

State of Alaska FY2008 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health and Social Services Senior Care Component Budget Summary

Component: Senior Care

Contribution to Department's Mission

Senior Care helps low-income seniors who are at least 65 years of age remain independent in the community by providing a cash or prescription drug benefit, as well as information and referral services.

Core Services

- Provides cash assistance or help paying for prescription drug benefit program premiums and deductibles.
- Provides information and referrals for benefits and services for seniors.

FY2008 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

FY2008 Component Budget: \$13,053,800

Personnel:

Full time	4
Part time	0
Total	4

Key Component Challenges

- The Senior Care Program, which was reauthorized by the Alaska Legislature in May 2005, has a sunset date of June 2007. The program must be reauthorized to continue. Over 7,000 poor seniors receive \$120.00 cash assistance monthly under this program. If the maximum income level remains fixed as provided in current law, the program will see a decline in the numbers of seniors served as other income sources, such as Social Security income, increase due to yearly cost of living adjustments.
- There has been low utilization of the prescription drug benefit portion of the program despite various outreach efforts. Work is underway to better understand the reasons for this, and how best to address the prescription drug benefit needs of seniors in reauthorization efforts.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2008

Significant changes are dependent on legislation to reauthorize the program.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2006

- Program administration transferred from the Division of Alaska Pioneer Homes to the Division of Public Assistance effective January 1, 2006 without any interruption in benefits to seniors.
- The SeniorCare program created a new "wrap around" benefit for recipients of Social Security's Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit option. Significant outreach efforts were conducted in partnership with the Social Security Administration to make sure seniors were informed and aware of the availability of prescription drug insurance and benefit coverage.
- Cash benefits were provided to over 7,000 low-income seniors.
- Prescription drug benefits added to the Senior Care package of services were provided to approximately 122 low-income seniors.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 47.45.300 – 390 SeniorCare Program
7 AAC 47.800 - 890 SeniorCare Program

Contact Information

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**Senior Care
Component Financial Summary**

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	158.1	262.5	307.0
72000 Travel	1.8	6.5	6.5
73000 Services	51.7	86.5	76.5
74000 Commodities	36.8	29.0	29.0
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	10,124.0	12,634.8	12,634.8
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	10,372.4	13,019.3	13,053.8
Funding Sources:			
1004 General Fund Receipts	0.0	10,636.5	10,671.0
1189 Senior Care Fund	10,372.4	2,382.8	2,382.8
Funding Totals	10,372.4	13,019.3	13,053.8

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2007 Management Plan to FY2008 Governor**

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2007 Management Plan	10,636.5	0.0	2,382.8	13,019.3
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Fund Source Adjustment for Retirement Systems Increases	34.5	0.0	-34.5	0.0
Proposed budget increases:				
-FY 08 Retirement Systems Rate Increases	0.0	0.0	34.5	34.5
FY2008 Governor	10,671.0	0.0	2,382.8	13,053.8

Senior Care Personal Services Information					
Authorized Positions			Personal Services Costs		
	<u>FY2007</u> <u>Management</u> <u>Plan</u>	<u>FY2008</u> <u>Governor</u>			
			Annual Salaries		167,843
Full-time	4	4	Premium Pay		0
Part-time	0	0	Annual Benefits		140,850
Nonpermanent	0	0	<i>Less 0.55% Vacancy Factor</i>		(1,693)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay		0
Totals	4	4	Total Personal Services		307,000

Position Classification Summary					
Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Administrative Clerk II	0	0	0	1	1
Elig Technician I	0	0	0	2	2
Elig Technician III	0	0	0	1	1
Totals	0	0	0	4	4