

State of Alaska
FY2003 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Administration
Senior Services
Budget Request Unit Budget Summary

Senior Services Budget Request Unit

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BRU Mission

To maximize the independence of older Alaskans.

BRU Services Provided

Management of four grant programs. The four programs are: Nutrition, Transportation, and Support Services; Senior Employment Services; Home and Community Based Care; and Senior Residential Services.

Through the Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA), a variety of services are provided through grantees. Services include congregate and home delivered meals, transportation to and from meal sites, support services such as nutritional education, preventive health care and elder abuse prevention, and planning for comprehensive home and community based long-term care. Medicare Insurance and Senior Pension Benefits counseling is also provided. The Family Caregiver Support Program provides an opportunity to assess and begin to develop a service delivery system to caregivers of Alaska's elderly. ACoA also coordinates with Alaska Native programs throughout the state.

Management of two waivers from the federal government for Medicaid. Assist local grantee agencies to become Medicaid-billing providers; review and authorize client plans of care; and manage client care costs and admission to the program to ensure that the total waiver budget is on target.

Hold required meetings of the Alaska Commission on Aging and ensure broad-based public interaction with seniors throughout the state; write required annual reports; gather data and analyze policy issues; and integrate Commission recommendations and decisions into staff work and grants management.

Continued refinement of Adult Protective Services (APS) and Assisted Living Homes Licensing (ALHL) systems and to extend education and training to the public and all related social service, health, and law enforcement agencies regarding those systems, statutes and regulations.

ACoA plans and develops program strategies to address the needs of Alaskans affected by Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD), and their caregivers. This is a statutory requirement under the terms of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority settlement.

The Long Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO), under the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority and funded by the Division of Senior Services, investigates and resolves complaints concerning senior citizens' long term care services, and advocates to resolve problems concerning other core services upon which seniors rely.

Home Health Services - Support agencies and Independent Personal Care Attendants through the Personal Care Attendant program which helps Alaskans with activities of daily living like non-technical medical care, bathing and dressing, preparing food, shopping, cleaning, and other activities that require semi-skilled care. This program is designed to prevent or reduce inappropriate or unnecessary institutional care.

The Director's office provides policy, management, and administrative oversight for the Division of Senior Services as well as a variety of administrative support functions, payments to Adult Protective Services care providers, accounts payable, travel assistance for division staff, budget management and oversight, assistance with professional services contracts, and procurement.

BRU Goals and Strategies

MAXIMIZE THE INDEPENDENCE OF VULNERABLE ALASKANS BY PROVIDING CHOICES AND ACCESS TO PREVENTION, WELLNESS AND QUALITY LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES

· Reform the long-term care system in Alaska, in conjunction with Medicaid/Medi-grant changes.

- Establish a well coordinated, comprehensive long-term care system that responds to seniors' individualized service needs and allows seniors to remain within their home and communities as long as possible.
- Protect and support seniors and other vulnerable adults through the services of Adult Protective Services, Assisted Living Homes Licensing, and the Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman.
- Function as the "state unit on aging" under the federal Older American Act, and carry out mandated planning, advocacy and services provision under the Act as required to receive federal funds for community services for seniors, and job placement funds for older workers.

Key BRU Issues for FY2002 – 2003

- Limited state resources for adult protective services to provide coverage statewide will require increased training of community resources such as police and medical personnel to assure proper reporting of suspected abuse or neglect of elders.
- The Alaska Commission on Aging predicts that the senior population will increase from 26,000 in 1993 to more than 80,000 by the year 2015. The number of seniors requiring significant assistance from the State will likely grow proportionately. With the prospect of significant staff increases unlikely, program efficiency will have to increase proportionately to continue to support the growing seniors population.
- The Division of Senior Services programs currently rely upon numerous duplicative, labor intensive, and ineffective systems. With support from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, the division will create a functional, integrated data environment.

Major BRU Accomplishments in 2001

Adult Protective Services. In FY2001, six workers statewide performed approximately 1,031 intakes, conducted approximately 751 investigations, and provided approximately 139 referrals. There was an increase of 100 Adult Protective Services investigations over FY2000. Over 120 vulnerable adults received General Relief financial assistance on the average each month for assisted living services. Over 86 reports of harm were investigated in assisted living homes.

Assisted Living Licensing Program. This unit consists of five licensing staff and an administrative clerk, with one of these positions being newly created in the past year. The goal is to provide an increased presence in the assisted living homes to offer technical support and monitor for health and safety issues. There are currently 1,403 licensed assisted living home units/beds in Alaska, up from 1,353 in FY2000. There are currently 131 licensed assisted living homes. The Program continues to receive increased inquiries from individuals and organization expressing interest in developing assisted living homes and considerable staff time is spent responding to those inquires. Complaint investigations have increased in number and complexity. The Assisted Living Licensing Program produced a 14-minute orientation video for rural communities and has also worked with the YWCA Women's Fund to offer a 14-week business course for prospective assisted living home administrators.

Long Term Care Unit Program. The Long Term Care Unit manages nursing home authorizations and two Medicaid Waiver Programs, the Older Alaskan's Waiver and the Adult with Physical Disabilities Waiver. Nursing Home authorizations have remained approximately stable. The major accomplishment in FY2001 was the significant growth of Waiver recipients of 20.6% from FY2000 to FY2001. Since individuals receiving Waiver services could be served in nursing facilities, this Waiver increase represents both a net cost savings and better service to these persons. As the Waiver program continues to grow, the Division of Senior Services will continue to explore methods to improve the program, and allow consumers better access to much needed services.

In FY2002 the Long Term Care Unit has been subdivided to allow better focus on client services and provider services. This broadened effort is intended to improve responsiveness to both individual client issues and provider concerns.

Quality Assurance Program. The Quality Assurance Program took over training of care coordinators and will have trained 153 care coordinators by November of 2001; rewrote the Care Coordination Manual; made monitoring site visits on Medicaid Waiver clients; developed a Quality Assurance web page; developed and maintain non-routine complaint files and responded to a variety of performance complaints.

Rural Long Term Care Program. The Rural Long Term Care Program manager worked with the Department of Health & Social Services on a Long Term Care survey to change regulations for the Certificate of Need (CON) process to address the availability of home and community based services prior to the issuance of any CON for nursing home beds.

A three year grant was awarded from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for specific, rural, affordable assisted living development.

Key Performance Measures for FY2003

Measure:

The percentage of Alaskans with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders who are served through home-based and community-based programs.
 Sec 15 Ch 90 SLA 2001(HB 250)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

For the period July 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001, the percentage of Alaskans with Alzheimer's Disease and related disorders, who are served through Home and Community Based Programs is as follows:

Total 7/1/00-3/31/01	Increase during 12/31/00-3/31/01
Adult Day Services: 306	+41
Care Coordination: 289	+35
Respite Care: 121	+17

Total: 716 or 18% of 3,901 Estimated ADRD adults 65+ in AK

For the period July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001 the percentage is as follows:

The percentage of Alaskans with Alzheimer's Disease and related disorders who are served through Home and Community Based Programs:

*Total 7/1/00-6/30/01	Increase during 3/31/01-6/30/01
Adult Day Services: 340	+34
Care Coordination: 329	+40
Respite Care: 136	+15

Total: 805 or 21% of 3,901 Estimated ADRD adults 65+ in AK

Benchmark Comparisons:

We currently have no benchmark information for this performance measure.

Background and Strategies:

The Division of Senior Services continues to work to provide services to the maximum number of clients as funding allows.

Measure:

The total number of licensed assisted living homes.
 Sec 15 Ch 90 SLA 2001(HB 250)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

The total number of licensed assisted living homes during the fourth quarter of FY2001 numbered 125. During the first quarter of FY2002, the number increased to 132.

Benchmark Comparisons:

We currently have no bench mark information for this performance measure.

Background and Strategies:

The Division will continue to work with care providers to provide quality assisted living care to Alaskan seniors.

Measure:

The average length of time taken to investigate complaints received about assisted living homes.
Sec 15 Ch 90 SLA 2001(HB 250)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

The average length of time taken to investigate complaints received about assisted living homes during the fourth quarter of FY2001 is 12.4 days. For the first quarter of FY2002 the number of days dropped to 11.5.

Benchmark Comparisons:

We currently have no bench mark information for this performance measure.

Background and Strategies:

The Division of Senior Services will continue to work to ensure that complaints received about assisted living homes are investigated as thoroughly and quickly as possible.

Measure:

The average length of time taken to respond to reports of harm to vulnerable adults.
Sec Ch 90 SLA 2001(HB 250)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

The average length of time taken to respond to reports of harm to vulnerable adults during the fourth quarter of FY2001 was 2.18 days. For the first quarter of FY2002 the average length of time increased slightly to 2.56 days.

Benchmark Comparisons:

We currently have no bench mark information for this performance measure.

Background and Strategies:

The Division of Senior Services will continue to work to ensure that reports of harm to vulnerable adults are investigated as thoroughly and quickly as possible.

Measure:

The average length of time taken to qualify for Project Choice or the Adults with Physical Disabilities waiver.
Sec 15 Ch 90 SLA 2001(HB 250)

Alaska's Target & Progress:

For the period April 1, 2001 through June 30, 2001 the average length of time taken to qualify for Project CHOICE or the Adults with Physical Disabilities waiver was 96 days (From date when DSS receives completed level of care assessment to date when DSS authorizes a plan of care.)

For the period July 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001 the average length of time taken to qualify for Project CHOICE or the Adults with Physical Disabilities waiver was 114 days (From date when DSS receives completed level of care assessment to date when DSS authorizes a plan of care.)

Benchmark Comparisons:

We currently have no benchmarks for this performance measure.

Background and Strategies:

The Division of Senior Services will continue to work to ensure that the length of time taken to qualify for Project Choice or the Adults with Physical Disabilities waiver is as short as possible.

Senior Services
BRU Financial Summary by Component

All dollars in thousands

	FY2001 Actuals				FY2002 Authorized				FY2003 Governor			
	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds
<u>Formula Expenditures</u>												
None.												
<u>Non-Formula Expenditures</u>												
Protection, Comm Svcs, & Admin	2,709.2	1,533.8	1,686.0	5,929.0	3,543.9	2,703.1	2,077.8	8,324.8	4,462.2	2,158.0	1,860.0	8,480.2
Nutrition, Trans & Support Svc	1,655.3	3,819.3	0.0	5,474.6	1,655.3	4,484.0	0.0	6,139.3	1,655.3	5,048.3	0.0	6,703.6
Senior Employment Services	198.3	1,507.9	0.0	1,706.2	318.3	1,659.3	0.0	1,977.6	318.3	1,659.3	0.0	1,977.6
Home & Community Based Care	2,937.3	0.0	1,157.2	4,094.5	2,973.0	0.0	1,822.0	4,795.0	2,973.0	0.0	1,799.0	4,772.0
Senior Residential Services	1,015.0	0.0	0.0	1,015.0	1,015.0	0.0	0.0	1,015.0	1,015.0	0.0	0.0	1,015.0
Home Health Services	1,625.0	0.0	167.0	1,792.0	1,630.4	0.0	160.0	1,790.4	1,632.0	0.0	161.6	1,793.6
Totals	10,140.1	6,861.0	3,010.2	20,011.3	11,135.9	8,846.4	4,059.8	24,042.1	12,055.8	8,865.6	3,820.6	24,742.0

Senior Services

Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2003

No service changes.

Senior Services

Summary of BRU Budget Changes by Component

From FY2002 Authorized to FY2003 Governor

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2002 Authorized	11,135.9	8,846.4	4,059.8	24,042.1
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Protection, Comm Svcs, & Admin	514.5	-545.1	-468.7	-499.3
-Nutrition, Trans & Support Svc	0.0	564.3	0.0	564.3
-Home & Community Based Care	0.0	0.0	-25.0	-25.0
-Home Health Services	1.6	0.0	1.6	3.2
Proposed budget decreases:				
-Protection, Comm Svcs, & Admin	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.2
Proposed budget increases:				
-Protection, Comm Svcs, & Admin	403.8	0.0	251.1	654.9
-Home & Community Based Care	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0
FY2003 Governor	12,055.8	8,865.6	3,820.6	24,742.0