

The Older Americans Act & the Aging Network

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Outline

- Context setting
- Older Americans Act Overview
- Aging Services Network
- Aging Services
- The Role of I&R/As

Aging of the U.S. Population

- By 2030, 70 million Americans - twice their number in 2000 - will be 65+. At that point, older Americans will comprise 20% of the U.S. population, representing one in every 5 Americans.
- Currently, 16.4% of the older population is composed of minorities. By 2030, the minority populations are projected to represent 25.4% of the total 65+ Population.

Profile of Older Americans: Health Status

- Older Americans are living longer and healthier lives.
- Limitations on activities of daily living due to chronic conditions increase with age.
- In 1998, 28.8% of 65-74 year olds reported limitations due to chronic conditions, whereas over half (50.6%) of 75+ year olds reported limitations.

Older Americans Act: **Foundation of the Aging Network**

Older Americans Act of 1965

- Congressionally Initiated
- Constituent Based

Goal

- To provide maximum opportunities for older individuals to live independent, meaningful, and productive lives in their own homes and communities for as long as possible
- To protect the rights of vulnerable older persons

Older Americans Act

Key Provisions

- **Title I — Objectives**
- **Title II — Administration on Aging**
- **Title III — Grants for State & Community Programs**
 - A. Administration
 - B. Supportive Services & Senior Centers
 - C.1. Congregate Nutrition Services
 - 2. Home Delivered Nutrition Services
 - D. Disease Prevention & Health Promotion
 - E. National Family Caregiver Support Program

Older Americans Act

Key Provisions

- **Title IV — Training, Research and Discretionary Projects**
- **Title V — Senior Community Service Employment**
- **Title VI — Grants for Native Americans**
- **Title VII — Elder Rights Protection**

Older Americans Act

OBJECTIVES

Title I

- An adequate income
- Best possible physical and mental health
- Housing – independently selected, responsive to special needs
- ***Comprehensive long term care services***
- Employment opportunities
- Retirement in health, honor and dignity

Older Americans Act

OBJECTIVES

Title I

- ***Civic, cultural, educational and recreational opportunities***
- Efficient & coordinated community services, especially for vulnerable older persons
- Benefits from research
- ***Freedom, independence and the free exercise of individual initiative in planning and managing their own lives.***

OAA: Foundation for the Aging Service System

Two-Fold Mission

- **Service System Development**
- **Advocacy**

National Infrastructure

- **Federal**
- **State**
- **Local**

Service Targeting

- **Great Social, Economic Need**
- **Low-Income Minority Populations**
- **Rural Populations**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Administration on Aging

Central Office and Regional Offices

State Units on Aging (56)

Tribal
Organizations

(244)

n4a

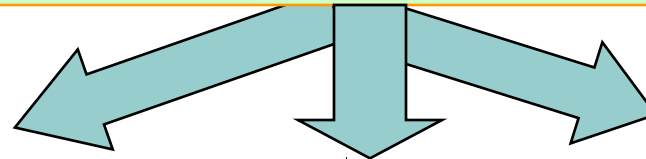
Area Agencies on Aging (629)

Local Service Provider Organizations (30,000)

CONSUMERS

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Administration on Aging (AoA)

- Lead by the Assistant Secretary on Aging
- Within the Department of Health and Human Services and regionally
- The Federal “focal point” on issues concerning older persons
- Administers grants to states and tribal organizations
- Guides, supports, works with and through the Aging Services Network

Aging Services Network – Comprehensive Service Delivery System

State Units on Aging (56)

- **Designated at state level**
- **Policy, planning & advocacy roles**

Area Agencies on Aging (629)

- **Designated by the SUA in 42 states**
- **Planning, coordinating & advocacy roles**

Aging Services Network – Comprehensive Service Delivery System

Title VI Native American Aging Programs (244 American Indian & 2 Native Alaskan Programs)

- **Title VI - created by 1978 OAA amendments**
- **Grants to Federally recognized tribes**
- **Supportive and nutrition services & family caregiver support**

Aging Services Network – Comprehensive Service Delivery System

Local Service Providers

- Contract with Area Agencies on Aging
- Provide direct services

Older individuals

- Serve on advisory committees
- Participate in planning
- Volunteering

Characteristics of AAAs

	Average (mean)	50 th Percentile (median)	Range
Budget (in millions)	\$9.7	\$4.1	<141,000 to >280 million
Proportion of budget from OAA	40.2	35.0	1-100
Proportion of budget from Medicaid*	21.2	12.0	1-95
Clients served	12,605	5,256	45-263,509
Full-time staff	41	22	0-579
Part-time staff	23	6	0-598
Volunteers	187	60	0-3,900
Providers	29	16	0-345



* These numbers reflect only those agencies which get at least some proportion of their budget from Medicaid

June 2009

Population served by OAA

- The people served by Older Americans Act services in 2006 were more vulnerable than the general 60+ population.
 - 27% live in poverty, compared to 10% of the overall 60+ population.
 - 35.4% live alone (versus 25.6% of 60+ overall)
 - 33% live in rural areas (versus 22.6% of 60+ overall)

Aging Information & Referral/Assistance

- Unique in the field of I&R
- Gateway to complex state and local aging service systems
- Relationships with other aging programs providing information, education, counseling and assistance

Comprehensive Services System

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graph TD; A[Comprehensive Services System] --- B[Services]; B --- C[Access]; B --- D[In-Home Services]; B --- E[Elder Rights Services]; B --- F[Community Services];
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Services

Access

In-Home Services

Elder Rights Services

Community Services

ACCESS

- I&R/A – Assistance and linkage to appropriate and available services and resources in the community
- Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs)
 - Build on Information and Assistance programs
 - Focus on access and information on long term services and supports for older adults and people with disabilities
 - 45 states, 198 demonstration sites
- Case management
- Transportation

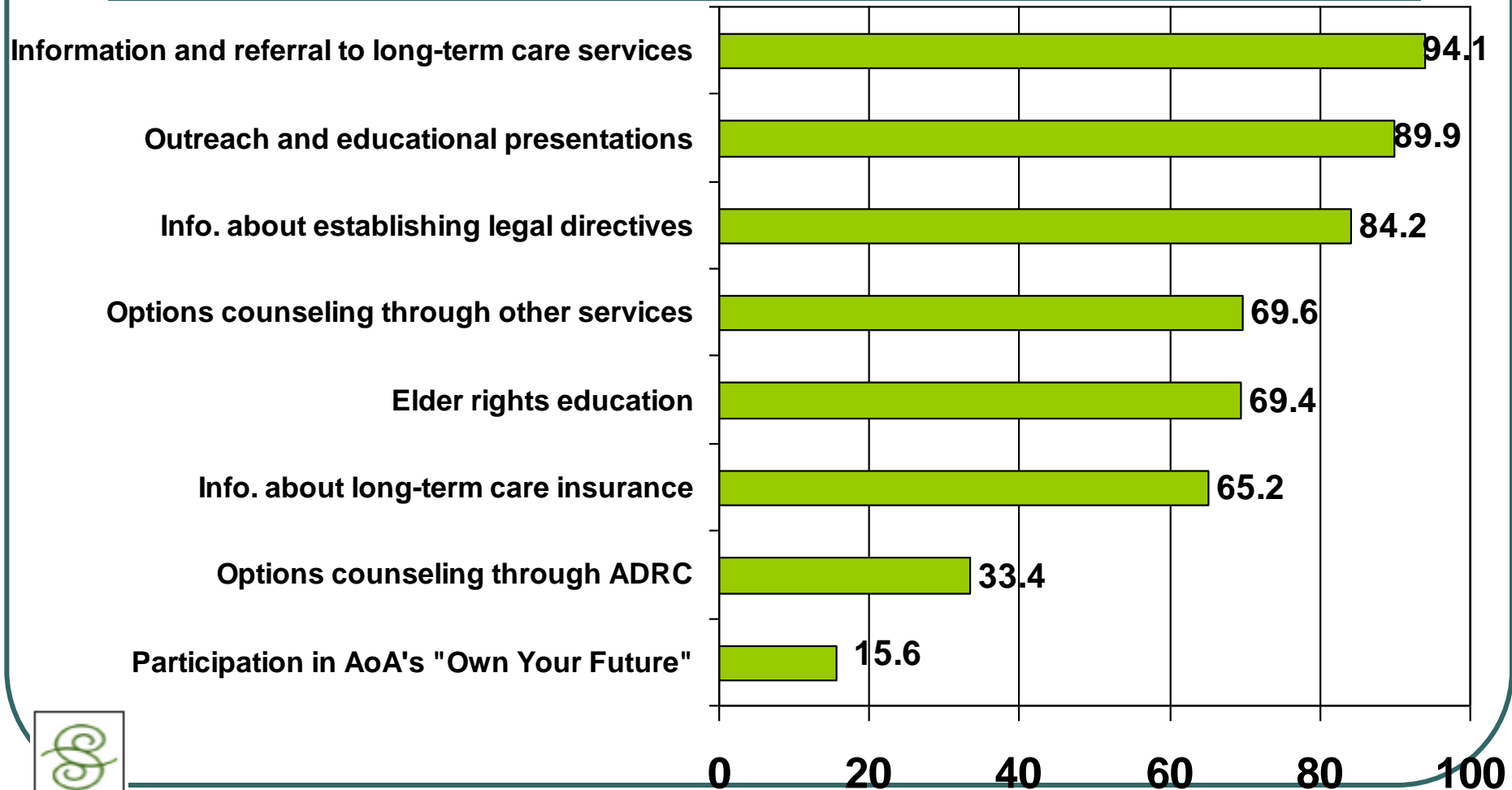
In-home & community services

- Homemaker/chore
- Personal care
- Home health
- Home repair
- Adult day services
- Housing assistance
- Caregiver Programs
- Employment (Title V)

Elder rights

- Ombudsman Program
- Elder abuse prevention/adult protection
- Legal assistance
- Senior Medicare Patrol
- Pension counseling
- Financial assistance
- State Health Insurance Counseling and Assistance Programs (SHIPs)

AAAs Involved in Long-Term Care Planning



Lives touched by OAA services

- About 7 million people received services such as transportation and **information and assistance** on an occasional basis.
- About 3 million people received OAA-funded services such as home delivered meals and home care on a regular basis.
- Support was provided to almost 700,000 family caregivers.
- Nearly 800,00 people at high nutritional risk received nutrition services.

Data sources: O'Shaughnessy, C. The Aging Services Network: Accomplishments and Challenges in Serving a Growing Elderly Population, National Health Policy Forum. April 11, 2008 ; and AGID.

In closing...

“An older person deserves a dream,
not just a memory”.

Dr. Arthur S. Flemming