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

DD Council Report

January 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 3,099 cases have been assigned since July 1, 2025 to the end of December 31, 2025.

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

- Caregiver Neglect 730
- Emotional Abuse 327
- Extortion 12
- Financial Exploitation 1,574
- Physical Abuse 300
- Self-Neglect 1,185
- Sexual Abuse 22
- 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

GOEA has completed the project with WellSky to combine all the Councils on Aging (COAs) databases into one database. This project was started to ensure the most accurate collection and combination of data, to report to our federal partners. The project lasted longer than anticipated with some hurdles and growing pains; however, the COAs and GOEA Compliance and Planning staff made it through the process together. GOEA has been able to streamline some reports so that the COAs will no longer have to run the reports and submit them to GOEA. GOEA has the capability to run them without relying on the COAs to run and submit them to GOEA.

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of LEBA Board Member Willie Lewis. He was appointed to the Louisiana Executive Board on Aging in 1997 by former State Senate President Randy Ewing. He remained on the Board for over 28 years. Willie championed initiatives that enhanced the quality of life, expanded access to vital records, and upheld the dignity of older adults across the state. His lifelong dedication to service and community leadership earned him numerous honors throughout the years. He received the Kiwanian of the Year Award from the Kiwanis Club of Denham Springs – West Livingston in 2001, and in 2012, he was recognized by Project R.I.D.E. and the Louisiana Business and Community Alliance for more than 40 years of outstanding contributions to the Greater Baton Rouge community. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

MIPPA Performance Trends:

- Group Outreach rose 85% in FY2025, reaching over 10,500 beneficiaries.
- Under 65 Disability Contracts restored from years of zero activity to 284 contacts.
- Hard to Reach populations increased from 171 to 1,783 – a 943% increase earning an “Excellent” national rating.

- Enrollment Contacts climbed from 532 to 2,949 – a 454% increase
- Beneficiary Contacts increased from 532 in FY2024 to 3,250 in FY2025 – a 511% increase.