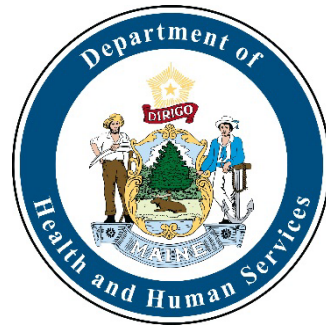


State Plan on Aging Update

Presentation to the Cabinet on Aging



Older Americans Act of 1965



“The Older Americans Act of 1965 reaffirmed a Nation's sense of responsibility and respect for the dignity of age.”

Statement by the President Upon Signing the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1967

<https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/statement-the-president-upon-signing-the-older-americans-act-amendments-1967>

Purpose and Scope of State Plan

- To receive funding under the Older Americans Act (OAA), Maine must submit a comprehensive plan to the Administration on Community Living detailing how the State will provide community supports and programming under the OAA.
- The OAA is specific to community programming and puts special emphasis on serving individuals in rural areas, those in greatest economic and social need, individuals with Alzheimer's disease and their caretakers, as well as other older adults who are at risk of institutional (nursing facility) placement.
- Maine submits a State Plan on Aging every 4 years.

2020 – 2024 State Plan on Aging Update

The current State Plan on Aging has guided the development of key priorities and initiatives for aging services and programs in Maine, including:

- Delivery of LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency Training in 2020 to staff at OADS (including APS), AAAs, LTC Ombudsman Program, and Maine Legal Services for the Elderly.
- Improved demographic data collection in Fall 2021 to better understand service needs of underserved populations and make appropriate referrals to community organizations.
- Established partnership with MaineCITE in Fall 2022 to improve awareness and access to assistive technology for older adults through trainings for AAA and ADRC staff.
- Contracted with the Immigration Resource Center of Maine in Summer 2023 to provide culturally appropriate access services to older adults in immigrant communities.
- Development of a self-screening tool in Fall 2023 called the Maine Access Navigator as part of Maine's No Wrong Door system.
- Increased the number of persons receiving In-Home Services (Homemaker, Personal Care, and Chore) funded by the OAA each year since pandemic.
- Increased respite care statewide through the Respite for ME Grants pilot program funded by the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan.

2023 Maine Aging Study

- Statewide surveys:
 - An adults who is 55 years or older
 - An adult under 55 years who is either:
 - An informal caregiver of an adult 60 or older
 - An informal caregiver of an adult under 60 who has Alzheimer's or related dementia
- Listening Sessions:
 - September 25, 2023, from 10:00am to Noon Eastern Area Agency on Aging
 - September 28, 2023, from 9:00am to 11:00am Aroostook Agency on Aging
 - October 4, 2023, from 11:00am to 1:00pm Seniors Plus
 - October 4, 2023, from 2:00pm to 4:00pm Southern Maine Agency on Aging
 - October 12, 2023, from 10:00am to Noon Spectrum Generations

2023 Maine Aging Study

- Focus Groups, in collaboration with MCOA, Cross Cultural Community Services, and In Her Presence:
 - LGBTQ+ older adults (one Southern Maine and one rural)
 - Older Asian adults
 - US-born Black Americans
 - Older New Mainers
 - Hispanic/Latino
 - Low-income 75+
- Key Informant Interviews:
 - Maine Title VI tribal grantees
 - Older people with IDD
 - Older people experiencing homelessness or unstable housing
 - Older kinship caregivers
 - Older adults living in island communities

Advisory Committee Timeline

- 07/11 – Kick-Off Meeting: Older Americans Act Review, Results Based Action Plan Framework, Needs Assessment Review
- 07/21 – Deadline: Advisory Committee reviews and provides feedback on Needs Assessment Instruments
- 08/01 – Meeting: Review and Approve Needs Assessment Instruments
- 12/07 – Meeting: Needs Assessment Results Presentation
- 12/12 – Meeting: Identify Priority Factors, Factor Analysis
- 12/19 – Meeting: Strategies, Strategy Results, Performance Measures, Timelines & Targets
- 02/02 – Deadline: OADS to submit draft state plan for Advisory Committee review
- 02/16 – Deadline: Advisory Council to review and approve draft

2025-2028 State Plan on Aging Timeline

Feb '24 – Draft Published on OADS Website

Mar '24 – Public Hearings and Comment Period

April '24 – Draft Submission to Administration for Community Living

May '24 – Final Submission for Commissioner and Governor Review

July 1, 2024 – Deadline to Submit Signed Plan

Questions?

James Moorhead
Healthy Aging Services Manager
James.Moorhead@maine.gov

