

State of Alaska FY2022 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health and Social Services Senior and Disabilities Services Results Delivery Unit Budget Summary

Senior and Disabilities Services Results Delivery Unit

Contribution to Department's Mission

To promote health, well-being and safety for individuals with disabilities, seniors and vulnerable adults by facilitating access to quality services and supports that foster independence, personal choice and dignity.

Results

(Additional performance information is available on the web at <https://omb.alaska.gov/results>.)

Core Services

- Long-term care services
- Home and community-based services
- Quality assurance
- Access
- Long-term care facility and program safety
- Long-term care workforce
- All applicants for services are evaluated for program eligibility.
- Grant services
- Protection of vulnerable adults

Measures by Core Service

(Additional performance information is available on the web at <https://omb.alaska.gov/results>.)

- 1. Long-term care services**
- 2. Home and community-based services**
- 3. Quality assurance**
- 4. Access**
- 5. Long-term care facility and program safety**
- 6. Long-term care workforce**
- 7. All applicants for services are evaluated for program eligibility.**
- 8. Grant services**
- 9. Protection of vulnerable adults**

Major RDU Accomplishments in 2020

- The Division of Senior and Disabilities Services provided information on Alaska Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security benefits by providing in-person public seminars, presentations or fairs, and through the use of statewide radio, television, and printed ad campaigns. Topics discussed included Medicare prescription drug coverage, Medicare health plans, Medigap, and Medicaid enrollment, eligibility, and benefits.
- The division continued collaboration with the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and program integrity. In FY2020, 347 investigations were conducted, and 97 allegations substantiated.
- The Aging and Disability Resource Centers screen individuals requesting service to determine if they may need services offered through Medicaid Waiver (Alaskans Living Independently and Adults with Physical and Developmental Disabilities waivers) and Personal Care Services. The Aging and Disability Resource Centers' specialists provide options of counseling to identify long-term support needs, explore options to meet their needs through a facilitated decision-support process, connect callers and visitors with the resources they choose, and follow-up to ensure the

- needs have been met.
- In FY2020, approximately 35,400 individuals were served through Senior Community Based programs. Services include but are not limited to providing assistance accessing services, outreach, referral, congregate and home delivered meals, transportation, homemaker, respite, chore, case management, adult day services, health promotion and disease prevention, Medicare counseling, caregiver support groups, and caregiver training.
- In FY2020, the division completed almost 500 telehealth assessments.
- In FY2020, the General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living program served 539 clients. The division worked closely with care coordinators, hospital discharge planners, assisted living homes, family members, and adult protective services to determine eligibility for the General Relief Program and match vulnerable adults with assisted living homes.
- In FY2020, the Adult Protective Services Program received 6,734 reports of harm and investigated 1,968 of these reports. These critical services help to prevent or stop harm from occurring to vulnerable adults and include information and referral, investigation of reports, protective placement, guardianship/conservatorship counseling and mediation.

Key RDU Challenges

- Alaska is the state with the fastest growing senior population in the nation for the past five years, and people age 60+ are the fastest growing demographic in the State. People are living longer, and many are active; however, the numbers of seniors with dementia, chronic health conditions, and behavioral health needs are also increasing proportionately (State Plan for Senior Services FY2016-2019). This results in the increased need for long-term care services and increased waiting lists for nutrition, transportation and support services.
- The division will maintain compliance with federal and state requirements to manage the Medicaid waiver programs and meet documentation and timeline requirements. This includes initial assessments, reassessments, level of care determinations, and completed plans of care that must be mailed to each participant.
- Senior and Disabilities Services will maintain federal compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part C, Center for Medicare and Medicaid, Administration on Community Living, and Health Resources & Services Administration.
- Implementation of the Automated Service Plan requires additional effort and staff time through final development phases.
- Implementation of Medicaid reform efforts as result of SB74 requires additional staff capacity. The division's capacity to control program growth and cost remains a constant challenge.
- Development and Implementation of Electronic Visit Verification System for Personal Care Services and Home Health, as required by the 21st Century Cures Act, requires additional effort and staff to manage the program and provide audit and provider oversight.
- Due to COVID-19, and under the state and federal emergency declarations, the division received approval for an Appendix K and 1135 Waiver resulting in changes to the divisions business processes and a significant amount of outreach and training to explain the impact to provider agencies, care coordinators, etc.
- Due to COVID-19, most staff have been teleworking since March 2020 resulting in challenges in providing staff the equipment, hardware/software, and other tools needed to effectively work from home.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2022

- The Division of Senior and Disabilities Services will continue to implement Medicaid reform efforts as a result of SB74. The division will begin the implementation of the InterRai Assessment Tool for Long Term Services and Supports programs.
- The Home and Community Based Service, Chore, will transition to a Community First Choice Service Option.
- The Division of Senior and Disabilities Services is currently in the process of designing, developing, and implementing an Automated Service Plan system with a provider portal in support of the division's programs. The implementation of this system will emphasize service integration among state programs, including the Division of Senior and Disabilities Services, Medicaid, Behavioral Health, Eligibility, Financial Services, Certification and Licensing, and Public Health.

- The Division of Senior and Disabilities Services will issue an RFP to implement the federally required Electronic Visit Verification for Personal Care Assistance Providers.
- The practice of Home and Community Based Services provider affiliation will be amended to ensure federal Medicaid compliance and increased oversight over providers.
- To address reductions in staff, the division is restructuring the Nursing Facility Level of Care Assessment Team to focus nursing duties and maximize federal reimbursement to nursing tasks.
- The Division of Senior and Disabilities Services continues to partner with Behavioral Health and the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation to offer supported living housing vouchers through a federal program called 811 Project Rental Assistance. This program will provide housing vouchers to clients interested in transitioning from the General Relief Assisted Living setting to an apartment with supportive services designed to teach residents how to live independently and maintain tenancy.

Contact Information
<p>Contact: Sylvan Robb, Division Director Phone: (907) 465-1630 E-mail: sylvan.robbs@alaska.gov</p>

**Senior and Disabilities Services
RDU Financial Summary by Component**

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2020 Actuals				FY2021 Management Plan				FY2022 Governor			
	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
Formula Expenditures None.												
Non-Formula Expenditures												
SDS Community Based Grants	11,192.6	776.0	6,729.9	18,698.5	11,524.6	951.5	7,495.4	19,971.5	11,774.6	951.5	7,495.4	20,221.5
Early Intervention Learning Prgm	7,383.7	0.0	1,838.5	9,222.2	7,424.5	0.0	1,859.1	9,283.6	7,424.5	0.0	1,859.1	9,283.6
Senior/Disabilities Svcs Admin	10,620.7	1,027.3	10,748.9	22,396.9	11,049.4	1,153.1	12,176.5	24,379.0	11,099.8	1,211.7	12,158.9	24,470.4
Genl Relief/Temp Assisted Living	5,746.0	0.0	0.0	5,746.0	7,141.4	0.0	0.0	7,141.4	6,976.5	0.0	0.0	6,976.5
Commission on Aging	0.0	232.8	0.0	232.8	0.0	345.7	0.0	345.7	0.0	357.3	0.0	357.3
Governor's Cncl/Disabilities	24.9	441.6	822.0	1,288.5	25.0	703.7	915.3	1,644.0	25.0	847.6	917.3	1,789.9
Totals	34,967.9	2,477.7	20,139.3	57,584.9	37,164.9	3,154.0	22,446.3	62,765.2	37,300.4	3,368.1	22,430.7	63,099.2

Senior and Disabilities Services
Summary of RDU Budget Changes by Component
From FY2021 Management Plan to FY2022 Governor

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>Unrestricted Gen (UGF)</u>	<u>Designated Gen (DGF)</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2021 Management Plan	37,164.9	0.0	3,154.0	22,446.3	62,765.2
One-time items:					
-SDS Community Based Grants	0.0	0.0	-300.0	0.0	-300.0
-Senior/Disabilities Svcs Admin	-63.0	0.0	-274.6	-75.0	-412.6
-Commission on Aging	0.0	0.0	-129.5	0.0	-129.5
-Governor's Cncl/Disabilities	0.0	0.0	-236.9	0.0	-236.9
Adjustments which continue current level of service:					
-SDS Community Based Grants	0.0	250.0	300.0	0.0	550.0
-Senior/Disabilities Svcs Admin	50.4	63.0	333.2	57.4	504.0
-Commission on Aging	0.0	0.0	141.1	0.0	141.1
-Governor's Cncl/Disabilities	0.0	0.0	380.8	2.0	382.8
Proposed budget decreases:					
-Genl Relief/Temp Assisted Living	-164.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	-164.9
FY2022 Governor	36,987.4	313.0	3,368.1	22,430.7	63,099.2