



South Carolina
House of Representatives
Legislative Oversight Committee

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February 28, 2023

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Agenda



South Carolina House of Representatives Legislative Oversight Committee

HEALTHCARE AND REGULATORY SUBCOMMITTEE

Chairman Joseph H. "Joe" Jefferson, Jr.

The Honorable April Cromer
The Honorable Roger K. Kirby
The Honorable Thomas Duval "Val" Guest, Jr.
The Honorable Marvin "Mark" Smith

AGENDA

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Room 110 - Blatt Building

Pursuant to Committee Rule 6.8, S.C. ETV shall be allowed access for internet streaming whenever technologically feasible.

AGENDA

- I. Approval of Minutes from May 11, 2022, meeting
- II. Discussion of the study of the Department on Aging
- III. Adjournment

Meeting Minutes



South Carolina House of Representatives Legislative Oversight Committee

Chair Jeffrey E. “Jeff” Johnson

William H. Bailey
Gary S. Brewer
April Cromer
Kambrell H. Garvin
Leon Douglas “Doug” Gilliam
Thomas Duval “Val” Guest, Jr.

William M. “Bill” Hixon
Joseph H. “Joe” Jefferson, Jr.
Wendell Keith Jones
Roger K. Kirby
Josiah Magnuson
John R. McCravy, III

First Vice-Chair Chris Wooten

Timothy A. “Tim” McGinnis
Adam M. Morgan
Travis A. Moore
Russell L. Ott
Marvin R. Pendarvis
Marvin “Mark” Smith

Charles L. Appleby IV
Legal Counsel

Cathy A. Greer
Administration Coordinator

Lewis Carter
Research Director

Roland Franklin
Counsel/Associate General Counsel for Litigation

Riley E. McCullough
Research Analyst

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Columbia, South Carolina 29211
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Room 228 Blatt Building

Legislative Oversight Committee

Wednesday, May 11, 2022
9:00 a.m. Blatt Room 321

Archived Video Available

- I. Pursuant to House Legislative Oversight Committee Rule 6.7, South Carolina ETV was allowed access for streaming the meeting. You may access an archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly’s website (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>) and clicking on *Committee Postings and Reports*, then under *House Standing Committees* click on *Legislative Oversight*. Then, click on *Video Archives* for a listing of archived videos for the Committee.

Attendance

- I. The Healthcare and Regulatory Subcommittee meeting was called to order by Chair John Taliaferro (Jay) West on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, in Room 321 of the Blatt Building. Representative Rosalyn D. Henderson-Myers and Committee First Vice Chair Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr., were present for the meeting. Pursuant to Committee Rule 5.5, the First Vice-Chair may sever as a member of a subcommittee to achieve the number necessary to constitute a quorum.

Minutes

- I. House Rule 4.5 requires standing committees to prepare and make available to the public the minutes of committee meetings, but the minutes do not have to be verbatim accounts of meetings.

Approval of Minutes

- I. Representative Henderson-Myers makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes from prior meeting. A roll call vote was held, and the motion passed.

Rep. Henderson-Myers motion to approve meeting minutes.	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Gatch			✓
Rep. Henderson-Meyers	✓		
Rep. McGinnis			✓
Rep. West	✓		
Rep. Jefferson	✓		

Discussion of State Accident Fund

- I. The Subcommittee discusses and reviews potential findings and recommendations for its study of the State Accident Fund.
- II. Representative Henderson-Myers makes a motion to approve the study findings and recommendations as presented in the meeting packet. A roll call vote was held, and the motion passed.

Rep. Henderson-Myers motion to approve meeting minutes.	Yea	Nay	Not Voting
Rep. Gatch			✓
Rep. Henderson-Meyers	✓		
Rep. McGinnis			✓
Rep. West	✓		
Rep. Jefferson	✓		

- III. Subcommittee Chair West directed Committee staff to draft the Subcommittee's report and provide a copy of it to the subcommittee members by the end of business on Friday, June 3, 2022. Any member may provide a written statement for inclusion in the report by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 10, 2022. Subcommittee Chair West will provide notice that the Subcommittee's Study of the State Accident Fund is available for consideration by the full Committee, unless he receives a written request for another meeting from a subcommittee member prior to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 10, 2022. Deadlines are subject to change in the Subcommittee's Chair's discretion.

Adjournment

- I. There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned.

Agency Snapshot

Department on Aging

Agency Mission

Working to meet the present and future needs of seniors and to enhance the quality of life for seniors through advocating, planning, and developing resources in partnership with federal, state, and local governments, nonprofits, the private sector and individuals.

Successes

Identified by the agency

History

- 1965 - Passage of the federal Older Americans Act, which mandates and authorizes programs, services, and structure which the Department on Aging now implements.
- 1965-2018 - The Department on Aging was known as the Commission on Aging, Division on Aging in the Governor's Office, Bureau on Aging in S.C. Health and Human Services, and Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging.
- 2018 - Passage of legislation establishing the Department on Aging as a cabinet agency.

Organizational Units

- Administration
- Community Resources
- Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem Program
- Ombudsman
- Finance, Grants, and Budgets
- Information Technology/Security/Business Analysis

Resources (FY 19-20)

Employees

43
at end of the fiscal year

Funding

\$52,250,492
appropriated and authorized

- Receiving two grants that will aid the respite, caregiver, and Alzheimer's programs
- Developing "break rooms" in four SC churches
- Receiving an Alzheimer's Disease Program Initiative Grant that focuses on the rural African American population
- Implementing South Carolina Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem Program

Challenges

Identified by the agency

Current:

- Transitioning to a new independent department of government
- Growing aging population in South Carolina
- Funding for aging services

Emerging:

- Senior population will double by 2030 and approximately 11.5% of that population lives in poverty
- At least 10% of state's population has Alzheimer's disease or dementia
- One in 11 of state's seniors are at risk for hunger and state ranks third in the nation for food insecurities

Agency Presentation



South Carolina **DEPARTMENT ON AGING**

House Oversight Committee
Presentation

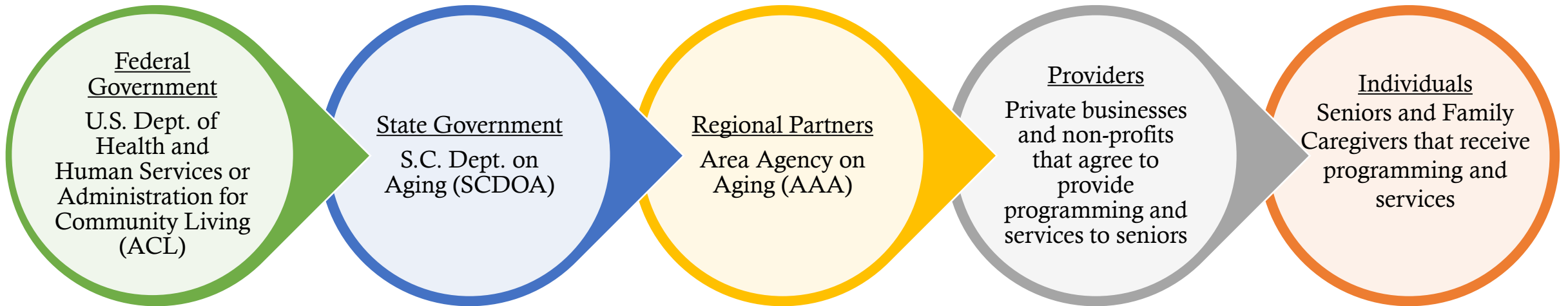
Background and Relationships Between Federal, State, and Local Entities

Background

The federal Older Americans Act (OAA) passed in 1965.

The OAA requires each state have a federally designated State Unit on Aging (SUA). It further mandates and authorizes certain programs, services, and structures for each state aging network.

Parties involved in Providing Funding and Services for Older Americans and Caregivers



Parties involved in Providing Funding and Services for Older Americans and Caregivers



Government

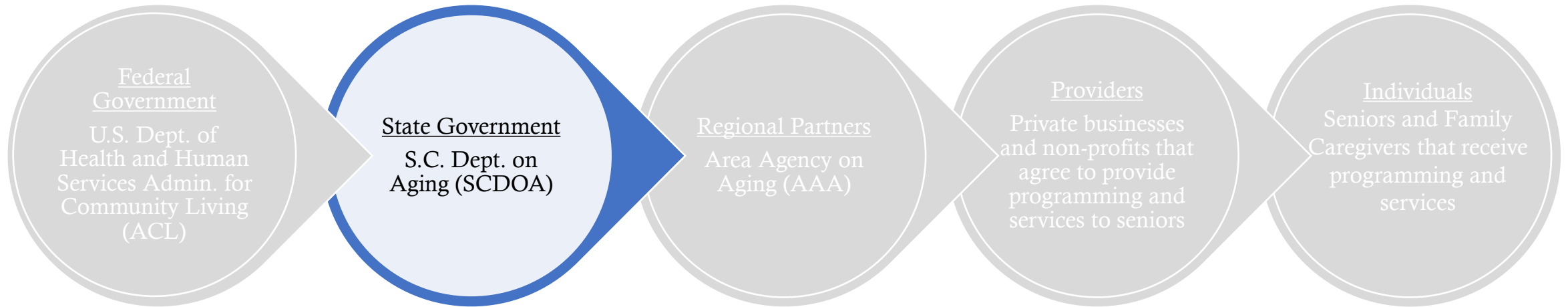
U.S. Health and Human Services' ACL

- Responsible for the administration, coordination, and funding of aging services
- Has direct oversight of the S.C. Department on Aging

U.S. Department of Labor

- Funds and has oversight of the Senior Employment State Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) at the S.C. Department on Aging

Parties involved in Providing Funding and Services for Older Americans and Caregivers



State Government

S.C. Department on Aging

- Responsible for dividing the state into Planning and Service Area regions
- Responsible for choosing an entity within each area to serve as the Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

State Unit on Aging:

S.C. Department on Aging's Responsibilities

- Develops
 - (1) State Plan on Aging (most recent was State Plan on Aging 2021-2025)
 - (2) State Aging Network's Policies and Procedures Manual (current version – Effective October 1, 2021)
- Divides state into Planning and Service Areas and selects entities to serve as AAAs
- Acts as a system of checks-and-balances for the regional network structure
- Administers all federal OAA funds allocated to the state and state-appropriated funds
- Prohibited by federal law from being involved in the local procurement of services (this is the AAA's responsibility)

Parties involved in Providing Funding and Services for Older Americans and Caregivers



Regional Partners

Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)

- The AAAs have a competitive procurement process to select contracted providers in defined areas of their regions. Section 305(a)(2)(A) of the Older Americans Act allows for public or private non-profit and local governments in such areas.
- In South Carolina, seven AAAs are associated directly with a Council of Governments (COG), one is associated with a health care system, and the remaining two are non-profit organizations.
- The AAAs are responsible for planning, collaborating, and the coordination of regional services. Their contracted providers are responsible for the delivery of services within their defined areas.

Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Responsibilities

Follow the mandates of OAA (federal Law), S.C. Aging Network's Policies and Procedures Manual (developed by S.C. Department on Aging) and all programmatic guidelines when setting region-specific policies for coordinating the delivery of services

Develop Area Plan on Aging, and plan administration and resource development

Work with the community to develop a comprehensive coordinated service delivery system

Establish and coordinate the activities of an advisory council, which provides input on development and implementation of the area plan; assist in conducting public hearings; review and comment on all community policies, programs, and actions affecting older persons in the area

Must validate funding with the State Unit on Aging, S.C. Department on Aging (at least annually) to detail the amount of funds expended for each category during the fiscal year most recently concluded*

Competitively procures contracted providers for a wide range of aging services offered locally to seniors and establishes legal contractual relationships with their county providers

Selection of Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

Selection Method

OAA 305(b)(1) In carrying out the requirement of subsection (a)(1), the State may designate as a planning and service area any unit of general purpose local government which has a population of 100,000 or more. In any case in which a unit of general purpose local government makes application to the State agency under the preceding sentence to be designated as a planning and service area, the State agency shall, upon request, provide an opportunity for a hearing to such unit of general purpose local government. A State may designate as a planning and service area under subsection (a)(1) any region within the State recognized for purposes of area wide planning which includes one or more such units of general purpose local government when the State determines that the designation of such a regional planning and service area is necessary for, and will enhance, the effective administration of the programs authorized by this title.

The State may include in any planning and service area designated under subsection (a)(1) such additional areas adjacent to the unit of general purpose local government or regions so designated as the State determines to be necessary for, and will enhance the effective administration of the programs authorized by this title.

Note: The AAAs were selected before the SUA became the DOA. No one currently on staff was involved in the selection. No documents remain with the agency from the time AAAs were designated.

Planning and Service Areas

In South Carolina, there are 10 planning and service areas as indicated in the map below.

Region I Appalachian: (Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, and Spartanburg)

Region II Upper Savannah: (Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, and Saluda)

Region III Catawba: (Chester, Lancaster, York, and Union)

Region IV Central Midlands: (Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, and Richland)

Region V Lower Savannah: (Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, and Orangeburg)

Region VI Santee-Lynches: (Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, and Sumter)

Region VII Pee Dee: (Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marion, and Marlboro)

Region VIII Waccamaw: (Georgetown, Horry, and Williamsburg)

Region IX Trident: (Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester)

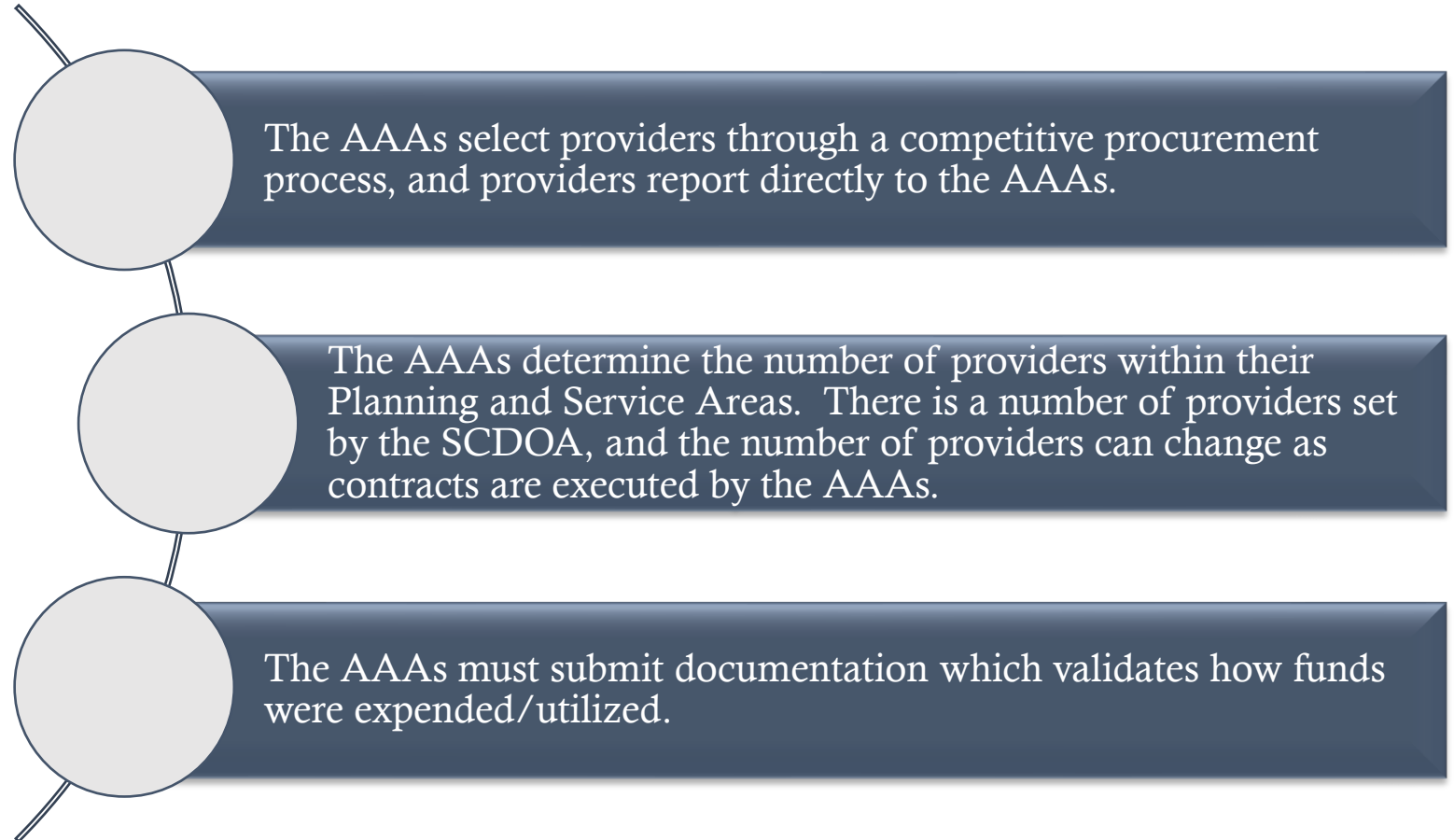
Region X Lowcountry: (Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, and Jasper)



Focal Points

Local Level of Aging Network

AAAs designate “focal points,” which represent the local level of the state aging network and represent “a facility established to encourage the maximum collocation and coordination of services for older individuals.” Focal points provide leadership on aging issues in their respective communities and carry out a comprehensive service system for older adults OR coordinate with a comprehensive service system in providing services for older adults.



Parties involved in Providing Funding and Services for Older Americans and Caregivers



Providers

- The providers are contractors for the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) who are responsible for the delivery of services within a defined area, as stipulated by the AAA.

AAA 1 = SC Appalachian Council of Governments # of years serving local provider →	
Pickens County Meals on Wheels	8+
Senior Action, Inc.	51+
Senior Centers of Cherokee County, Inc.	41+
Spartanburg Council on Aging	7
Senior Solutions	51+

AAA 2= Upper Savannah Council of Governments	
Edgefield Senior Citizens Council (also provides services in Saluda County)	51
McCormick County Senior Center, Inc.	51
Piedmont Agency on Aging	34

AAA 3= Catawba Area Agency on Aging	
Lancaster County Council on Aging	49
York County Council on Aging	55
Union County Council on Aging	30

Local Providers

Local level of aging network



AAA 4= Central Midlands Council of Governments	
Fairfield County Council on Aging	51
Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission	55
Newberry County Council on Aging	46
Senior Resources	56

AAA 5= Lower Savannah Council of Governments	
Aiken Senior Life Services	52
Allendale County Office on Aging	49
Bamberg County Office on Aging	48
Calhoun County Council on Aging	47
Generations Unlimited	49
Orangeburg County Council on Aging	51

AAA 6= Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments	
Clarendon County Council on Aging	51
Kershaw County Council on Aging	49
Lee County Council on Aging	48
Sumter Senior Services	54

Local Providers

Local level of aging network



AAA 7 = Caresouth Carolina, Inc. # of years serving local provider	
Chesterfield County Council on Aging	49
Darlington County Council for the Aging	45
Dillon County Council on Aging	42
Senior Citizens Association of Florence County	22
Marion County Council on Aging	50
Marlboro County Council on Aging	49

AAA 8= Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments	
Georgetown County Bureau of Aging Services	50
Horry County Council on Aging	48
Vital Aging	26

AAA 9= Trident Area Agency on Aging	
Berkeley Senior's Inc.	27
Charleston Area Senior Citizens, Inc.	47
Dorchester Seniors, Inc.	31
Roper St. Francis Foundation	18
South Santee Community Center	31

AAA 10= Lowcountry Council of Governments	
Colleton County Council on Aging	48
Hampton County Council on Aging	42
Jasper County Council on Aging	50

Parties involved in Providing Funding and Services for Older Americans and Caregivers



Individuals

- 60+
- Minority 60+
- Low-Income 60+
- Estimated Rural 60+
- Individuals with Disabilities 60+
- Individuals with Limited English Speaking Proficiency 60+

Family Caregivers

- Adult caring for a frail adult aged 60+
- Adult caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia.
- Relative caregivers (55 or older) raising a child under 18
- Persons (55 or older) caring for a disabled adult (18-59 years)

Other agencies that also serve these customers

- DDSN – Disabilities and Special Needs
- DHHS - Medicaid
- DSS

Major Events Timeline, Governing Body, Agency Head, and Organizational Chart

SCDOA History and Timeline Highlights

1965: Passage of the federal Older Americans Act

2009: The proviso moving the Division on Aging to the Lieutenant Governor's Office is codified

2018: Legislation passes creating the S.C. Department on Aging as a cabinet agency

2020: Connie Munn is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate

2005: Division on Aging of the Department of Health and Human Services is moved to the Lieutenant Governor's Office

2014: Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem program in the Office on Aging is created

2019: The Department on Aging is officially designated as a cabinet agency on January 1, 2019

Creation of SCDOA

- **1966** (Act No. 749), the General Assembly passed An Act to Establish the South Carolina Interagency Council on Aging.
- **1971** (Act No. 294), the General Assembly passed An Act to Establish the South Carolina Commission on Aging; To Create the Interagency Advisory Council on Aging; and to Repeal Act No. 749 of 1966, Relating to the South Carolina Interagency Council on Aging.
- **1993** (Act No. 181), the General Assembly passed an act making the Commission on Aging a division of the Governor's Office.
- **1997 (1998 Legislative Manual)**, the Division of Aging in the Governor's Office was transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services.
- **2005**, the Division of Aging was transferred to the Lt. Governor's Office by legislative proviso.
- **2008** (Act No. 353), the General Assembly created the Division on Aging in the Lt. Governor's Office; Codified in 2009.
- **2018** (Act No. 216), the General Assembly designated the Department of Aging as a Department within the Executive Branch of Government.

Governance

The Department on Aging is a member of the Governor's cabinet.

The agency reports to the Governor and has no other governing body, except the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Community Living (ACL).

Title 43, Chapter 21 of the S.C. Code of Laws designates the S.C. Department on Aging to administer and implement all programs of the federal government relating to aging.

SCDOA Mission & Vision

Mission

Meet the present and future needs of seniors and to enhance the quality of life for older South Carolinians through advocating, planning, and developing resources in partnership with federal, state, and local governments, non-profits, the private sector, and individuals.

Vision

Provide leadership, advocacy, and collaboration to assure a full spectrum of services, so that South Carolina seniors and/or adults with disabilities can enjoy an enhanced quality of life, contribute to their communities, have economic security, and receive the support necessary to age with choice and dignity.



Agency Director: Appointment

The Director of the S.C. Department on Aging is appointed by the Governor and confirmed upon advice and consent of the Senate.*

The Director serves as the Administrative Officer of the agency and at the pleasure of the Governor, subject to removal pursuant to the provisions in S.C. Code Ann. Section 1-3-240.

Agency Directors and Time of Service

In the last 18 years, there have been ten different directors of the Agency.

Name	Appointed By	Dates of Service	Number of Years as Director
Cornellia Gibbons	Lt. Governor Bauer	Between 2005 - 2006	1 year
Michael Easterday	Lt. Governor Bauer	Between 2006 - 2007	1 year
Curtis Loftis	Lt. Governor Bauer	2007 – 2008	1 year
Tony Kester	Lt. Governors Bauer, Ard, McConnell, and McGill	2008 – 2014	6 years
Yancey McGill	Lt. Governor McMaster	2015	Less than 1 year
Mark Plowden	Lt. Governor McMaster	January 2015 – January 24, 2017	2 years
Steve Morris	Lt. Governor McMaster	January 2017 – February 2017	Less than 1 year
Darryl Broome	Lt. Governor Bryant	February 2017 – December 2018	Less than 2 years
Steve Morris	Lt. Governor Bryant	December 4, 2018 – December 31, 2018	Less than 1 month
Steve Morris (was not confirmed when the Department became a cabinet level agency)	Governor McMaster	January 2019 – January 2020	1 year
Connie Munn (Confirmed)	Governor McMaster	January 2020 – Present	3 years

Agency Director: Qualifications

Qualifications for the agency director are not prescribed by statute.

The most recent search for the current Director included the following minimum and preferred qualifications:

Minimum Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree and relevant program experience to include administrative services, public or business management
- Ten years of progressive leadership and management of executive staff
- Ability to work with internal and external partners
- Implement and adhere to agency/program policies and procedures.
- Maintain strict confidentiality
- Possess tact and ability to communicate appropriately, both orally and in writing with co-workers, legislators, and public
- Ability to follow and give written and oral instructions

- Ability to collect and assemble information in a clear and concise manner
- Must be flexible and dependable
- Ability to independently perform a variety of advanced duties while utilizing management

Preferred Qualifications

- Master's Degree in Public Administration or related discipline area and over 10 years of experience in governmental programs and relations

Agency Director: Current Director Background

- Bachelors of Art Degree in Social Work from Columbia College and her Masters of Social Work from the University of South Carolina, where she specialized in geriatrics
- Chief of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Director for the Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments.
- Former Vice Chair for the Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging (SE4A)

Agency Director: Duties

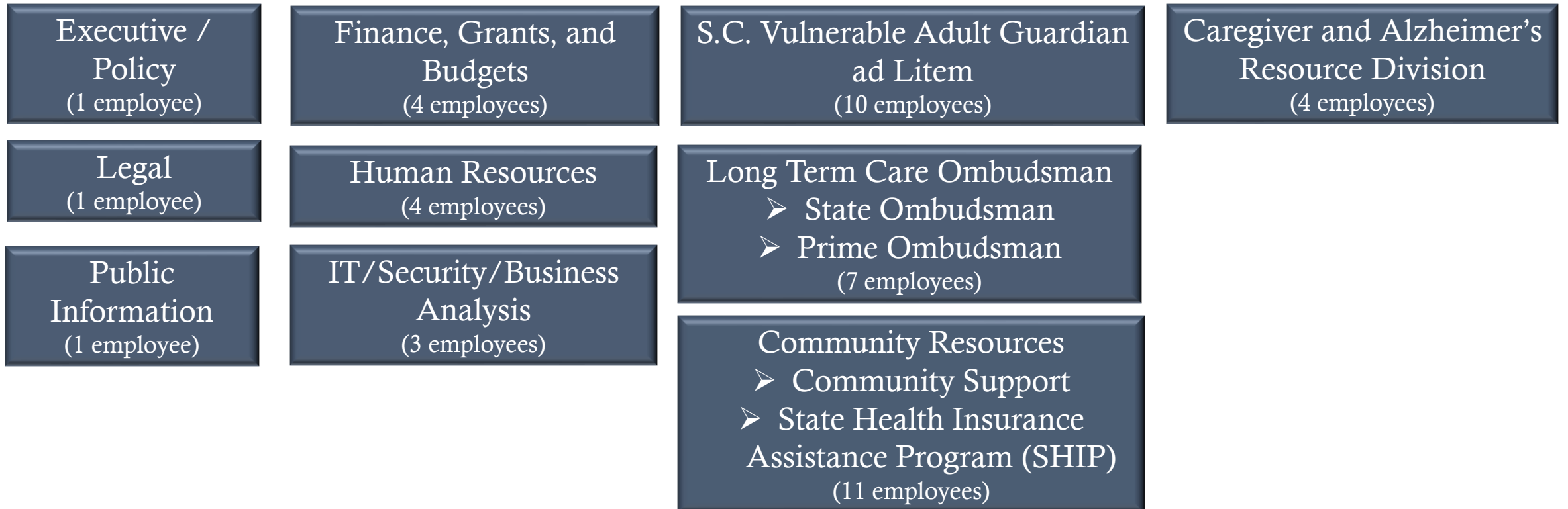


Connie D. Munn, MSW
Director
S.C. Department on Aging

- Administers the Department and its policies
- Coordinates and reviews both federal and state policies affecting older adults and caregivers
- Undertakes broad advocacy activities
- Serves as a liaison with public and private agencies and organizations to represent the interests of South Carolina's elderly population

Organizational Chart

Agency Director reports to the Governor;
Individuals responsible for each area below report directly to the Agency Director.



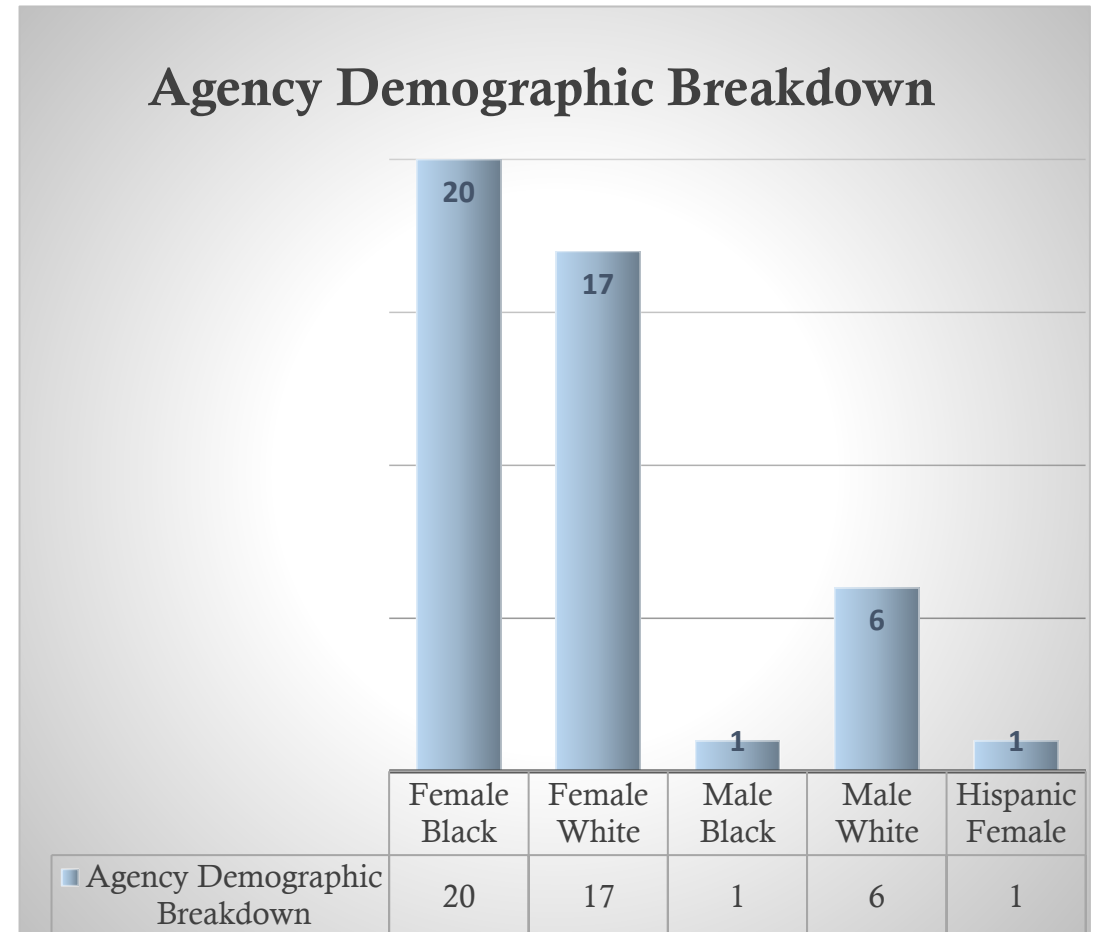
Personnel and Finance Overview

Personnel, Demographics, and FTE Breakdown

AGENCY FTE BREAKDOWN			
Funding Type	Filled	Vacant	Total
State	23.34	5.69	29.03
Federal	18.16	1.81	19.97
Other	0.50	0.00	0.50
Total	42.00	7.5	49.50

AGENCY TURNOVER RATE

Executive	19.05%
Ombudsman	19.05%
Community Services	23.81%
Budget/Finance	4.77%
VAGAL	28.58%
Admin	4.77%



Training, Development, and Retention Strategies

Training and Development

- All Staff currently participates in mandatory webinars relative to the purview of their job/scope. Over the past several months the agency has been participating in various professional development and leadership programs to include: Welcome to Change, Team Foundation, Communication and Biases, and Conflict Resolution. Future trainings already scheduled are DEIB (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging) and Harassment.
- Annual Code of Conduct Training is required
- Upcoming Personality Tool and Workplace Assessment Training planned
- Professional Development Certifications through the Division of State Human Resources: The agency has had two employees to successfully complete the Certified Public Management program and one employee that most recently complete the Associate Professional Management Program. Two Divisional Directors have completed leadership training through Clemson University.
- Conferences and Trainings for Individual Functions and Needs: When a position change is not immediately available, continued career growth is possible if an employee can take on additional duties and participate in special projects.

Retention Strategies

- Retention strategies include (but are not limited to) continual learning through professional development opportunities in areas such as: judgement, organizational adaptability, positive attitudes, initiative, cooperation, and emotional intelligence.

FY 2021-2022 State Dollars Spent

Administrative Funds (Not Tied to Grants)
 Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem
 Funds Used as Matches for Federal Funds
 Funds Distributed to AAAs (Providing Services)
 Other Awards (Silver Haired Legislature, etc.)

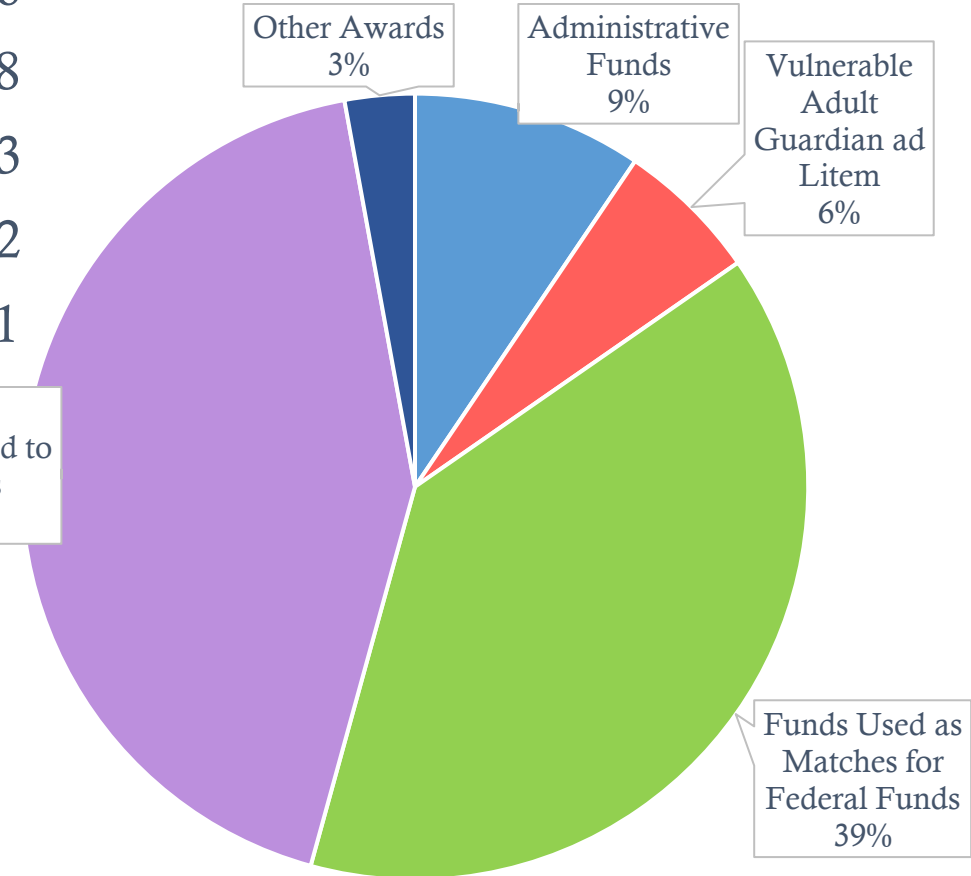
\$1,356,286

\$ 843,438

\$5,581,633

\$6,142,612

\$ 412,411



Total State Dollars Spent
\$14,336,380.28

State Dollars Spent

	FY2019-20	FY2020-21
Administrative Funds (Not Tied to Grants)	\$1,413,185	\$1,356,286
Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem	\$ 867,083	\$ 843,437
Funds Used as Matches for Federal Funds	\$4,045,564	\$5,581,632
Funds Distributed to AAAs (Providing Services)	\$7,975,752	\$6,211,315
Other Awards (Silver Haired Legislature, etc.)	\$ 243,572	\$ 343,708

Total State Dollars
Spent

\$14,545,156

Total State Dollars
Spent

\$14,336,380

Records Management, Agency Policies, and Supporting Data

Records Management

Upon reaching out to the Department of Archives, the agency discovered that many of the records and policies are outdated (e.g., many date back to when the office was within the Department of Health and Human Services).

Previous directors have not kept records concerning their efforts to ensure compliance with the records management policy for the agency as a whole and its component divisions.

The agency is examining compliance within each division to ensure that the agency is adhering to the requirements of S.C. Code Ann. §§ 30-1-10 through 30-1-140.

Agency Policies

- Human Resource policies (overtime, Employee Performance Management System (EPMS), discipline, grievance, reduction in force) are reviewed every two years. The Agency Director and Human Resources Manager also review all other internal policies during the review period.
- Financial policies are reviewed annually, usually at the end of the calendar year.
- Program and service policies are regularly reviewed, starting in January each year.
 - A revised service and program policy manual is released annually to the ten Area Agencies on Aging and their contracted service providers.

Supporting Data

Purpose:

- Support Agency Policies and Programs

How data is collected:

- Direct assessments of clients
- Calls from individuals, families, and communities
- Tracking of Services Delivered
- Outside sources
 - Federal (such as the Census Bureau and the USDA)
 - State (such as DHEC and DSS/APS)

Continuous Improvement of Data Quality

Data Quality:

- Realigning to new federal reporting systems (OAPPS)
- Incorporation of additional validated tools (KATZ, Lawton, Loneliness scale, food security screener)
- Enhanced training in data collection and entry
- Expansion of tools to analyze and visualize data

Data Use:

- Refining procedures to incorporate data in policy and agency decisions
- Strengthening consistency of purpose of recurring reports with Program Managers
- Engaging with Regional AAA Directors on their performance and management decisions
- Reporting to the Members of the General Assembly

Regulations Compliance

There are currently no statutes in place mandating the Department promulgate regulations.

2020 Legislative Audit Council Audit

Legislative Audit Council (LAC) Audit

- In June 2020, the LAC issued a “Review of the S.C. Department on Aging”.
- **Please see handout** with a complete list of LAC recommendations (and the following for each):
 - Agency’s response to the recommendation
 - Agency’s status in regards to implementation, including communication with others potentially impacted (such as the AAAs and Area Councils on Aging)
- Additional discussion of each of the recommendations and the agency’s implementation status will be relayed in future presentations.

Executive Organizational Unit

Executive Organizational Unit

Under the supervision of:

Agency Director

Consists of:

4 full-time state employees, including
agency director

Programs and Services include:

- Senior Center Permanent Improvement Program (PIP) Grant
- Silver Haired Legislature
- South Carolina Advisory Council on Aging
- Legal Services
- Communications

South Carolina Senior Center Permanent Improvement Project (PIP)

Administer Funding for the Senior Center Permanent Improvement Program (PIP) Grants

What is a PIP grant?

Permanent improvement grant funds to non-profits or governmental entities to enhance senior centers.

Background

Established by the General Assembly in 1991

- Appropriated \$948,000/year from State Bingo tax (\$79,000 monthly) and licensing fees
- List of 74 specifically identified capital improvement projects

Original legislation amended in 1997 to continue beyond the original list

- SCDOA directed to develop an ongoing process to select and fund applications for senior center capital improvement projects
- Resulting procedures created a competitive grant process



Purpose

Connect older adults to vital community services that can help them stay healthy and independent.

Required to meet the national certification standards of the National Institute of Senior Centers to ensure the site is a fully functioning, multipurpose senior center.

Designated community focal points for delivery of Older Americans Act services—allowing older adults to access multiple services in one place.

Administer Funding for the Senior Center Permanent Improvement Program (PIP) Grants

What is the process?

- SCDOA issues grant applications annually in February
- evaluates grant applications (includes a meeting with each applicant to discuss project details and to ensure that local funding obligations have been met)
- selects grantees
- monitors spending for compliance (payments are for reimbursements as work is completed; grants are awarded with 2 year grant period to complete construction)
- disperses funds

Grants Awarded 2022

Sumter Senior Services (\$50,879)

Sumter County

Emergency HVAC Repair/Replacement

Darlington Council on Aging (\$350,000)

Darlington County

Build New Facility

Senior Citizens Association of Florence/Leatherman Senior Center (\$12,359)

Florence County

Emergency Repair

City Aiken/Smith Hazel Recreation Center (\$350,000)

Aiken County

Renovation Project

Total Awarded – Funds Committed

\$763,238.00

PIP Funds Committed

FY 2019-2021

Senior Action (\$350,000) Greenville County Renovation Project (upgrade new facility)	Fairfield County Council on Aging (\$350,000) Fairfield County Renovation Project
Saint James South Santee - McClellanville (\$30,000) Charleston County Emergency Grant	Spartanburg Recreation (\$58,905) Renovation Project
Lancaster County Council on Aging - Town of Kershaw (\$139,000) Lancaster County Renovation Project	Generations Unlimited (\$82,127) Barnwell County Renovation Project
	<u>Extension Granted</u> Lexington County Recreation and Aging Commission (\$314,930) Lexington County Expansion at the Batesburg-Leesville Senior Center

FY 2020-2021

Aiken Senior Life Services (\$350,000) Aiken County Renovation Project (upgrade new facility)
Horry Council on Aging (\$350,000) Horry County Renovation Project (upgrade new facility)
Lee County Council on Aging (\$100,000) Lee County Renovation/Repair Project
City of Simpsonville (\$350,00) Greenville County Renovation Project (upgrade new facility)



Legislative Councils

South Carolina Advisory Council on Aging



Host South Carolina Advisory Council on Aging

The Department on Aging is supported by the Advisory Council on Aging. The Advisory Council does not govern the S.C. Department on Aging; instead, the members support the agency and serve in an advisory capacity. The Department staffs the council's meetings.

Membership Guidelines and Criteria

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appointed by Governor• One member from each of the ten Planning and Service• Five members from the state at-large | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serve four-year term• May serve two consecutive terms• Meet quarterly (February, May, August, and November). |
|---|--|

Costs includes per diem for the cost of travel mileage reimbursement and lunch.

Fund Silver Haired Legislature (SHL)

The Silver Haired Legislature (SHL) is tasked with studying aging topics and issues. This model legislature shall:

- (1) identify issues, concerns, and possible solutions for problems facing the aging population in S.C.;
- (2) make recommendations to the Governor and members of the General Assembly and to the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging;
- (3) arrange educational forums to explore issues related to older South Carolinians; and
- (4) promote good government for all South Carolinians.

The unicameral body has 76 Representatives and 76 Alternates, all of whom are registered voters over age sixty. Representatives and Alternates are elected by counties on a ratio of one each per 10,000 South Carolinians over age sixty.

In this instance, the S.C. Department on Aging is solely a pass-through entity, which allocates funds for the SHL from a line-item in the department's budget.

When invited, representatives from SCDOA will attend the meetings of the SHL.

Coordinate Palliative Care and Quality of Life Study Committee

Authorized by the General Assembly to meet for 1 year to consult and advise SCDOA on matters related to the establishment, maintenance, operation, and outcomes evaluation of palliative care initiatives in this State, including needed state policies or responses and ways to provide clear and coordinated services to support and enhance the delivery of palliative care.

SCDOA performed the following:

- Coordinated and led meetings of the Study Committee
- Received policy recommendations from committee members
- Published information for the public and healthcare providers concerning the provision of palliative care
- Submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly a report on the state of palliative care in S.C. with findings and recommendations

As required, the Committee dissolved after providing the report to the General Assembly and the Governor on December 31, 2019.

The committee report was distributed to members of the General Assembly in January 2020.

Chairman: Senator Brad Hutto

Vice Chairman: Former Representative Mary Gail Douglas

Palliative Care and Quality of Life Study Committee

SC Palliative Care and Quality of Life Study Committee Report



Palliative care is for people living with a serious illness. It is based on the needs (symptoms and stress), not the prognosis, of the patient.

The goal is to improve quality of life for both the patient and the family.

December 27, 2019

Serve on Long Term Care Council

SCDOA Director serves on the Council.

Council, which is comprised of various agency heads, members of the public, healthcare providers, and political designees, is mandated to identify and make recommendations concerning the costs and benefits of: adult day care centers, in-home and institutional respite care, adult foster homes, incentives for families to provide in-home care, such as cash assistance, tax credits or deductions, and home-delivered services to aid families caring for chronically impaired elderly relatives.

Council had the discretion to conduct research and demonstration activities related to these issues. Through close coordination of each member agency's planning efforts, the council develops recommendations for a statewide service delivery system for all health-impaired elderly or disabled persons, regardless of the persons' resources or source of payment. Section 43-21-140(1)-(5) mandated for certain provisions in the service delivery system. These recommendations must be updated annually as needed. Section 43-21-140.

This council has been suspended each year by proviso (40.4) since before Aging was moved to the Lieutenant Governor's Office and prior to the creation of the Department on Aging.

Serve on Coordinating Council

- Department on Aging is tasked by statute to coordinate the Coordinating Council.
- Council is comprised of directors of state agencies and non-profit organizations. Director of the Department on Aging serves as the Secretary of the Council.
- Council works with the Department on Aging on the coordination of programs related to the field of aging, and to advise and make pertinent recommendations.

This council has been suspended each year by proviso (40.4) since before Aging was moved to the Lieutenant Governor's Office and prior to the creation of the Department on Aging.



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Constituent Correspondence

February 15, 2023

House Legislative Oversight Committee
PO Box 11867
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear House Legislative Oversight Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony at your upcoming committee meeting reviewing the Department on Aging. As you know, the "aging network" is made up of a triad that includes the Department on Aging, the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), and local providers throughout the state who directly provide services to seniors. I represent one of those local providers, Senior Action. Senior Action, a private nonprofit, is celebrating our 55th year in service this year and was the first in the state, and therefore, longest consecutive recipient of the funding from the Older Americans Act in 1967. I have been honored to serve as the Executive Director/CEO for the last 16 years.

The testimony that I would like to share with the committee is my organization's experience working within this triad over the years. I believe there are significant opportunities for improvement and equally significant repercussions to the seniors we serve if this is not given the attention that the seniors deserve. The testimony that I will provide will focus on three primary issues:

1. Funding allocation, contracting process, and payment,
2. Communication between the three components of the triad, and
3. Strategic planning and ensuring that the most important needs of seniors in the community are being met.

Many of these issues were raised in the Legislative Audit that was conducted in 2019. However, they have not been addressed and, I believe, have gotten worse. Long waiting lists continue to grow and the people with the least amount of time to wait are running out of time to receive services that were intended to help them thrive in their aging years.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to share with the committee. I have a great deal of hope that solutions can easily be found and improvement realized in a short amount of time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A Smith", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrea Smith, MEd
Executive Director/CEO
Senior Action