



Services through Area Agencies on Aging and Aging and Disability Resource Centers

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Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs): Target Populations

- Funded by DADS to assist:
 - Persons age 60 and over
 - Caregivers of persons age 60 and over
 - Caregivers of persons of any age with Alzheimer's or related dementias
 - Grandparents at least 55 years of age with custody of grandchildren under the age of 18



AAAs and Client Eligibility

- Programs are age-based rather than means tested
- Enabling legislation requires that programs target older persons/caregivers who are “at risk” associated with economic need, social isolation, frailty, minority status, cognitive impairment



AAAs and Service Cost

- Services provided at no cost to eligible individuals, although voluntary contributions are encouraged

AAAs and Service Array ⁽¹⁾

- “Core” services (i.e., available through all):
 - Information, referral and assistance
 - Care coordination/caregiver support coordination
 - In-home services
 - Home-delivered meals
 - Congregate meals
 - Benefits counseling
 - Long-term care ombudsman



AAAs and Service Array ⁽²⁾

- AAAs have flexibility to determine other services they will offer and funding priority
- Other services include transportation, adult day activity, senior center operations, supports for grandparents raising grandchildren, caregiver respite, health promotion



AAA Programs of Interest to HHSC Ombudsmen/Clients

- Benefits counseling: assists persons age 60 and over and Medicare beneficiaries of any age with public and private benefit issues
 - Medicare
 - Medicaid
 - Veterans Administration
 - Pensions

Benefits Counseling Scope of Work ⁽¹⁾

○ Medicare

- Coverage
- Medicare supplements
- Medicare Advantage Programs
- Medicare Part D plan comparisons
- Medicare Savings Programs and Low Income Subsidies
- Claim denials

Benefits Counseling Scope of Work ⁽²⁾

○ Medicaid

- Nursing home Medicaid
- Qualifying income trusts
- Spousal impoverishment
- Medicaid Estate Recovery Program

Benefits Counseling Scope of Work ⁽³⁾

- Veterans Administration
 - Homebound pensions
 - Aid and Attendance
- Private benefits
 - Pensions
 - Pharmaceutical companies' patient assistance programs



Information, Referral and Assistance Scope of Work

- Identify federal, state and *local* programs

Care Coordination Scope of Work

- Provide temporary assistance, while seeking to secure on-going assistance as possible
 - Case management
 - Purchased services
 - In-home services
 - Home modifications
 - Medical equipment and supplies
 - Emergency financial assistance



Care Coordination Target Populations

- Older persons who are unable to access services through other programs, either public or private
 - In general, will not authorize Medicaid-funded services for Medicaid beneficiaries



Caregiver Support Coordination Scope of Work

- Provide temporary assistance, while seeking to secure on-going assistance as possible
 - Case management
 - Purchased services
 - Respite care
 - Home modifications
 - Medical equipment and supplies
 - Emergency financial assistance



Caregiver Support Coordination Target Population

- Caregivers who are at risk of burnout because of illness/care receivers' demands/work demands/responsibilities for more than one care receiver



Long-Term Care Ombudsman Scope of Work

- Help identify facilities best equipped to meet care needs
- Resolve residents' concerns regarding quality of care or quality of life
- Assist with appeals of nursing home Medicaid denials/involuntary discharges, as requested



When to Refer to AAAs

○ Need for :

- local resources to help older persons at risk of nursing home placement
- supports for caregiver at risk of burnout
- nutrition services
- help with Medicare/other public benefits
- advocacy to help nursing home/assisted living facility residents



When to Refer to AAAs

- If primary need is for financial assistance, 2-1-1 is best resource
 - AAAs may be able to help with bills/purchased services, but will apply screening criteria



AAA Limitations

- In most cases cannot assist persons under age of 60 (unless they're caregivers of age-eligible individuals)
- In-home services/financial assistance extremely limited



AAA Network

- DADS contracts with 28 parent organizations, providing statewide coverage
 - 24 Councils of Governments (one administering two AAAs)
 - Community Council of Greater Dallas
 - United Way of Tarrant County
 - City of Houston



Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) Eligible Populations

- Persons of all ages with all types of disabilities
- Caregivers of persons with disabilities
- Persons who wish to plan in advance of need
- Persons with all income levels



ADRC Primary Target Population

- Persons in need of long-term services and supports



ADRC Core Services

- Specialized information, referral and assistance
- Housing navigation
- Nursing home options counseling
- LTSS screening



Housing Navigation Scope of Work

- Compile affordable housing inventory
- Advocate for expansion of affordable, accessible, integrated, and service-enriched housing



Nursing Home Options

Counseling Scope of Work

- Counsel nursing home residents without Medicaid benefits regarding community-based services



LTSS Screening

- Conduct Level One Screen for persons in need of long-term services and supports
 - Generate referrals to DADS, LIDDAs, LMHAs, AAAs for those who meet basic eligibility criteria



When to Refer to ADRCs

- Persons of any age in need of:
 - long-term services and supports
 - subsidized housing
- Nursing home residents who wish to return to community



Limitations of ADRCs

- Not funded for case management
- Not funded for purchased services
- Little/no access to Medicaid data or ability to intervene with Medicaid eligibility issues



ADRC Network

- Parent organizations selected by DADS via competitive procurement
 - Councils of Governments
 - Local Authorities
 - Centers for Independent Living
 - Not-for-profit organizations



Contact Information

Texas Area Agencies on Aging:

1-800-252-9240

Texas Aging and Disability Resource
Centers:

1-855-937-2372



Questions?

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