

AGING IN ALABAMA



Presented by: Julie Miller

Program Division Chief

Alabama Department of Senior Services

The Alabama Department of Senior Services

- Formerly known as the Alabama Commission on Aging;
- State unit on aging;
- An advocate for Alabama's seniors since 1957

ADSS Mission Statement

The mission of the Alabama Department of Senior Services is to promote the independence and dignity of those we serve through a comprehensive and coordinated system of quality services.

ADSS Vision Statement

Our vision is to help society and state government prepare for the changing aging demographics through effective leadership, advocacy and stewardship.

Alabama's Aging Network

- Made up of 13 Planning and Service Areas (PSAs);
- Each PSA has an organization designated as the Area Agency on Aging (AAA);
- 350+ Senior Centers

Planning & Service Areas



Area Agencies on Aging

1. **NACOLG** Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments
2. **WARC** West Alabama Regional Commission
3. **M4A** Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging
- 3A. **OSCS** Office of Senior Citizens Services
4. **EARPDC** East Ala Regional Planning & Development Comm.
5. **SCADC** South Central Alabama Development Commission
6. **ATRC** Alabama Tombigbee Regional Commission
7. **SARCOA** Southern Alabama Regional Council on Aging
8. **SARPC** South Alabama Regional Planning Commission
9. **CAAC** Central Alabama Aging Consortium
10. **LRCOG** Lee-Russell Council of Governments
11. **NARCOG** North Ala Regional Council of Governments
12. **TARCOG** Top of Ala Regional Council of Governments

Area Agencies on Aging

Quasi-governmental agencies coordinate and administer state and federal programs for the older population, their caregivers and people with disabilities.

Programs include:

- **Home & Community Based Care**
- **Elder Rights & Advocacy**
- **Wellness & Community Enrichment**

Persons Served by ADSS

- People 60 years old and above
 - Senior Employment – 55 yrs+
 - SenioRx – 55 yrs+
- Caregivers of senior citizens - any age
- People with Alzheimer's/Dementia - any age
- People with disabilities - any age

ADSS Services

- Advocacy
- Planning
- Coordination
- Interagency linkages
- Information sharing
- Funding
- Monitoring and evaluation

OVERVIEW OF ADSS PROGRAMS

A decorative graphic consisting of a blue gradient that starts as a thin line on the left and curves downwards and to the right, ending as a solid blue shape in the bottom right corner.

Aging and Disability Resource Centers @ AAA

- Provides current info on services to individuals in their communities, pre-screens and makes referrals
- Links individuals to available services
- Provides Options and Benefits Counseling
- Helps individuals with Short Term Case Management services
- Long term care counseling
- Caregiver information and support
- Follow-up
- Access @ 1-800-ageline

Alabama SENIORx: Partnership for Medication Access

- Partnership of state agencies and community organizations
- Assists persons 55+ with income below 200% of poverty
- Helps these persons apply for drug assistance

Nutrition Services and Congregate Meals

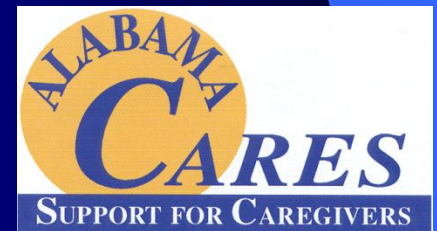
- AAAs purchase various types of meals for persons in the nutrition program for the elderly
- Some meals served at nutrition centers
- Some are delivered door to door
- Most AAAs offer the same meals at the same price

Senior Employment

- Senior Community Service Employment Program available through 11 PSAs;
- Provides part-time community service assignments for persons 55 and older-promotes transition to unsubsidized employment; and
- Senior workers may work on average 20 hours per week or 1300 hours per year.

Alabama Cares

- The National Family Caregiver Support Program
- Helps families sustain efforts to care for older individuals with a chronic illness
or
- Sustains efforts of an older individual to care for a child



Alzheimer's Caregiver Education and Support

- AAAs through the Alabama Cares program provide training, education and community based support services for individuals with Alzheimer's and their caregivers.

Legal Assistance Program

- Statewide system of legal professionals assisting older adults
- Administered by the AAAs
- Priority is given to older individuals with greatest social and economic need, low income minorities, residents of rural areas and Native Americans

Ombudsman Program

Provide services to resolve complaints for individuals residing in:

- Nursing Homes
- Assisted Living Facilities (ALF)
- Specialty Care Assisted Living Facilities (SCALF)
- Boarding Homes (Jefferson)

The Medicaid Waiver Program for the Elderly & Disabled

● Services include:

- Case management
- Homemaker
- Personal care
- Respite, skilled and unskilled
- Adult day health
- Companion services
- Home delivered meals

● Persons served

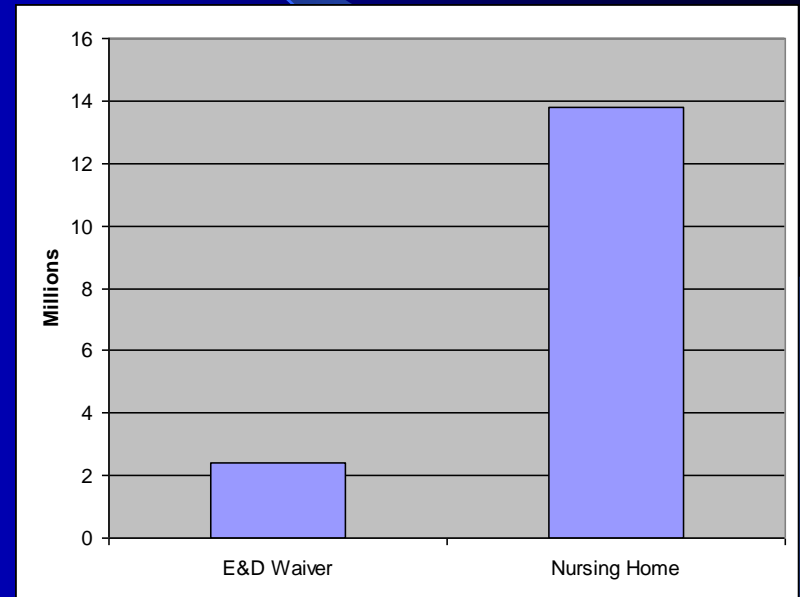
- Any age
- Financially eligible for Medicaid
- Those meeting the nursing home level of care

Economic Impact of Home & Community Based Services

By the year 2020, it is expected that it will cost Alabama Medicaid over a billion dollars a year just to pay for bed space in nursing homes.

• $3563 \times \$3,860.00$ (Nursing Home Cost) =
\$13.8 million

• $3563 \times \$660.00$ (E&D Waiver Cost) =
\$2.4 million



• **Monthly Savings = \$11.4 million**
(annual projected savings = \$136.8 million)

Accessing Services

- AAAs are focal point for all services
- Information available on internet at www.alabamaageline.gov
- Information also available through

1-800-AGELINE



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