

The Agency

Department of Elderly Affairs

Agency Operations

The Department of Elderly Affairs is the designated State Agency on Aging for Rhode Island. As such, the department is responsible for the development and implementation of a comprehensive, coordinated system of community-based care for persons sixty years of age and older. The department is headed by a director who is appointed by the Governor. Departmental responsibilities include developing and implementing a State Plan on Aging and serving as the state's Single Planning and Service Area on Aging under the federal Older Americans Act. The primary mission of the department is to preserve the independence, dignity and capacity for choice of seniors, their families and caregivers and adults with disabilities. The department is the lead State Agency Advocate to protect and preserve the rights of older individuals, operates programs designed to assist seniors in remaining independent in the community and administers and funds a wide range of community activities and services. Most services are provided through a strong and coordinated community-based network of senior centers, adult day centers (which the department has statutory responsibility to license), nutrition programs, paratransit program, center on diversity, senior housing and assisted care facilities, home care, advocacy groups and others. The department's grants management and program staffs coordinate the efforts and activities of the State Aging Network through the allocation and monitoring of federal and state funds.

Programs for older Rhode Islanders, their families, caregivers and adults with disabilities include: customer information referral and assistance services designed to empower the best choices to ensure a senior's health and well-being; a Community Information Specialist network, pharmaceutical assistance, health promotion/disease prevention, health insurance counseling, protective services for community elders, ombudsman program for elders living in nursing homes or assisted living facilities, a volunteer guardianship program, legal counseling, heating assistance, housing planning, advocacy and security assistance, home based care, Senior Companion Program, case management services, respite care, a National Family Caregiver Support Program, Alzheimer support programs and an Older Workers Program, along with a flourishing Aging and Disability Resource Center ("the Point").

Agency Objectives

As outlined in our State Plan on Aging under the Older Americans Act, (OAA) and in the relevant laws and policies of the State of Rhode Island, the department is dedicated to providing leadership and advocacy in emerging elder issues. The department provides services that are consumer focused, high quality and easily accessible. The department intends to implement a comprehensive coordinated system of elder service delivery that expands the options for community based care for all older Rhode Islanders, their families, caregivers and adults with disabilities.

Statutory History

The Department of Elderly Affairs was created in 1977. R.I.G.L. 42-66 established and provides for the organization and functions of the department. Federal authority rests under the Older Americans Act of 1965 as amended.

The Budget

Department of Elderly Affairs

	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Administrative Services	1,512,565	1,376,294	1,919,896	1,604,233
Program Services	29,780,211	34,206,046	33,230,842	34,037,398
RIPAE	10,743,854	8,857,180	2,665,596	2,771,654
Total Expenditures	\$42,036,630	\$44,439,520	\$37,816,334	\$38,413,285
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	4,432,875	4,301,866	4,472,510	4,657,298
Operating Supplies and Expenses	10,956,892	9,321,305	2,813,439	2,910,455
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	18,778,418	23,148,484	22,050,344	21,885,059
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$34,168,185	\$36,771,655	\$29,336,293	\$29,452,812
Capital Purchases and Equipment	13,927	19,604	98,239	697,989
Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	7,854,518	7,648,261	8,381,802	8,262,484
Total Expenditures	\$42,036,630	\$44,439,520	\$37,816,334	\$38,413,285
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	25,660,265	22,123,914	19,364,571	19,381,354
Federal Funds	11,769,152	15,196,099	13,101,374	13,056,931
Restricted Receipts	-	2,362,357	665,389	690,000
Other Funds	4,607,213	4,757,150	4,685,000	5,285,000
Total Expenditures	\$42,036,630	\$44,439,520	\$37,816,334	\$38,413,285
FTE Authorization	52.0	52.0	48.0	47.0
Agency Measures				
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	8.0%	8.5%	6.5%	6.5%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	80.0%	85.1%	89.0%	89.0%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	12.0%	12.0%	15.0%	15.0%
Program Measures				
Percentage of Elderly Abuse Involving the Same Victim	38.1%	38.5%	38.9%	39.3%
Self-Neglect Percentage of Reports Involving the Same Victim	25.0%	28.0%	31.0%	33.0%