

State of Alaska
FY2023 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health
General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living
Component Budget Summary

Component: General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living

Contribution to Department's Mission

Provide temporary assisted living funding to protect Alaska's vulnerable adults.

Core Services

- Provide temporary assisted living funding for vulnerable adults over the age of 18, as referred by Adult Protective Services investigators or community health professionals.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2021

- The General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living program served approximately 612 clients in FY2021. The division worked closely with care coordinators, hospital discharge planners, assisted living homes, family members, and Adult Protective Services to determine eligibility for the program and match vulnerable adults with assisted living homes.
- Senior and Disabilities Services implemented a waitlist for the program in March 2019. This was necessary as the demand for General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living was outpacing the available funding. The division has worked with the provider community to provide education on alternate programs including the Housing and Urban Development 811 program, Home and Community Based Waiver programs and Community First Choice (CFC), and services that may be available through the Division of Behavioral Health 1115 Demonstration Waiver. The implementation of the waitlist increased education about alternative programs.
- Senior and Disabilities Services continued to use the Harmony system to track and process documentation for General Relief in FY2021. Refinement of the Harmony system brought new ways to track program encumbrances and more accurately project costs. New reports provided increased oversight and program management opportunities leading to efficiencies and streamlined workflows. Together, this has resulted in accurate and expedient provider payments and a quicker process for reviewing and tracking applications. In FY2021, the Harmony system allowed the division to track additional data about the population utilizing General Relief such as: most common diagnoses, guardianship status with the Office of Public Advocacy, and the attrition of General Relief recipients.
- Despite the waitlist being in effect in FY 2021, the General Relief program was able to draw 545 applicants from the waitlist with an average waiting time of 11 days between the application submission date and the date of program eligibility. The General Relief program worked to ensure prompt eligibility determinations for initial applicants and worked closely with our medical provider community to ensure that program funding was available for safe and swift discharges from hospitals and long-term care settings experiencing COVID related hardships.

Key Component Challenges

- Housing and service provision capacity development is a key need for many Alaskan communities. Alaska's senior population is projected to reach nearly 98,000 in 2020 and more than 100,000 by 2025 and, a portion of the senior population, which requires assistance from this program, is anticipated to grow proportionately.
- Many recipients do not have access to case management services. Therefore, the division has limited ability to transition individuals from General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living program to alternative housing options.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2023

- The division continues to modify the Harmony system to refine workflow processes. Priorities in FY2022 will be focused on building capacity with the provider community for alternatives to the General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living program for individuals who do not have functional limitations and

who may benefit from better case management. Additionally, the division will continue improving how it tracks and administers the General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living program. FY2021 highlighted a need to adapt to a paperless process and continue partnering with the provider community to explore methods to efficiently administer the program.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 44.29.020	State Government; Department of Health and Social Services
AS 47.24	Welfare, Social Services, and Institutions; Protection of Vulnerable Adults
AS 47.33	Welfare, Social Services, and Institutions; Assisted Living Homes
AS 47.65	Welfare, Social Services, and Institutions; Service Programs for Older Alaskans and Other Adults
7 AAC 43	Medical Assistance
7 AAC 47.300-525	General Relief and General Relief Medical; General Relief Assisted Living Home Care
PL 98-459	Public Law, Title III Older Americans Act, as Amended
42 CFR, Part 440	Public Health; Medical Assistance Programs
45 CFR, Part 1321	Public Welfare; Grants to State and Community Programs on Aging

Contact Information
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Component Detail All Funds
Department of Health

Component: General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living (2875)
RDU: Senior and Disabilities Services (487)

Non-Formula Component

	FY2021 Actuals	FY2022 Conference Committee	FY2022 Authorized	FY2022 Management Plan	FY2023 Governor	FY2022 Management Plan vs FY2023 Governor	
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
73000 Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
74000 Commodities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
77000 Grants, Benefits	6,728.3	7,141.4	6,976.5	6,976.5	6,976.5	0.0	0.0%
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Totals	6,728.3	7,141.4	6,976.5	6,976.5	6,976.5	0.0	0.0%
Fund Sources:							
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	5,989.4	6,401.1	6,236.2	6,236.2	6,236.2	0.0	0.0%
1037 GF/MH (UGF)	738.9	740.3	740.3	740.3	740.3	0.0	0.0%
Unrestricted General (UGF)	6,728.3	7,141.4	6,976.5	6,976.5	6,976.5	0.0	0.0%
Designated General (DGF)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Other Funds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Federal Funds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Positions:							
Permanent Full Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Permanent Part Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Non Permanent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%

Change Record Detail - Multiple Scenarios with Descriptions
Department of Health

Component: General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living (2875)
RDU: Senior and Disabilities Services (487)

Scenario/Change Record Title	Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	Positions		NP
										PFT	PPT	
***** Changes From FY2022 Conference Committee To FY2022 Authorized *****												
FY2022 Conference Committee												
	ConfCom	7,141.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7,141.4	0.0	0	0	0
1004 Gen Fund		6,401.1										
1037 GF/MH		740.3										
Reduce Authority in General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living												
	Veto	-164.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-164.9	0.0	0	0	0
1004 Gen Fund		-164.9										
The number of applicants utilizing assistance through the General Relief Assisted Living Home Program decreased.												
	Subtotal	6,976.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6,976.5	0.0	0	0	0
***** Changes From FY2022 Management Plan To FY2023 Governor *****												
	Totals	6,976.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6,976.5	0.0	0	0	0

Line Item Detail (1676)
Department of Health
Grants, Benefits

Component: General Relief/Temporary Assisted Living (2875)

Line Number	Line Name		FY2021 Actuals	FY2022 Management Plan	FY2023 Governor
7000	Grants, Benefits		6,728.3	6,976.5	6,976.5
Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2021 Actuals	FY2022 Management Plan	FY2023 Governor
		7000 Grants, Benefits Detail Totals	6,728.3	6,976.5	6,976.5
7002	Benefits	General relief payments for assisted living housing and other supported costs for protecting and/or moving vulnerable adults from harm.	6,728.3	6,976.5	6,976.5