



2019 Draft Proposal for Program Development and Coordination Activities under Title III-B

The Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging (MNRAAA) will be submitting a proposal to the Minnesota Board on Aging to utilize 25% of its 2019 Title III-B (Supportive Services) funding for Program Development and Coordination Activities. These activities will have a direct and positive impact on the enhancement of services for older adults in the southwest region of Minnesota.

Each of the goals included below and developed by the Minnesota Board on Aging, are followed by the proposed activities that MNRAAA will undertake as it strives to reach each goal. Your comments regarding the proposed activities may be shared by following the directions on the “Request for Public Review and Comment on 2019 Older Americans Act Funding Proposal” page.

Goal 1: Leverage the experience, expertise and energy of older Minnesotans

- Build capacity of Senior Corps to facilitate opportunities to connect older adults to their communities, increase their social engagement and reduce isolation.
- Increase awareness of employers about value of recruiting and retaining older workers as strategy to address workforce shortages.

Goal 2: Equip older Minnesotans with the tools to take charge of their health and make informed decisions about services when they need them

- Participate in statewide partnership to promote health and wellness options for older adults, including mental health services.
- Pilot one or more sustainable models for offering evidence-based health promotion programs with community-based partners to address disparities and reach unserved or underserved populations.
- Participate in state-led efforts to modernize nutrition services delivery model to achieve efficiencies, promote sustainability and increase choice.

Goal 3: Support families and friends in their caregiving roles

- Partner with cultural and ethnic communities to develop models that best meet needs and preferences of caregivers in their community.
- Enhance caregiving support infrastructure to provide family caregivers with access to consultation and resources, including in person, by phone and online.
- Participate in CARE Act partnerships with the State, AARP and Minnesota Hospital Association.

- Develop on-the-ground relationships with nonprofits to identify caregiver consultants.
- Identify partners to train in Powerful Tools for Caregivers, dementia education and REST (Respite Education and Support Tools).
- Support family and friend caregivers by building regional respite care coalition.
- Strengthen statewide system for working caregivers to prevent or mitigate caregiver stress and burden by providing caregiver training for employers.

Goal 4: Support aging in community with access to a range of services and housing options

- Assist low-income older homeowners to age in community by leveraging regional/local public-private partnerships to complete home modifications, maintenance and in-home services.
- Coordinate home and community-based services with existing weatherization programs, MHFA (Minnesota Housing Finance Agency) loans, and resources with State Services for the Blind.
- Ensure Title III Older Americans Act providers target outreach and services in senior housing.
- Develop new partnerships to deliver services and supports in senior housing.
- Assist older adults to age in community through strengthened home and community-based services. Explore options to improve current Older Americans Act core services, Elderly Waiver, Alternative Care and Essential Community Supports.
- Work with cultural and ethnic communities to disseminate information and build awareness of services available through the Older Americans Act and other public programs.
- Assist communities to implement life cycle housing planning and development.