



JB Pritzker, Governor  
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Dear Aging Network:

The Department would like to share with you highlights of the recently passed Fiscal Year 2021 Budget, as well as some other funding updates. During these especially challenging times, the Department's budget reflects strong support from the Governor's office and members of the Illinois General Assembly. Community-based services to Illinois' older adults remain a priority as we continue to focus on our mission of supporting older adults' ability to maintain their independence and remain in their own homes along with ensuring their health, welfare and safety. Highlights include:

**Community Care Program:** An additional \$58.6 million to address ongoing support to the Aging Network during the COVID pandemic, including:

- Accommodation for modest caseload growth and utilization increase
- Continued funding for Emergency Senior Services (ESS)
- Continued funding for preservation grants for Adult Day Services
- Funding for a rate increase for In-Home services from \$21.84 to \$23.40 for providers (effective January 1, 2021, contingent upon federal CMS approval)
- PPE off-set payments for Aging Network providers

**Older Americans Act Services:** The FY 2021 Planning and Service Grant Appropriation line increased \$1.2 million to address the amount needed for the State's minimum wage increases. The budget also maintains support with:

- Continuation of Alzheimer's and Social Isolation initiatives
- An additional \$1.1 million to supplement the \$3 million in federal funding, sustaining employment training at local minimum wage levels to eligible, low income seniors, who desire to return to the workforce

**Adult Protective Services:** The FY 2021 Aging Clients Rights Division budget includes a \$1 million increase to address the projected growth in the number of reports. The Department also received a \$3 million grant award from the Administration for Community Living. The Adult Protective Services Program will begin a public awareness campaign extending for the next 3 years, focusing on outreach to seniors as well as trained mandated reporters.

**Federal Funding - FFCRA & CARES Act:** An additional \$38.2 million received in federal funding through the FFCRA and the CARES Act. The FY 20 supplemental funding provides IDoA with the appropriation authority to distribute the federal funding to the network of AAAs.

FFCRA Funding	
Program Type	Amount
Nutrition Services	\$8,826,240
Ombudsman Services	\$0
Social Services	\$0
Caregiver Support	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,826,240</b>

CARES Act Funding	
Program Type	Amount
Nutrition Services	\$17,652,480
Ombudsman Services	\$735,520
Social Services	\$7,355,200
Caregiver Support	\$3,637,081
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,380,281</b>

**Total Federal Crisis Funding \$38,206,521**

Though the GRF line is held flat at the FY 2020 level, increased Federal funding due to FFCRA and the CARES Act will increase the number of meals available and the number of people served. The Department anticipates the elimination of waiting lists.

Respect for yesterday. Support for today. Planning for tomorrow.  
[www.illinois.gov/aging](http://www.illinois.gov/aging)

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966; 1-888-206-1327 (TTY)



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**Coordination with FEMA/IEMA:** IDoA continues to coordinate with FEMA and IEMA to obtain 664,000 shelf stable meals that are scheduled to be delivered in collaboration with our AAA network. The shelf stable meals are being provided at no cost to the State.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** IDoA continues to coordinate with IEMA to procure PPE for our In-Home workers and our Regional Ombudsman. To date, the Department has received five shipments of PPE totaling 481,920 masks and gloves. Distribution of the PPE has been prioritized to In-Home agencies that are serving COVID-19 positive participants.

**ACL ADRC Technology Grant:** IDoA and IDHS received \$1.7 million from the Administration for Community Living to purchase technology devices; including iPads, Grandpads, tablets and internet / Wi-Fi / hotspot access to increase social engagement and connectedness, targeting those who live alone, who don't normally receive in-home services and who live in rural areas. IDoA, the Illinois Assistive Technology Program (IATP), and IDHS' Division of Developmental Disabilities and Division of Rehabilitation Services will work in tandem to identify clients, customers, and participants who may benefit from these devices.

Since taking office, Governor JB Pritzker has prioritized effective and efficient government, working to undo years of financial mismanagement while rebuilding our hollowed-out state government. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the enormous role government plays in keeping communities safe and providing the tools people need to build better lives. While the pandemic has had a devastating impact on our state revenues, we thank Governor JB Pritzker for investing in older Illinoisans, and our Aging Network.

Thank you all for your continued hard work and dedication. We will all get through this, together, ***supporting today, while planning for tomorrow***, and I'm confident the Aging Network will be stronger for it.

Sincerely,

Paula Basta, M.Div.  
Director, Illinois Department on Aging

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