



## Colorado Department of Human Services: Aging and Adult Services

Aging and Adult Services provides services to older adults and persons with disabilities in four major program areas: Adult Financial Services, Adult Protective Services, Older Americans Act and State Funding for Senior Services. Programs administered by the Division of Aging and Adult Services (AAS) and its contractors include:

- Aid to Needy Disabled (AND) and Aid to Blind (AB) Programs
- Old Age Pension (OAP) Basic Grant Program
- Colorado Supplement for the AND programs
- Burial Assistance Program
- Adult Protection Program (elder and disabled adult abuse prevention)
- Long-term Care Ombudsman Program for Older Persons
- Legal Service Developer Program for Older Persons
- Senior Community Service Employment Program
- Congregate Nutrition Service Program for Older Persons
- Home Delivered Meals for Older Persons
- Transportation Services Program for Older Persons
- In-home Support Services Program
- National Family Caregiver Program
- Information and Referral Programs
- Home Care Allowance
- Adult Foster Care

### **ADULT FINANCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS**

These programs provide cash assistance to low-income aged, blind and disabled persons to assist them in meeting basic living costs and to pay for funeral and burial costs. The program staff develops and implements policies and procedures for Adult Financial Services Programs. The county departments of social/human services personnel make program eligibility decisions.

Aid to the Needy Disabled (AND) – State Only -This program provides cash assistance to persons age 18 and over who have a disability which lasts six months or longer and precludes them from working. The AND State-Only program provides a cash benefit to individuals between 18 and 59 for a temporary period when they are disabled for fewer than 12 months or awaiting receipt of Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The monthly grant amount is \$200 effective January 2009 and the monthly average caseload is 6,186.

AND - Colorado Supplement Program -This program provides a state supplemental payment to persons age 18 – 59 who are eligible for the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program who do not receive the full SSI grant. The monthly grant amount is \$637 and the monthly average caseload is 900.

Aid to the Blind -This program provides cash assistance to persons age 18 – 59 who are blind, receive the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program and do not receive the full SSI grant. The monthly grant is \$637 and the monthly average caseload is one.

In FY 2008 - 2009, the appropriation for this program is \$17.4 million, of which \$11 million is General Fund; \$6 million is local cash funds of which federal interim assistance reimbursement amount of \$3.4 million must be collected each year.

Old Age Pension Grant – This grant program provides a monthly grant amount of \$699 effective January 2009 for low-income persons aged 60 and over. The Old Age Pension (OAP) program, established in 1937, provides cash benefits to individuals aged 60 years and older in three categories of assistance: OAP-A, the largest of the three categories, serves persons aged 65 or older; OAP-B serves persons between the ages of 60 and 64 with a disability; and OAP-C serves persons in state institutions, such as the Colorado mental health institutes, who receive no Medicaid (this category serves only a handful of Colorado residents). In SFY 2008 - 2009 the average monthly caseload was 23,549 (OAP-A, 18,850 OAP-B – 4,692 and OAP-C - 6) at a cost of \$80 million from the Old Age Pension Fund.

Burial Assistance -This program pays funeral and burial costs of public assistance recipients (i.e. those receiving Aid to the Needy Disabled, Aid to the Blind, Old Age Pension and Medicaid). Burial reimbursements for the Old Age Pension program are approximately \$900,000 in FY 2008-09. The appropriation for the AND/AB programs is approximately \$500,000, of which \$400,000 is General Fund and \$100,000 is from local county funds.

Home Care Allowance - This program provides a small monthly grant to the individual to purchase non-skilled in-home services from a provider of the individual's choice. In FY 2008-09 the appropriation was approximately \$10.8 million of which \$10.3 million is General Fund and \$544,000 is from local county funds.

Adult Foster Care - This program provides protective oversight, medication monitoring and supervision in a licensed assisted living residence for adults 18 and older. The annual appropriation for this service is only \$157,000 a year of which \$149,000 is General Fund and \$7,800 is from local county funds.

## **PROTECTION PROGRAMS**

These programs provide an organized system of adult protection and elder rights services to assure that adults age 18 and older are protected under the laws of the federal and state governments. These programs are intended to ensure that individuals have the freedom, independence and free exercise of individual initiative in planning and managing their own lives, and protection against abuse exploitation and neglect.

Adult Protection Program -This program provides intervention with or on behalf of at-risk adults age 18 and over to correct or alleviate situations in which actual or imminent dangers of abuse, neglect, or exploitation exists. The program works closely with law enforcement and other available community support systems to provide continuing safety from incidents of abuse, neglect or exploitation. Reports are investigated by county departments of social/human services, as well as on-going casework services. The expenditures for this program in FY 2008-09 are approximately \$7 million, of which \$2 million is federal Title XX Block Grant funds and the remainder is county administration funds.

Long Term Care Ombudsman Services for Older Persons -This program provides ombudsman services on behalf of individuals aged 60 and older who reside in nursing homes or assisted living residences. Ombudsmen identify, investigate and resolve complaints filed by nursing home residents and advocate for their rights. Participants receive services through local ombudsmen and Area Agencies on Aging. This program will receive approximately \$750,000 in federal and local funds in FY 2008-09.

Legal Services for Older Persons -This program provides legal services on behalf of persons aged 60 and older. Local service providers assist older adults in resolving their legal problems and advocate for their rights. Participants receive services through legal services providers and Area Agencies on Aging. Spending on the program in FY 2008-09 was approximately \$770,000 through the Older Americans Act (OAA), State and Local funds.

Coalition for Elder Rights and Adult Protection -This program provides education, training, and public awareness activities on behalf of at-risk adults to prevent the incidence of abuse, exploitation and neglect. Education, training and public awareness activities are conducted by several state and community entities. Spending on the program in FY 2008-09 was approximately \$25,000, of which \$15,000 is from Title VII of the older Americans Act funding and \$10,000 in state cash funds.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMS FOR OLDER PERSONS**

Community-based services are provided to persons age 55 and over on a statewide basis to assist them in being economically self-sufficient or to live in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

Senior Community Services Employment Program -This program places low income persons (125% of the poverty level) aged 55 and over in subsidized and non-subsidized jobs. Participants receive job counseling and coaching services through local service providers. This program was funded with approximately \$1,100,000 of federal Older American Act (OAA) Title V funds in FY 2008-09.

The funding for the following programs is comprised of approximately 5% General Fund and 85% Older American Act funding and 10% local match.

Congregate Nutrition Services Program -This program provides meals to persons aged 60 and older in a congregate setting to assure a nutritionally balanced diet and to provide opportunity for socialization for older adults. Participants receive services through local service providers and Area Agencies on Aging. Spending on this program in FY 2007-08 was approximately \$6.9 million through OAA, State and Local funds with 21,000 individuals receiving services.

Home Delivered Nutrition Services Program -This program provides meals to persons age 60 and over in a home setting for those unable to leave the home to assure a nutritionally balanced diet and care in home. Participants receive services through local service providers and Area Agencies on Aging. Spending on this project in FY 2007-08 was approximately \$6.1 million through OAA, State and Local funds with 8,000 individuals receiving services.

Transportation Services Program -This program provides transportation to persons aged 60 and older for medical appointments, grocery shopping, and to arrive at meal sites, etc. Participants receive services through local service providers and Area Agencies on Aging. Spending on this program in FY 2007-08 was approximately \$5.3 million through OAA, State and Local funds.

In-home Services -This program provides a variety of services to persons who are aged 60 and older who are in need of assistance with daily activities of living primarily because of functional impairments. In general, these individuals do not qualify for Medicaid funded long-term care programs or Home Care Allowance or Adult Foster Care Programs. Participants receive services through local service providers and Area Agencies on Aging. Spending on this program in FY 2007-08 was approximately \$2.2 million through OAA, State and Local funds with 1,270 individuals receiving services.

Other Community Based Services for Older Adults – These service include home maintenance and repair, screening, respite care, health education, escort services, information and referral, employment assistance, adult day care, interpreting services, counseling, individual follow-up, material aid, recreation, skilled nursing, visitors/telephone reassurance, and case management. Individuals receive services through local service providers and Area Agencies on Aging. Spending on this program in FY 2007-08 was approximately \$3.4 million in OAA, State and Local funds.

## **INFORMATION AND REFERRAL PROGRAMS**

The Information and Referral Program provides consumers with accurate and timely information through written, telephonic, electronic, and assistance technology. The Information and Referral Program includes:

- Adult Resources for Care and Help (ARCH) (currently 4 regions)
- Area Agencies on Aging Information and Referral Network (16 agencies)
- Options for Long Term Care Agencies information and referral network (25 agencies)
- County departments of social services information and referral network (64 agencies)
- Colorado Commission on Aging network (17 members)
- State Division Home Page information & public information materials
- Information and Referral Handbooks
- Eldercare locator Hot-line for long distance caregivers: 1-800-677-1116
- Adult Protection Hot-line: 1-800-773-1366
- Brochures and fact sheets in multiple translations

Funding for these programs in 2007-08 is budgeted at approximately \$732,000 of OAA, State and Local funds.