

**Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs
Agency Report to DD Council
December 2010**

Agency Overview: GOEA is the focal point of a state-wide aging network and fosters comprehensive, community-based services enabling seniors to remain at home in their communities for as long as possible. The services include home-delivered meals, transportation and personal care, to name just a few. GOEA administers primarily Older Americans Act ("OAA") federal funds and mandated state matching funds, and a limited amount of additional state funds, through regional Area Agencies on Aging ("AAAs") to independently incorporated, non-profit parish councils on aging ("COAs"). The essential difference between the AAAs and the COAs is that the AAA's plan and coordinate a comprehensive system of services for their respective areas, while the COAs, the workhorses of the network, operate hands-on at the local level to ensure that the services are provided. GOEA distributes funds under a formula that reflects the senior population in every parish and other OAA-derived factors such as the number of very frail or rural seniors. While services with limited capacity (e.g., home-delivered meals) apply criteria which prioritize aid to the most vulnerable, eligibility for GOEA services generally requires only that the recipient is at least 60 years old.

In the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, there were **78,707** unduplicated clients served.

Agency Grants Update

Healthy Living Program

Your Life, Your Health workshops kicked off in August 2010 as part of a Federal grant program to implement Stanford University's evidence-based **Chronic Disease Self-Management Program**. Louisiana was 1 of 45 states and territories to receive funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Each workshop consists of 2.5 hour weekly sessions over 6 weeks taught by 2 trained lay leaders. **The workshop provides education on how older adults can manage their own health with tips on nutrition, relaxation, exercise, stress management and more.** From August through November 2010, 11 workshops were facilitated in various parts of the state with **161 older adult participants in Your Life, Your Health.**

For more information, please contact Matt Estrade at 225-342-3570 or visit www.goea.la.gov/healthyaging

Louisiana Answers for Living at Home

This Administration on Aging pilot program seeks to identify individuals in danger of Medicaid spend down and nursing facility placement and offer some home and community based services. The pilots are based at the Northwest ADRC in Shreveport and the Capital ADRC in Baton Rouge. Parishes included are East and West Baton Rouge, East and West Feliciana, Iberville, Point Coupee, Ascension, Caddo, Bossier, Webster, Claiborne, DeSoto, Red River, Bienville, Sabine, or Natchitoches residents

As of November 2010, the program has served **140 adults**, spending \$687,000 on service expenses- an average cost of \$4,907 per client. Services range from home delivered meals, personal care, home modification, and more. **The grant program began in October 2008 and will conclude December 2010.**

For more information, please contact Matt Estrade at 225-342-3570.

Model Approaches to Statewide Legal Assistance Systems

The Administration on Aging awarded a 3-year grant project to pilot statewide efforts to assist all individuals with legal concerns or questions.

Individuals may contact the **Legal Services Helpline** at 1-800-310-7029, Monday thru Thursday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.