

# Florida's Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) 2017 Legislative Priorities



**Priority:** Appropriate \$1.5 mil. in recurring General Revenue and \$1.5 mil from recurring Federal Medicaid Matching Funds for ADRC client services workload under the Statewide Medicaid Managed Long Term Care Program

## **Justification:**

- For FY 2016-17, the Legislature appropriated an additional \$1.3 million in recurring funds to support Florida's 11 ADRCs providing program eligibility and enrollment assistance to a growing number of frail seniors and adults with disabilities under the Statewide Medicaid Managed Long Term Care Program.
- Current Medicaid workload projections, documented by a September 2016 ADRC time study and submitted to the Florida Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA), project a recurring additional need of \$3 million for ADRC operations.
- ADRC workload is increasing due to more frail seniors and adults with disabilities seeking long term care assistance; more people being added to the Medicaid waiting list; increases in initial eligibility screenings and; and significantly increased annual eligibility rescreening requirements as a result of 2016 legislation, HB 1335, which increased ADRC annual rescreening requirements for persons on the DOEA waiting list for services.
- Furthermore, increased appropriations for new Medicaid Managed Long Term Care Program slots have a direct and immediate workload impact on ADRCs. *ALL* persons applying for the Home/Community-Based Component of the Statewide Medicaid Managed Long Term Care program *must* apply for services/eligibility through one of Florida's eleven ADRCs. Increased program slots = Increased applicants requesting ADRC eligibility and enrollment assistance which = Increased ADRC workload.

## **Return on Investment:**

- The return on investment for adequately funding the workload needs of Florida's Aging and Disability Resources Centers for performing their statutory duties to assistance frail seniors and adults with disabilities seeking eligibility and enrollment assistance in the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Long Term Care Program can be simply stated as follows:

Timely eligibility determination and enrollment in the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Long Term Care Program ensures reduced risk of nursing home placement for seniors and adults with disabilities. Cost-savings/cost avoidance is immediate: \$35,000 per year, per recipient for Medicaid Managed Long Term Care provided in the community versus \$70,000 per year for Medicaid nursing home care.

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**Priority:** Provide \$10,011,455 in General Revenue funding to serve 1,287 frail seniors (10% of the 'most at-risk'\* seniors) on the Department of Elder Affairs Waiting List for the Community Care/Home Care for the Elderly and Alzheimer's Respite Care Programs

## The Facts:

- The number of frail seniors, on the waiting list, for the Community Care as well as Home Care for the Elderly and Alzheimer's Respite Care Programs is at an ALL TIME HIGH - Over 59,900 seniors are waiting for home care services.
- 'Most at-risk' is defined as 'Assessed Risk Level 4 & 5' and includes frail seniors most at risk of nursing home placement if home care services are not provided. For September 2016, more than 14,200 frail seniors on the waiting list have been screened and are considered at the HIGHEST RISK for nursing home placement.
- The average annual cost of care for a senior enrolled in Community Care for the Elderly is just \$8,046 compared to \$64,770 for nursing home care.
- As reported by the Florida Legislative Office of Economic and Demographic Research:
  - Over 56% of Florida's population growth, between now and 2030, will be comprised of seniors aged 60+;
  - Florida has almost 1,000,000 seniors age 80+ who are most likely to require long term care assistance;
  - The long projected 'Age-Wave' and the demand for long term care services HAS ARRIVED! With over 4.6 million seniors, Florida ranks 1<sup>st</sup> as the state with the highest number and percentage of seniors aged 65+.
- Florida's Community Care for the Elderly (CCE) and Alzheimer's Respite Care (ADI) Programs:
  - Average age of seniors served by these programs is between 81 to 83 years old.
  - 68% to 71% of seniors enrolled are female and require assistance with 3 to 5 activities of daily living (eating, bathing, dressing, grooming, ambulating, and toileting)
  - Provide high risk, functionally impaired, lower-income seniors, who do not qualify for Medicaid, with assistance at home and in the community. These services are not provided by Medicare and include priority service to all, high risk, Adult Protective Services referrals received from the Dept. of Children & Families;
  - Provide services to help seniors remain independent in their community such as home delivered meals, personal care, adult day care, medical transportation, homemaker services, and other supportive services;
  - Help slow the rate of growth in Medicaid expenditures by providing a minimal amount of help needed by frail seniors to remain at home safely and with dignity;
  - Provide critical support, training, respite, and assistance to full-time caregivers.

## The Return on Investment to Taxpayers:

Total annual cost to serve 10% of the most at risk seniors (1,287 consumers) on DOEA Waiting List:	\$10,011,455
Total annual cost to serve these same 1,287 seniors in a nursing home (paid for by Medicaid):	<u>\$83,358,990</u>
Total potential cost-savings - comparing home care costs to nursing home care costs:	<b>\$73,347,535</b>



# Florida's Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs)

## Statutory & Contractual Roles & Responsibilities

- Florida's eleven ADRCs, also known as Area Agencies on Aging, are established under Chapter 430, Florida Statutes, and the Federal Older Americans Act as enacted by Congress.
- Regionally located ADRCs, under contract with the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, provide seniors, adults with disabilities, families, and caregivers with a 'One-Stop-Shop' for information, eligibility, and access to Florida's long term care programs. ADRC statutory and contractual responsibilities include:

### ✓ Assistance Consumers under the Statewide Medicaid Managed Long Term Care Program with:

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| a. Program information, education and referral; | b. Intake & program eligibility screening;                |
| c. Medicaid financial application assistance;   | d. Obtaining 3008 Level of care for Medicaid eligibility; |
| e. Annual waiting list re-screening             | f. Enrollment Management System (Wait list releases);     |
| g. Consumer grievance/complaint resolution.     |   |

### ✓ Locally Operate Florida's Statewide 1-800 Elder & Disabled Help Line:

Annually, ADRCs respond locally to hundreds of thousands of calls, each received by Florida's Statewide Elder & Disabled Help Line, an information, education, & referral service providing information to seniors, adults with disabilities, caregivers, and families about services available within the community. Area Agencies on Aging responded to over 1,000,000 consumer calls for assistance in FY 2014-15.

### ✓ Manage State & Federally funded Home & Community Care Senior Programs:

AAAs manage over \$225 million annually in non-Medicaid-funded service contracts at the local level for the Florida of Elder Affairs. These state and federally funded home & community care programs for seniors administered by ADRCs include; Community Care for the Elderly; Home Care for the Elderly; Older Americans Act; Alzheimer's Respite Care; Local Service Programs; Adult Care Food Program; Medicare Counseling (SHINE Program); Elder Abuse Prevention & Training and; Emergency Home Energy Assistance.

Area Agencies on Aging are locally responsible for:

- Developing & implementing an area-wide strategic plan for service delivery to target populations;
- Contract management , compliance monitoring, data integrity and reporting;
- Quality assurance monitoring and program/provider performance measures;
- Competitive procurement of Community Care for the Elderly Lead Agencies;
- Competitive procurement of Older Americans Act Program Service Providers;
- Financial & programmatic oversight/monitoring of service provider contract/service operations

*Florida's Aging & Disability Resource Centers are private, not-for-profit entities, advocating, planning, coordinating, and administering a system of supportive services for seniors and adults with disabilities in every region of Florida, working to ensure quality, financial accountability, and consumer satisfaction.*