.00	
<b>7. TITLE III-C2</b>	\$ -	\$ 251,578.00	\$ 251,578.00	\$ -	\$ 251,578.00	
<b>8. TITLE III-D</b>	\$ -	\$ 24,678.00	\$ 24,678.00	\$ -	\$ 24,678.00	
<b>9. TITLE III-E CAREGIVER</b>	\$ -	\$ 161,804.00	\$ 161,804.00	\$ -	\$ 161,804.00	
<b>10. NSIP</b>	\$ -	\$ 101,117.00	\$ 103,686.00	\$ -	\$ 103,686.00	
<b>11. TITLE VII ELDER ABUSE</b>	\$ -	\$ 2,465.00	\$ 2,465.00	\$ -	\$ 2,465.00	
<b>12. TITLE VII FED. OMB</b>	\$ -	\$ 15,733.00	\$ 15,733.00	\$ -	\$ 15,733.00	
<b>13. STATE IND. LIVING SUPPORTS</b>	\$ -	\$ 423,133.00	\$ 423,133.00	\$ -	\$ 423,133.00	
<b>14. STATE OMBUDSMAN</b>	\$ -	\$ 35,207.00	\$ 35,207.00	\$ -	\$ 35,207.00	
<b>15. STATE RESPITE</b>	\$ -	\$ 19,628.00	\$ 19,628.00	\$ -	\$ 19,628.00	
<b>16. SSBG (SERVICES)</b>	\$ -	\$ 535,496.00	\$ 535,496.00	\$ -	\$ 535,496.00	
<b>17. S.H.I.P.</b>	\$ -	\$ 20,892.00	\$ 20,892.00	\$ -	\$ 20,892.00	
<b>18. SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL</b>	\$ -	\$ 6,237.00	\$ 6,237.00	\$ -	\$ 6,237.00	
<b>19. SSBG - HCB WAIT LIST</b>	\$ -	\$ 235,135.00	\$ 235,135.00	\$ -	\$ 235,135.00	
<b>20. SSBG - ONE-TIME ADMIN.</b>	\$ -	\$ 7,371.00	\$ 7,371.00	\$ -	\$ 7,371.00	
<b>21. SSBG - ONE-TIME (SERVICES)</b>	\$ -	\$ 66,341.00	\$ 66,341.00	\$ -	\$ 66,341.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ -	\$ 2,894,830.00	\$ 2,897,399.00	\$ -	\$ 2,897,399.00	

<b>DIVISION OF AGING &amp; ADULT SERVICES</b>					
<b>CONTRACT OBLIGATION FOR SFY 2020</b>					
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>SFY 2019 CARRYOVER</b>	<b>INITIAL SFY 2020 ALERTS</b>	<b>TOTAL SFY 2020 AWARDS</b>	<b>INCREASE/ (DECREASE) SFY 2020 ALERTS</b>	<b>REVISED TOTAL SFY 2020 AWARDS</b>
<b>1. STATE ADMIN.</b>	\$ -	\$ 843,682.00	\$ 843,682.00	\$ -	\$ 843,682.00
<b>2. OAA ADMIN. III C-1</b>	\$ -	\$ 2,365,340.00	\$ 2,365,340.00	\$ -	\$ 2,365,340.00
<b>3. OAA ADMIN. III-E</b>	\$ -	\$ 392,296.00	\$ 392,296.00	\$ -	\$ 392,296.00
<b>4. SSBG ADMIN.</b>	\$ -	\$ 751,574.00	\$ 751,574.00	\$ -	\$ 751,574.00
<b>5. TITLE III-B</b>	\$ -	\$ 8,147,263.00	\$ 8,147,263.00	\$ -	\$ 8,147,263.00
<b>6. TITLE III-C1</b>	\$ -	\$ 7,060,009.00	\$ 7,060,009.00	\$ -	\$ 7,060,009.00
<b>7. TITLE III-C2</b>	\$ -	\$ 5,419,385.00	\$ 5,419,385.00	\$ -	\$ 5,419,385.00
<b>8. TITLE III-D</b>	\$ -	\$ 538,147.00	\$ 538,147.00	\$ -	\$ 538,147.00
<b>9. TITLE III-E CAREGIVER</b>	\$ -	\$ 3,530,675.00	\$ 3,530,675.00	\$ -	\$ 3,530,675.00
<b>10. NSIP</b>	\$ -	\$ 1,800,014.00	\$ 1,845,367.00	\$ -	\$ 1,845,367.00
<b>11. TITLE VII ELDER ABUSE</b>	\$ -	\$ 53,977.00	\$ 53,977.00	\$ -	\$ 53,977.00
<b>12. TITLE VII FED. OMB</b>	\$ -	\$ 343,214.00	\$ 343,214.00	\$ -	\$ 343,214.00
<b>13. STATE IND. LIVING SUPPORTS</b>	\$ -	\$ 6,317,002.00	\$ 6,317,002.00	\$ -	\$ 6,317,002.00
<b>14. STATE OMBUDSMAN</b>	\$ -	\$ 814,116.00	\$ 814,116.00	\$ -	\$ 814,116.00
<b>15. STATE RESPITE</b>	\$ -	\$ 462,000.00	\$ 462,000.00	\$ -	\$ 462,000.00
<b>16. SSBG (SERVICES)</b>	\$ -	\$ 7,076,197.00	\$ 7,076,197.00	\$ -	\$ 7,076,197.00
<b>17. S.H.I.P.</b>	\$ -	\$ 482,250.00	\$ 482,250.00	\$ -	\$ 482,250.00
<b>18. SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL</b>	\$ -	\$ 158,543.00	\$ 158,543.00	\$ -	\$ 158,543.00
<b>19. REFUGEE</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,430.00	\$ 2,430.00
<b>20. SCSEP (TITLE V)</b>	\$ -	\$ 598,858.00	\$ 599,673.00	\$ 313,286.00	\$ 912,959.00
<b>21. SSBG - HCB WAIT LIST</b>	\$ -	\$ 3,800,000.00	\$ 3,800,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,800,000.00
<b>22. SSBG - ONE-TIME ADMIN.</b>	\$ -	\$ 117,099.00	\$ 117,099.00	\$ -	\$ 117,099.00
<b>23. SSBG - ONE-TIME (SERVICES)</b>	\$ -	\$ 1,053,901.00	\$ 1,053,901.00	\$ -	\$ 1,053,901.00
<b>24. ADULT DAY HEALTH</b>	\$ 33,492.64	\$ -	\$ 41,739.96	\$ 74,398.00	\$ 116,137.96
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 33,492.64</b>	<b>\$ 52,125,542.00</b>	<b>\$ 52,213,449.96</b>	<b>\$ 390,114.00</b>	<b>\$ 52,603,563.96</b>

**DIVISION OF AGING & ADULT SERVICES**

**CONTRACT OBLIGATION FOR SFY 2020**

	<b>SFY 2019 CARRYOVER</b>	<b>INITIAL SFY 2020 ALERTS</b>	<b>TOTAL SFY 2020 AWARDS</b>	<b>REVISED SFY 2020 ALERTS</b>	<b>REVISED TOTAL SFY 2020 AWARDS</b>
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>					
STATE ADMIN.	\$ -	\$ 843,682.00	\$ 843,682.00	\$ -	\$ 843,682.00
OLDER AMERICANS ACT	\$ -	\$ 27,850,306.00	\$ 27,850,306.00	\$ -	\$ 27,850,306.00
STATE (ILS, RSP, OMB)	\$ -	\$ 7,593,118.00	\$ 7,593,118.00	\$ -	\$ 7,593,118.00
SSBG REGIONS 1-8	\$ -	\$ 7,827,771.00	\$ 7,827,771.00	\$ -	\$ 7,827,771.00
SSBG - HCB WAIT LIST	\$ -	\$ 3,800,000.00	\$ 3,800,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,800,000.00
SSBG - ONE-TIME	\$ -	\$ 1,171,000.00	\$ 1,171,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,171,000.00
S.H.I.P./SENIOR PATROL	\$ -	\$ 640,793.00	\$ 640,793.00	\$ -	\$ 640,793.00
NSIP	\$ -	\$ 1,800,014.00	\$ 1,845,367.00	\$ -	\$ 1,845,367.00
REFUGEE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,430.00	\$ 2,430.00
SCSEP TITLE V	\$ -	\$ 598,858.00	\$ 599,673.00	\$ 313,286.00	\$ 912,959.00
ADULT DAY HEALTH	\$ 33,492.64	\$ -	\$ 41,739.96	\$ 74,398.00	\$ 116,137.96
<b>BELOW-THE-LINE SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 33,492.64</b>	<b>\$ 52,125,542.00</b>	<b>\$ 52,213,449.96</b>	<b>\$ 390,114.00</b>	<b>\$ 52,603,563.96</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 33,492.64</b>	<b>\$ 52,125,542.00</b>	<b>\$ 52,213,449.96</b>	<b>\$ 390,114.00</b>	<b>\$ 52,603,563.96</b>

**NOTE: The following list reflects the most recent ALERTS issued to support the amounts reflected:**

<b>ALERT</b>	<b>FUND SOURCE</b>	<b>DATE ISSUED</b>
1. ALERT 20-1	TITLE III/VII PLANNING LEVELS FOR SFY 2020	3/8/2019
2. ALERT 20-2A	SSBG ALLOCATIONS FOR SFY 2020	4/30/2019
3. ALERT 20-3	STATE ALLOCATIONS FOR SFY 2020	3/8/2019
<b>4. ALERT 20-5B</b>	<b>SCSEP/TITLE V ALLOCATIONS FOR SFY 2020</b>	<b>8/28/2019</b>
5. ALERT 20-6A	NSIP ALLOCATIONS FOR SFY 2020	4/30/2019
6. ALERT 20-7	SHIP & SENIOR PATROL ALLOCATIONS FOR SFY 2020	3/8/2019
<b>7. ALERT 20-11C</b>	<b>DAY CENTER RESPITE ALLOCATIONS FOR SFY 2020</b>	<b>8/28/2019</b>
<b>8. ALERT 20-11B</b>	<b>REFUGEE ALLOCATIONS FOR SFY 2020</b>	<b>8/28/2019</b>



# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING  
**FROM:** LAURA VILLA, AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** OCTOBER 17, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** SEAGO/AAA: PROGRAM UPDATES

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## DESCRIPTION:

- **SFY18 Annual report:** With data collected from our AAA Analysis tool, Department of Aging and Adult Reporting System (DAARS) the AAA is able to put together the SFY18 Annual report. I am grateful to Carrie Gibbons for making this happen; she has performed a miracle! Our intention is to generate an annual report from now on. In the report you will see a general overview of service units and clients served as well as a breakdown per county. This information will help you see how funds are being expended and what difference it makes in your communities. We will use this information to reach out for more funding opportunities and show our representatives why it is important for the Older Americans Act to be reauthorized and we encourage you to do the same.
- **The End of Life Program:** EOL is in fast pace mode. Safford is now on board with two events that took place at the end of August. SEACUS is the lead in coordinating Thoughtful Life Conversations in Graham and Greenlee counties. The two Thoughtful Life Conversations workshops were well attended, with three fantastic new people trained to facilitate their own classes. A partnership has been formed with Department of Economic Security, Division of Developmental Disabilities DES-DDD to oversee this project in Santa Cruz County. Partners such as Mariposa Community Health Center and Holy Cross Hospital will come on board to help with these efforts. The plan is to hold a train the trainer class mid-November and start workshops in January.
- **The READI meals program:** READI MEALS is currently on hold. Unfortunately, the ACL grant that we applied for was **not** approved and with DES-DAAS assistance, we have sent a Letter of Interest to Walmart Foundation. At this time, funding allocated to the program development piece has been fully utilized. AAA will work closely with DAAS for future guidance and/or approval in getting the freeze driers deployed. A request has been made to DAAS that will allow us to utilize carryover funds in order to continue these efforts of Phase 2 of the project which includes preparing the MOU's, Policies and Procedures and Training Manual for our sites to utilize.

- **New Partnership:** AAA has formed a partnership with Servants at Work (SAW's) who serve Arizona with wheelchair ramps to those who qualify. AAA case managers will serve as referral source for existing and qualified clients who have family caregivers on the program. If the client is permanently disabled and meets the Area Median Income (AMI) of 60% case managers will help obtain the referral information and submit to SAW's for follow up and assessment. If a client who is not under Case Management is referred and has a caregiver on services FCSP Karen Enriquez will connect and help with this process. If a potential client is referred that does not meet the criteria under the AAA, the individual will be provided with the referral forms to connect directly with SAW's for consideration. SAW's currently has volunteers but they could use more volunteers in your respective areas. Please help us get the word out in order to keep this partnership alive.
- **Upcoming Partnership:** AAA and SEACAP, who also serves our four-county region, is forming a new partnership to assist with Adaptive Aids such as grab-bars, hand rails and toilet safety rails for those deemed eligible through our Case Management Program. A Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted and awaits final approval from SEACAP. Case Managers will send a referral to SEACAP by email and copy Family Caregiver Support Program Coordinator, Karen Enriquez. SEACAP will connect with the client when in the area and do a home inspection to determine if the house is equipped for a safe installation. If it is, SEACAP will purchase the material and bill AAA for reimbursement monthly. If the client is not eligible, SEACAP will notify Karen Enriquez so that she may follow up with the Case Manager to look for an alternate service provider. SEACAP currently oversees the weatherization program and this enables them to make proper installations. On the same hand, SEACAP will refer clients to AAA if they feel Home and Community Based services are needed.

Attachments: SAW's recruitment flier, AAA Newsletter

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Action Requested:

**X** Information Only

Action Requested Below



# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING  
**FROM:** LAURA VILLA, AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** OCTOBER 17, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** ADVOCACY MEMO

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## Description:

Members of Congress are in their districts and states and won't return to DC until mid-October, when they will need to tackle decisions about final funding for FY 2020, which began on October 1. Lawmakers avoided a government shutdown when they [passed a short-term extension](#) of current funding, known as a continuing resolution (CR), that keeps federal dollars flowing through November 21.

Senate and House appropriators are using the six-week extension to continue to hash out full-year funding proposals for FY 2020. While there are major differences between the chambers' funding bills, the good news is that the [House passed significant increases for OAA](#) and other important federal aging programs this summer. There is also a chance that if lawmakers can't agree on a final bill, they will continue to pass CRs indefinitely—perhaps even adopting a year-long CR. Those scenarios are far from ideal, as a series of CRs causes uncertainty for states and local agencies, and frozen funding levels do not reflect the growing need for these vital programs and services.

**This means that advocates must reach out NOW to push for a full-year FY 2020 funding bill that includes the House-approved increases for OAA and other aging programs. This is the home stretch of FY 2020 advocacy, but perhaps the most critical period yet!**

Even if you have already connected with your Members of Congress and asked your grassroots networks to engage as well, it's time to do so again! *Members of Congress need to hear directly from stakeholders in their state/district and constituents who benefit from the OAA programs and services that you deliver.* Lawmakers also need to hear from you on the harm that prolonged CRs can cause on a local level.

- **Ask local advocates to call Congress.** Included in the Template Alert are instructions on calling lawmakers and a short sample script that constituents can use.
- **Share stories in person.** Encourage your advocacy stakeholders to attend a townhall next week to share the importance of funding for OAA. Or better yet, invite your Member of Congress to come see your agency in action and meet some of their constituents receiving OAA services!

Information will be shared as soon as we know more. Additional information is provided in your packet for your review.

**Attachments: OAA House committee reauthorization, N4A endorsement, Fact Sheet**

Action Requested:

Information Only

Action Requested Below

# House Committee Poised to Advance OAA Reauthorization

## Bipartisan Bill Updates Law for 5 Years

September 16, 2019

**Today, a bipartisan group of Members of Congress plans to introduce a bill to reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA) for five years.** The bill reflects months of work by the House Education and Labor Committee and its Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services to achieve a measure with broad support among Members as well as advocates.

We expect that the full Education and Labor Committee will take up the measure on Wednesday morning, considering it and any amendments during its scheduled committee time. **Since the bill has been widely vetted by Democratic and Republican leaders, there should be near-unanimous support for passage out of the committee.**

n4a is reviewing the details of the bill before officially endorsing it, but we are especially pleased that the measure includes so many of [n4a's priorities](#). Specifically, the bill:

- **Extends the Act for five years.**
- **Provides notable increases in authorized funding: a 7 percent increase the first year, with 6 percent each year after.**
- **Includes language to make clear that AAAs can engage in private pay, integrated care and other arrangements to expand services outside of the Act.**
- **Provides for additional funding to support Title VI programs, specifically for the provision of supportive services and capacity-building training.**
- **Removes the Title III E cap on grandfamilies and older relative caregivers.**
- **Includes the creation of new research and demonstration authority at AoA.**

n4a will provide updates and more details as the week progresses!

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**This *Legislative Update* is an n4a membership benefit.** For more information about these and other federal aging policy issues, please contact n4a's policy team: Amy Gotwals and Autumn Campbell at [policy@n4a.org](mailto:policy@n4a.org), 202.872.0888.



advocacy | action | answers on aging

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September 17, 2019

The Honorable Bobby Scott, Chair  
The Honorable Virginia Foxx, Ranking Member  
House Committee on Education and Labor  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici, Chair  
The Honorable James Comer, Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services  
House Committee on Education and Labor  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Scott, Ranking Member Foxx, Chairwoman Bonamici  
and Ranking Member Comer:

On behalf of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), which **represents the country's 622** Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and is an advocacy voice for the more than 250 OAA Title VI Native American aging programs, we write today in strong support of the Committee's bipartisan legislation to update and reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA) through 2024.

The Dignity in Aging Act, H.R. 4334, co-sponsored by Chairwoman Bonamici (D-OR), Ranking Member Comer (R-KY), and Representatives Elise Stefanik (R-NY), Susie Lee (D-NV), Susan Wild (D-PA) and Dusty Johnson (R-SD), represents the diligent work of your Committee Members and staff to secure broad and bipartisan support, to recognize the realities of our aging population, and to responsibly update a landmark Act that supports millions of older adults and caregivers in communities across the nation.

n4a additionally appreciates the Committee's recognition of what is already working in the Act, including its unique delivery structure and intentional emphasis on local flexibility. In giving careful consideration to the daily realities and expertise of our practitioner members, among others in the Aging Network, the Committee has shown the utmost respect for the Act's critical value to older adults and caregivers, as well as for those professionals and volunteers who work every day to support them.

As you well know, **the OAA is the cornerstone of the nation's** non-Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS) system,

providing older adults with much-needed supports, including in-home care, congregate and home-delivered meals, adult day care, information and referral assistance, case management, transportation, legal services and caregiver support/respite. The demand for these services is growing in every community as the older population continues to grow, and while the law's provisions are comprehensive and effective, OAA funding has not kept pace with inflation or the growing population eligible for services. In fact, stagnant or declining federal funding since 2010 has eroded the current capacity of the AAA and Title VI network to address the needs of older adults to the degree that it would require a 23 percent funding increase in FY 2020 for OAA programs to simply restore the service capacity that has been lost since FY 2010.

We must acknowledge the following provisions in H.R. 4334, as they are among the most important provisions in the bill and reflect many of n4a's recommendations, which we shared with Congress in March.

- We very much appreciate the annual increases in the authorized funding levels. A lack of adequate funding is the number one barrier our members face in meeting the needs of older adults and caregivers, and with the rapidly increasing numbers of older adults in every community, the bill's recommendations to increase core programs by seven percent in year one and six percent in subsequent years is an excellent starting point for appropriators to heed. Additionally, n4a appreciates the return to a five-year authorization period, which provides greater stability and allows the Aging Network to focus on achieving the Act's goals, rather than divert time to advocacy to renew a law that works so well.
- Part of any reauthorization is updating the law to reflect changing times. Section 204 is an excellent example of this, whereby the bill makes clear that Area Agencies on Aging can engage in emerging opportunities to serve greater numbers of older adults through non-OAA funding streams. Examples include contracts with health care payers to provide meals or transportation to a Medicare Advantage client, the establishment of private-pay programs for those who can afford to purchase OAA-like services when OAA resources are limited or unavailable, or similar mechanisms that serve the goals of the Act while operating outside of it. The bill also makes clear the role of the Assistant Secretary on Aging in continued encouragement and training to the Aging Network on these matters of business acumen, innovation and changing models of health care and social services.
- We also commend the Title VI Native American aging program provisions in H.R. 4334. By allowing for the Administration on Aging to create demonstrations around a broader array of Supportive Services than most Title VI aging programs can currently provide—and just as importantly, providing increased funding to do so—the bill will help tribes build capacity and better serve the needs of the Native American and Native Hawaiian elders they serve. The inclusion of \$500,000 in additional training funds is also critical, so that the Assistant Secretary on Aging can better support all tribes with training, technical assistance and capacity-building activities.
- By including a robust new research and demonstration authority for the Administration on Aging (AoA) in Title IV, the bill's authors recognize the difficulty of improving performance, developing new models and producing data-

driven assessments of the value of the OAA programs and services when the formerly robust Title IV has been allowed to wither on the vine over the past decade. By providing new research direction to AoA and a dedicated new funding authority of \$20 million a year, Sec. 207 of the bill is another vital modernization provision.

- While a smaller measure, the removal of a 10 percent cap on serving grandparents and other older relative caregivers under the Act's Title III E National Family Caregiver Support Program is also valued by n4a members, who made it a priority for this reauthorization. The removal of the arbitrary cap reflects the growing realities of the opioid epidemic and the need for sufficient state and local flexibility to serve these older caregivers who face uniquely challenging caregiving burdens.
- The research base on the negative health outcomes from social isolation and loneliness only continues to grow, documenting the risks to the health and well-being of older adults. n4a appreciates the bill's thoughtful addition of language in multiple places in the Act to recognize the challenge we face, as well as the fact that many core OAA programs already address social isolation and promote social engagement.
- n4a had requested a minor change to ensure that Area Agencies on Aging have access to a state's cost-sharing policy or guidance. Section 205 of the bill accomplishes this.

We will not note the many other provisions in the bill—many of which we support or take no position on—but will again reiterate our thanks that our members' concerns and realities are reflected in this final product.

Thank you for your leadership in crafting an OAA update that ensures that the Act's innovative, efficient programs enabling older Americans to live at home and in their communities for as long as possible continues to be a lifeline in communities across the country. Should you **have any questions please feel free to contact me or n4a's policy staff** at 202.872.0888.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandy Markwood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sandy Markwood  
Chief Executive Officer

cc:

Members of the House Committee on Education and Labor



## ***Dignity in Aging Act of 2019***

*A bipartisan reauthorization of the Older Americans Act that provides aging Americans the support they need to age independently and with dignity.*

### **Background**

The *Older Americans Act* (OAA) was first passed in 1965, alongside Medicare, Medicaid, and landmark civil rights laws, as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society initiative. OAA authorizes funds to state and local programs to ensure aging seniors have adequate access to food, transportation, and other basic services they need to live independently and with dignity.

### **OAA Today**

OAA currently provides assistance to 11 million Americans age 60 and over every year. It funds a wide range of popular programs and services that millions of seniors rely upon every day, including Meals on Wheels, transportation services, and part-time job opportunities to support financial security and combat social isolation. For many older individuals, OAA programs are vital to their health, wellbeing, and independence.

However, as the population of Americans age 60 and over has grown, funding for OAA is not keeping pace. In 2010, OAA funding was \$42.95 per senior in today's dollars. Today it is \$27.25 per senior.

As a result, 83 percent of low-income older Americans who experience food insecurity do not receive any meal services through OAA, according to a 2015 report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO). The same report found that two-thirds of older Americans who struggle with daily activities received limited or no home-based care services.

### **About the *Dignity in Aging Act of 2019***

The *Dignity in Aging Act* is a bipartisan update to OAA that responds to the challenges facing a growing generation of aging Americans.

#### ◇ Increases Funding for All Older Americans Act Programs

The *Dignity in Aging Act* authorizes robust funding increases for OAA programs, which will help expand access to food assistance, transportation, and other basic services that a growing population of seniors need to live independently and with dignity. All OAA programs will receive an immediate 7 percent increase in fiscal year 2020 (FY2020) and a 6 percent increase every year thereafter. This results in more than a 35 percent total increase in program funding over the five-year reauthorization period, boosting OAA funding above its historical high watermark in FY2010.

#### ◇ Provides Support to Caregivers

Recognizing the vital role of family caregivers in supporting aging Americans, the *Dignity in Aging Act* extends the authorization of the *RAISE Family Caregivers Act*, which requires the development of a national strategy to recognize and support family caregivers. The bill improves the process for determining what types of support caregivers need, including the use of caregiver assessments. It also eliminates the funding cap that limits the support older relative caregivers – often grandparents raising grandchildren – can receive under the National Family Caregiver Support Program.

- ◇ Puts a Greater Focus on Social Isolation  
The *Dignity in Aging Act* empowers local organizations to evaluate solutions for social isolation, which greatly increases the risk of stroke, heart disease, dementia, and premature death, and incorporates social isolation screening into the health and supportive services that seniors receive. It also directs the Assistant Secretary for Aging at the Department of Health and Human Services (“Assistant Secretary”) to create a new focus on the issue of social isolation among older adults at the national level.
- ◇ Gives the Assistant Secretary New Tools for Research, Evaluation, and Demonstration Efforts  
The *Dignity in Aging Act* establishes a National Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center for the Aging Network in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of HHS. The Center will be responsible for conducting, promoting, and coordinating research, including evaluation and demonstration projects, and related technical assistance throughout the Act. The Center will increase the repository of information on evidence-based programs and interventions available to the Aging Network. The bill authorizes \$20,000,000 in additional discretionary spending annually for the new Center.
- ◇ Improves Economic Opportunity & Engagement for Older Individuals  
The *Dignity in Aging Act* adds individuals who are justice-involved as a priority population for the Senior Community Service Employment Program. The bill further allows for demonstration funds to be used for multigenerational collaboration projects that provide opportunities for older individuals to participate in multigenerational activities and civic engagement activities.
- ◇ Strengthens the Services Available to Native Americans  
The *Dignity in Aging Act* creates a demonstration program and authorizes over \$500,000 in additional annual funding to provide grants to tribal organizations to carry out in-home and community supportive services. The bill also provides \$500,000 for technical assistance for tribal organizations implementing OAA programs in FY20.
- ◇ Promotes the Ability of Older Individuals to Age in Place  
The *Dignity in Aging Act* creates an initiative to coordinate federal resources to promote the independence and safety of adults living at home as they age, including resources targeting falls prevention, home assessments, and home modifications. Additionally, the bill codifies the highly successful existing Falls Prevention and Chronic Disease Self-Management Education programs into the Act. The bill also adds a focus on expanding and improving the direct care workforce through demonstration projects under Title IV as well as Title V.
- ◇ Helps Communities Address the Needs of Older Individuals  
The *Dignity in Aging Act* establishes the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Age-Friendly Communities and tasks the Committee with coordinating efforts to promote safe and accessible independent living environments.
- ◇ Ensures Coordination with Resource Centers  
Resource centers funded under the Act focus on populations that may need additional or unique services. The *Dignity in Aging Act* requires states and area agencies on aging (AAAs) to collect data on the services needed by these populations; the bill also requires states and AAAs to conduct outreach to identify individuals eligible for assistance under the OAA, with an emphasis on these populations. The bill further requires the Assistant Secretary to publish a list of the resource centers as well as demonstration projects funded through the Act on an annual basis.