

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 (OAA). The primary focus of the Department of Elderly Affairs is to preserve the independence, dignity and capacity for choice of seniors, their families and caregivers. The department is the lead state agency advocate to protect and preserve the rights of older individuals; operates services designed to assist seniors in remaining independent in the community; and administers and funds a wide range of community programs, activities and services. Some services are provided directly by the department staff, but many are provided through a strong and coordinated community-based network of senior centers, adult day centers nutrition programs, paratransit program, senior housing and assisted care facilities, home care, advocacy groups, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (The POINT), Community Information Specialists (statewide regional POINTS), and other community partners. The department’s grants management staff and the department as a whole coordinate the efforts and activities of the State Aging Network through the allocation and monitoring of federal and state funds.

Agency Objectives

As outlined in the department’s “*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 is committed to providing services that are consumer-focused, high quality and easily accessible. The department will continue to enhance and 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. The department will work to strengthen programs and services that enable older Rhode Islanders to live an independent, healthy and dignified lifestyle while continuing to make meaningful contributions in the community. DEA will also continue to serve as the statewide advocacy agency for the needs of elders 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 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram					
Administrative Services	1,723,590	1,390,257	1,304,580	1,068,675	1,019,226
Program Services	32,350,223	31,031,170	30,223,489	31,061,751	30,985,771
RIPAE	1,878,057	1,961,841	2,051,654	2,051,654	1,164,878
Total Expenditures	\$35,951,870	\$34,383,268	\$33,579,723	\$34,182,080	\$33,169,875
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	4,009,353	3,572,954	3,652,854	3,137,348	2,955,830
Operating Supplies and Expenses	778,108	77,198	2,201,578	1,323,417	619,720
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	26,939,725	22,554,211	19,315,894	21,872,412	22,349,567
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$31,727,186	\$26,204,363	\$25,170,326	\$26,333,177	\$25,925,117
Capital Purchases and Equipment	2,142	(22,798)	97,989	126,639	111,639
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	4,222,542	8,201,703	8,311,408	7,722,264	7,133,119
Total Expenditures	\$35,951,870	\$34,383,268	\$33,579,723	\$34,182,080	\$33,169,875
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	18,809,664	16,969,063	16,071,786	13,904,044	11,687,598
Federal Funds	12,057,604	11,980,485	12,257,937	14,678,036	16,460,162
Restricted Receipts	741,000	956,578	620,000	970,000	392,115
Other Funds	4,343,602	4,477,142	4,630,000	4,630,000	4,630,000
Total Expenditures	\$35,951,870	\$34,383,268	\$33,579,723	\$34,182,080	\$33,169,875
FTE Authorization	48.0	44.0	35.0	32.0	31.0
Agency Measures					
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	14.5%	16.5%	16.5%	16.5%	6.5%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	89.0%	89.0%	89.0%	89.0%	93.0%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	14.5%	16.5%	16.5%	16.5%	10.0%
Program Measures					
Percentage of Elderly Abuse Involving the Same Victim	43.0%	48.1%	53.7%	53.7%	54.2%
Self-Neglect Percentage of Reports Involving the Same Victim	30.6%	33.2%	36.8%	36.8%	38.8%