



# Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging<sup>®</sup>, Inc.

## 2011 Annual Report

### Mission Statement

The Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging<sup>®</sup>, Inc. is the gateway to resources for older adults, caregivers and service providers in the twenty-seven counties of southwest Minnesota.

# Message from the Chair and Executive Director

On behalf of the Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging®, Inc. Board of Directors, we are pleased to present you with our 2011 Annual Report. This year's report highlights our new programs, "The One Stop Shop" and "Long-Term Care Consultation Expansion". Also included is information about the agencies and organizations that received funding through awards made by the Board. These agencies and organizations provide supportive services to older adults and caregivers throughout our twenty-seven county service area and are an integral part of the local long-term-care system.

As we look back over the past year, we hope you have kept abreast of MNRAAA's activities through *MNRAAA NEWS* and our website at [www.mnraaa.org](http://www.mnraaa.org). Always feel free to contact MNRAAA staff if you have questions, comments or concerns.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and appreciation to the volunteers, staff and many partners from throughout the state who continue to be committed to improving the lives of older adults, caregivers and Veterans.

Respectfully yours,



*William Sauer*  
Chair, Board of Directors



*Linda Giersdorf*  
Executive Director



## *The One Stop Shop*

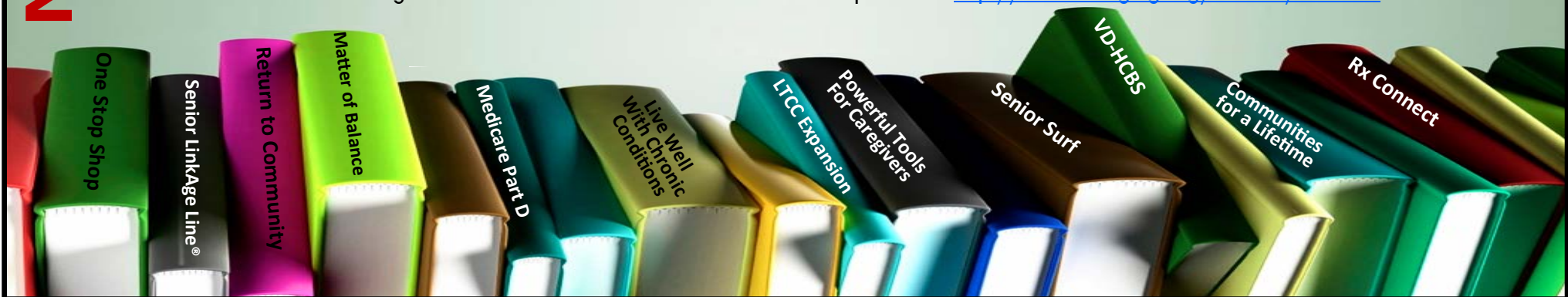
Since 1997, many older adults in Minnesota have relied on the Senior LinkAge Line®, a statewide service of the Minnesota Board on Aging and Area Agencies on Aging, as their first call for assistance when experiencing questions or issues on a variety of subjects. Most widely known for long-term care, Medicare expertise and helping older adults age well in the community, the Senior LinkAge Line® is also often used for helping Minnesota seniors and their caregivers to find answers to other questions that may involve state agencies, such as how to handle a driver's license that has been revoked or determining if a professional holds a current license. Because of the extensive knowledge of the Senior LinkAge Line® specialists, as well as the increasing popularity of the line, when Lt. Governor Yvonne Prettner Solon had a vision for a One Stop Shop for Minnesota Seniors, it made sense to expand the existing Senior LinkAge Line®.

The newly expanded Senior LinkAge Line®: A One Stop Shop for Minnesota Seniors can now quickly assist Minnesotans with a variety of subjects and issues that require the expertise of other state agencies. With one call, a specialist can connect the caller to appropriate state agency staff that can directly assist the caller without requiring a second, or even third, call to be made. For example, if a senior has questions regarding their property tax, a Senior LinkAge Line® One Stop Shop specialist can chat with a staff from the Minnesota Department of Revenue to find an answer for the caller. This virtual network is made possible through the use of Revation, a specialized chat and call system. The Senior LinkAge Line®: A One Stop Shop for Minnesota Seniors will continue to expand over the next year with connecting seniors to volunteer and employment opportunities.

To seek assistance with any area concerning Minnesota seniors and their caregivers, call the Senior LinkAge Line®: A One Stop Shop for Minnesota Seniors at 1-800-333-2433. Specialists are also available through online chat at [www.MinnesotaHelp.info](http://www.MinnesotaHelp.info)®. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Voicemail is available after hours.

## *Long-Term Care Consultation Expansion*

Effective October 1, 2011, consumers thinking about moving to a registered housing with services setting (commonly called "assisted living") must have a consultation completed before signing a lease or contract. All registered housing with services providers are required to provide information about this service to consumers. Consumers are then provided with verification from the Senior LinkAge Line® that the consultation has occurred prior to signing a lease or service contract. Senior LinkAge Line® staff explain all options available to consumers for both housing and services. The consultation is required for people of all ages. Call 1-800-333-2433 for more information and also visit the following web page for more information including materials that have been made available to providers <http://www.mnaging.org/advisor/lcce.htm>.



# 2011 Older Americans Act, State & Federal Nutrition Services Incentive Program Funding Awards

| <b>Title III-B Supportive Services: \$244,933</b> |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b><u>Provider</u></b>                            | <b><u>Service</u></b>                   | <b><u>Counties Served</u></b>                              |
| Western Mental Health Center                      | Counseling, Telephone Reassurance       | Lyon, Murray, Redwood                                      |
| Yellow Medicine East Community Education          | Chore, Telephone Reassurance            | Chippewa, Yellow Medicine                                  |
| VINE Faith in Action                              | Counseling                              | Blue Earth, Nicollet                                       |
| City of Montevideo                                | Chore, Telephone Reassurance            | Chippewa   |
| Coalition of African Community Services           | Counseling                              | Kandiyohi  |
| Southern MN Regional Legal Services               | Legal Assistance, Legal Education       | All 27   |
| Kandiyohi Area Transit                            | Transportation                          | Kandiyohi  |
| Meeker Council on Aging                           | Transportation                          | Meeker   |
| Prairie Five CAC, Inc.                            | Transportation, Assisted Transportation | Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift, Yellow Medicine |
| Renville Co. Human Services                       | Transportation                          | Renville   |
| RSVP of Southwest Minnesota                       | Telephone Reassurance                   | Cottonwood, Lincoln, Murray, Nobles, Redwood, Rock         |
| Willmar Area Multi-Cultural Market                | Counseling                              | Kandiyohi  |

| <b>Title III-C 1 &amp; 2 Nutrition Services: \$2,036,505</b> |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b><u>Provider</u></b>                                       | <b><u>Service</u></b>   | <b><u>Counties Served</u></b>   |
| Prairie Five CAC, Inc.                                       | Congregate Meals, Home Delivered Meals                        | Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift, Yellow Medicine  |
| Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota                         | Congregate Meals, Home Delivered Meals, Consumer Choice Meals | Blue Earth, Brown, Cottonwood, Faribault, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Le Sueur, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Pipestone, Renville, Redwood, Rock, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan |





| <b>Title III-D Health Promotion and Disease Prevention: \$17,520</b> |                                   |  |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b><u>Provider</u></b>   | <b><u>Service</u></b>             | <b><u>Counties Served</u></b>                              |
| <b>VINE Faith in Action</b>  | Medication Management & Screening | Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Le Sueur, Nicollet, Watonwan |

| <b>Title III-E National Family Caregiver Support Services: \$190,745</b> |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b><u>Provider</u></b>   | <b><u>Service</u></b>   | <b><u>Counties Served</u></b>                              |
| <b>Wellspring Faith in Action</b>  | Individual/Family Counseling, Support Groups, Training & Education                                    | Watonwan   |
| <b>Services for Seniors in Brown &amp; Sibley Counties</b>               | Individual/Family Counseling, Support Groups, Training & Education, Respite Care                      | Brown, Sibley  |
| <b>RSVP of Southwest Minnesota</b>                                       | Coaching/Consulting, Respite Care   | Cottonwood, Lincoln, Murray, Nobles, Redwood, Rock         |
| <b>Interfaith Caregivers - Faith in Action in Faribault Co.</b>          | Coaching/Consulting, Respite Care   | Faribault, Martin  |
| <b>Prairie Five CAC, Inc.</b>  | Individual/Family Counseling, Support Groups, Training & Education, Coaching/Consulting               | Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift, Yellow Medicine |
| <b>Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota</b>                              | Individual/Family Counseling, Support Groups, Training & Education, Coaching/Consulting, Respite Care | Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, Renville                        |
| <b>Western Mental Health Center</b>                                      | Respite Care  | Lyon   |
| <b>Chippewa County - Montevideo Hospital</b>                             | Individual/Family Counseling, Support Groups, Training & Education, Coaching/Consulting, Respite Care | Chippewa, Yellow Medicine                                  |

In 2011, MNRAAA awarded \$2,489,703 to community partners for services to assist older adults and their caregivers.



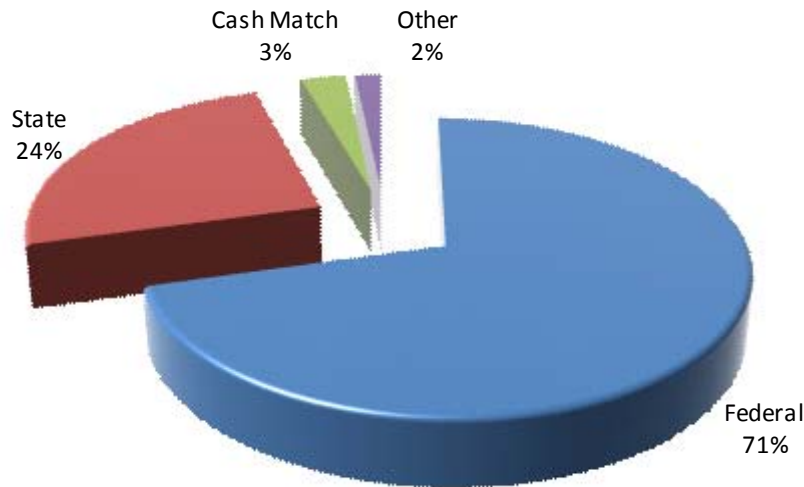
**A One Stop Shop for Minnesota Seniors**

## Senior LinkAge Line® One Stop Shop

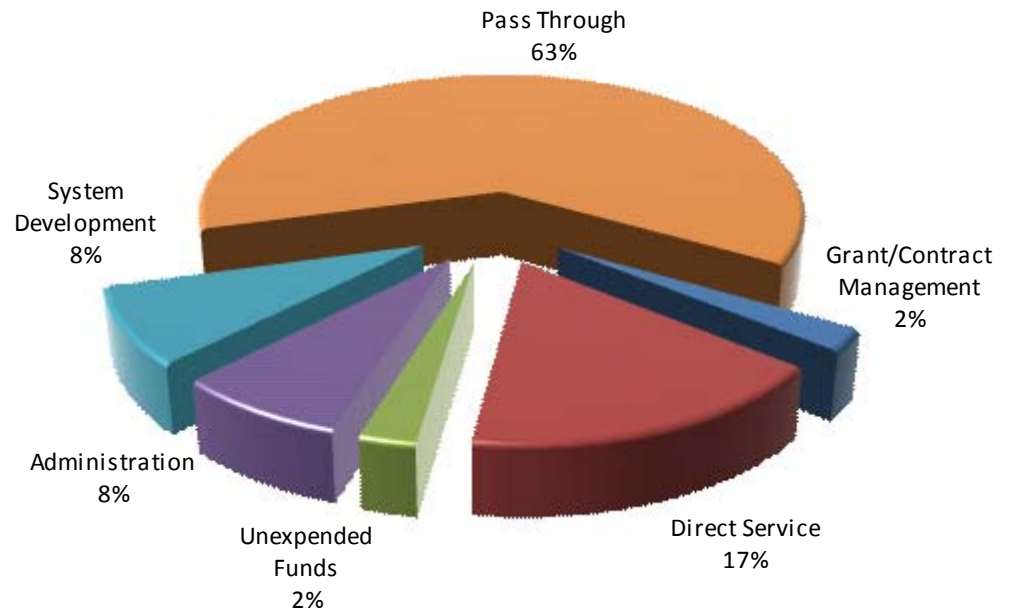
The *Senior LinkAge Line*® is a collaboration of the Area Agencies on Aging and the Minnesota Board on Aging. Assistance is provided via a single toll-free number (1.800.333.2433) or via an in-person appointment with a Senior Outreach Specialist or trained volunteer counselor. Consumers are provided assistance in exploring and understanding their long-term care and health insurance options. Senior LinkAge Line® staff and volunteer counselors served 9,184 people (older adults, family members, caregivers, providers, etc.) and had 15,002 contacts in 2011. Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging®, Inc. volunteers contributed 2,681 hours of service in 2011.

### Revenue and Expenditures

**Revenue Sources**



**Budgeted Expenditures**



*This report is intended for informational purposes only.*

*Complete and audited financial statements with accompanying notes are available from the MNRAAA office.*

**2011**

**MNRAAA Board**

- **Howard Jansen**  
Ortonville
- **Susan Meyer**  
Olivia
- **Maureen Melgaard-Schneider, *Secretary***  
Atwater
- **Francis Schweiss, *Alternate***  
Fairfax
- **DuWayne Underthun, *Vice Chair***  
Willmar
- **James Broich**  
Sleepy Eye
- **Candace Fenske**  
Madelia
- **Jim Berg, *Alternate***  
New Ulm
- **Lori Ruthenbeck**  
Mankato
- **Sylvan Struck, *Treasurer***  
Sherburn
- **Bill Sauer, *Chair***  
Fulda
- **David Benson**  
Bigelow
- **Daniel Sasaro Brewer**  
Lakefield
- **Maddy Forsberg**  
Slayton
- **Larry Hansen, *Alternate***  
Tyler

**Office Locations**

**Mankato Office**

10 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 3  
Mankato, MN

**Slayton Office**

2401 Broadway Avenue, Suite 2  
Slayton, MN

**Willmar Office**

333 SW Sixth Street, Suite 2  
Willmar, MN

**Service Area:** Big Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Faribault, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Le Sueur, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Sibley, Swift, Waseca, Watonwan and Yellow Medicine

WILLMAR STAFF



SLAYTON STAFF



MANKATO STAFF

