
Governor’s Office of Elderly Affairs (“GOEA”)

DD Council Report

April 2026

GOEA serves as an effective and visible advocate for the elderly population of Louisiana, ensuring seniors in need receive appropriate services from providers in the Aging Network.

GOEA is the designated State Unit on Aging and is the administrator of the federal Older Americans Act (“OAA”) program services through the network of Louisiana’s Area Agencies on Aging (“AAAs”) and Councils on Aging (“COAs”):

Home Delivered Meals	Congregate Meals
Nutrition Counseling	Nutrition Education
Assisted Transportation	Information & Assistance
Outreach	Medical Transportation
Adult Day Health Care	Group Respite
In-Home Respite	Wellness
Individual Counseling	Material Aid
Personal Care	Caregiver Public Education
Caregiver Sitter Service	Support Group
Counseling	Crime Prevention
Homemaker	Legal Assistance
Medical Alert	Medication Management
Recreation	Telephoning
Utility Assistance	Visiting

Other services provided through GOEA, or provided by partnerships, are SenioRx Prescription Assistance, National Family Caregiver Support, Louisiana Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (“MIPPA”) Program and the Senior Employment Program.

For more information about elderly programs and services, visit:

www.goea.louisiana.gov or contact 225-342-7100

Programs of GOEA

Program Name: Long Term Care Ombudsman

Long Term Care Ombudsman program is a federal and state funded program mandated to advocate on behalf of residents of long-term care facilities and to ensure that the rights of the residents of the long-term care facilities are being maintained. Ombudsman and Ombudsman volunteers make monthly visits to long-term care facilities across the state.

Did you know? Louisiana has 269 nursing homes and 152 assisted living facilities accommodating approximately 44,000 residents.

There are 26 staff and volunteer ombudsmen in the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

For information, contact the State LTC Ombudsman, at 225-342-7100

Program Name: **Elderly Protective Services (“EPS”)**

EPS is mandated by Louisiana Revised Statutes 15:1501 *et seq.* to prevent, remedy, halt, or hinder acts of abuse and neglect against an older person in the community while promoting the maximum degree of personal freedom, dignity, and self-determination for that individual. EPS has six regional offices to respond to reports of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

The purpose of EPS is to protect adults who cannot physically or mentally protect themselves and who are harmed or threatened with harm through action or inaction by themselves or by the individuals responsible for their care or by other persons. Total of 6,224 cases have been assigned since July 1, 2025 to the end of March 31, 2026.

The types of reports of abuse are as follows, as of the end of March:

- Caregiver Neglect 1,170
- Emotional Abuse 505
- Extortion 16
- Financial Exploitation 2,342
- Physical Abuse 436
- Self-Neglect 1,712
- Sexual Abuse 41
- Other 0

GOEA is currently in the process of adding new positions to staff. We will be adding several new supervisory positions and investigators for the Elderly Protective Services Unit.

For more information about EPS, contact 1-800-259-4990.

Program Name: **Aging and Disability Resource Centers (“ADRC”)**

Each ADRC serves as a clearinghouse for an array of long-term care options, prescription assistance, and other resources available in Louisiana to elderly and disabled adults aged 21 and over. The nine ADRCs in the state are housed within either a AAA or a COA. For more information about ADRC, contact the toll-free Louisiana information, referral, and assistance line at 877-340-9100.

Program Name: Louisiana Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act Program (“MIPPA”)

MIPPA is a federal grant to provide education, outreach and enrollment assistance to Medicare-eligible individuals relevant to Medicare, Medicare services, the Low Income Subsidy Program (“LIS”) and the Medicare Savings Plan (“MSP”). This project continues to offer enrollment assistance for the LIS, MSP, conduct Medicare Part D Counseling, Medicare Part D enrollment assistance, and conduct follow-ups to ensure the needs of the client beyond Medicare have been met.

For Medicare Information and Counseling, call 1-877-340-9100 toll free.

Recent News

Older Americans Month is in May and the theme is “Champion Youth Health.” This initiative places emphasis on prevention and self-management of health of seniors.

Legislative Session: GOEA is tracking a couple of bills through the process.

PCOA Funding:

Last legislative session, HB126 proposed to increase the amount given to the COAs by amending the La R.S. 46:1606 to allocate \$4 per senior per parish, instead of \$2.50, and set the minimum amount to \$150,000, instead of \$100,000. This was signed by Governor Landry and became Act 348. However, this increase was not included in the FY26 budget. We are hopeful that the Legislature will include this increase in the FY27’s budget, and this will help ease some of the strain due to the conclusion of the pandemic funds received by the COAs.

House Bill 102:

Creates the crime of second degree cruelty to elderly and persons with infirmities.

House Bill 204:

Provides for monthly financial reports to the Louisiana Legislature Auditor from certain East Baton Rouge Parish agencies.

House Bill 555:

Provides relative to elderly financial exploitation

House Bill 913:

Provides relative to protection of eligible adults from financial exploitation.

House Bill 950:

Provides for consumer protection for the elderly

Senate Bill 38:

Provides relative to nursing facilities (license to operate, revokes license, etc.)

Senate Bill 247:

Requires each parish voluntary council on aging to submit certain financial information monthly to the legislative auditor.

Senate Bill 259:

Authorizes the creation of a civil protective order online application portal.