



# South Carolina House of Representatives Legislative Oversight Committee

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June 26, 2023

VIA EMAIL

Connie Munn, Director  
South Carolina Department on Aging  
1301 Gervais St. Suite 350  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
CMunn@aging.sc.gov; lcogdill@aging.sc.gov

RE: Follow up to June 19, 2023, Subcommittee meeting

Dear Director Munn:

The Healthcare and Regulatory Subcommittee appreciates the Department on Aging’s participation in the oversight process. As follow-up from the June 19, 2023, Subcommittee meeting, below are questions of interest to various members of the subcommittee. Please provide this information by Monday, July 10, 2023.

As a reminder, formal written responses provided are considered sworn testimony. Additionally, please inform the Subcommittee, prior to responding, of any information requested that cannot be published online due to provisions in contract or law.

### **AAA Oversight and Monitoring**

1. Does the Older Americans Act preclude the Department on Aging from dictating how AAAs expend federal and state funds? If so, please explain.
2. Does the Department on Aging have authority to require AAAs submit their annual budgets to the agency? If so, please provide the following information:
  - a. The total amount of funding AAAs allocated to each monitored program in FY2021-2022.
3. Please list each monitored service and identify the method of monitoring employed by the agency (e.g., in-person visit, documentation review, etc.).

### **State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)/Medicare Patrol**

5. Please list, by frequency of inquiry, issues raised by seniors at insurance outreach events.
6. Please provide participation and utilization data, by AAA and county, for the SHIP and Medicare Patrol programs.
7. How much funding did the agency allocate to SHIP and Medicare Patrol in the FY2022-23 budget?
8. How much did the agency spend on SHIP advertising in FY2022-23?

### **Geriatric Loan Forgiveness**

9. How many award recipients continued to practice medicine in South Carolina after completing their 5-year obligation?
10. Of the 27 geriatric medical practitioners selected to participate in this program, how many were residents of the state?
11. How many award applications does the program receive annually?
12. How is the program marketed?

### **Eldercare Trust**

13. Has the agency considered working with stakeholders to explore the development of a non-profit organization tasked with creating an endowment to fund and sustain the Eldercare Trust? [See ETV Endowment - [ETV Endowment of South Carolina](#)]

### **Agency Program Budgets**

14. Provide the following agency finance information by source of funds (i.e., state, federal, other):
  - a. Total agency budget, total agency FTEs, total agency payroll, total operational expenses, and total programmatic expenses.
15. Provide the following agency finance information by source of funds and division (e.g., Administration; Human Resources; SC Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem; State Long Term Care Ombudsman, etc.)
  - b. Total budget, total FTEs, total payroll, total operational expenses, and total programmatic expenses.

### **Nutrition Services**

16. Do AAAs employ Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN)?
17. Provide cost per meal information, by AAA, for congregate meals and home delivered meals.

### **Evidence Base Programs**

18. List the information contracted providers must submit to confirm their credentials.
19. Is the procurement/bidding process for these programs handled the same across all AAAs? If not, would standardization create efficiencies?
20. Does the South Carolina Consolidated Procurement Code apply to AAAs?
21. Are AAAs required to submit program participation data to the agency?
  - Provide program participation data for evidence-based programs.
22. How does the agency monitor these programs? Are existing monitoring processes sufficient, or should more rigorous processes be implemented?

### **Information and Referral/Assistance (I&R/A)**

23. Is the Department on Aging permitted to require AAAs to mandate I&R/A certification for all employees?

### **Social Isolation Report**

24. How does the agency plan to promote and communicate the findings and recommendations found in the *Addressing Social Isolation in Older Adults as a Determinant of Health* report published by the South Carolina Institute of Medicine & Public Health?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe H. Jefferson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr.  
Subcommittee Chair

cc: The Honorable Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson  
Healthcare and Regulatory Subcommittee