



## **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 2022 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.

The goals included below were developed by the Minnesota Board on Aging. MNRAAA will undertake developing activities to undertake as it strives to reach each goal. Your comments regarding potential activities will be included in the activity development and may be shared by following the directions on the “Request for Public Review and Comment on 2022 Older Americans Act Funding Proposal” page.

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

- Facilitate opportunities to connect older people to their communities and engage them in the activities that offer them social connections.
  - Promote and provide technical assistance to providers, communities, and Tribal Nation partners regarding engaging older adults in opportunities that offer social engagement opportunities (volunteering et al.).
- Work with employers to increase the number of older people (those 50+) who are actively recruited and retained as part of an overall workforce strategy.
  - Develop employer outreach presentation and social media marketing materials. Advocate through outreach to a minimum of three employers per quarter, utilizing human resource networks or work force centers when applicable, that employers recruit and retain older workers utilizing strategies such as workplace flexibility and phased or delayed retirement.

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

- Achieve statewide availability of a range of healthy aging programs.
  - Identify evidence-based program service providers, initiate contact with previously unknown service providers, provide technical assistance if applicable and identify gaps in program availability.
  - Promote development of evidence-based program services in identified gap areas.
  - Provide technical assistance, fidelity monitoring and regular correspondence to Title III-D funded evidence-based programs.

- Pursue new opportunities to address disparities and reach currently unserved or underserved populations with healthy aging programs and nutrition services.
  - Identify an evidence-based program service provider that is serving unserved or underserved populations and identify challenges and successes of program delivery.
  - Invite evidence-based community-based organization to explore piloting project model that address evidence-based program disparities and underrepresented populations.

### **Goal 3: Support families and friends in their caregiving roles**

- Build capacity within informal caregiver networks to enhance caregiving skills.
  - Identify gaps in caregiver programs and services such as, caregiver consultants, Powerful Tools for Caregivers (PTC) classes, Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregiver Health (REACH) consultants, and Respite Education & Support Tools (REST) providers.
  - Promote development of caregiver programs and services in identified gap areas including exploring partnerships with cultural, ethnic communities to develop caregiver models that best meet their needs and preferences.
  - Provide one caregiver consultant one day in-person training and refresher training as needed.
  - Provide one family meeting one day in-person training and refresher training as needed.
  - Conduct outreach to promote the Caregiver Advise, Record, Enable (CARE) Act through community meetings, social media, MNRAAA news, etc.
- Support family and friends who are caregiving by building respite options.
  - Convene work group of respite service providers, including Title III E providers, to identify challenges and successes related to caregiver utilization rates.
  - Based on work group findings, provide technical assistance to develop strategies to counter low participation rates and increase caregiver use of respite and other support services earlier in their care giving journey thereby extending the time care can be provided at home.
  - Participate in statewide Respite Coalition and assist in developing and promoting respite public service announcements.

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

- Assist older low-income homeowners to age in community through affordable home maintenance, modifications and in-home services.
  - Identify gaps in home maintenance, modifications and in-home services for older low-income homeowners.

- Facilitate partnerships with home and community-based services and communities; leveraging public-private partnerships and sharing funding opportunities, such as Small Cities Development Program, Title III grants or revolving loan programs, for promoting development of home maintenance, modification and in-home services in identified gap areas.
- Coordinate funding support of, and service provision in, affordable and subsidized congregate housing options for older adults, ensure Landlord Tenant Law protects older adults.
  - Encourage Title III providers to target their outreach and services to older adults living in congregate housing settings; provide technical assistance to providers wishing to co-locate their services.
  - Develop new partnerships that encourage home and community-based service providers to locate/offer their services and supports in congregate housing settings.
  - Conduct outreach to promote the Landlord Tenant Law through community meetings, social media, MNRAAA news, etc.
- Assist older adults to age in community through strengthened HCBS; explore options to improve current OAA core services, Elderly Waiver, Alternative Care and Essential Community Supports.
  - Utilize Wilder Research and local data collection (i.e. county waiver staff interviews) to identify gaps in home and community-based services; explore opportunities to develop and implement new or strengthen home and community-based services.
  - Partner with leaders from cultural and ethnic communities to disseminate information and increase awareness about home and community-based services available through Title III, Elderly Waiver, Alternative Care, et. Al.
- Assist communities to implement life cycle housing planning and development.
  - Offer community leaders opportunity to learn about what a Community for a Lifetime (CFL) is, to complete CFL assessment and to access technical assistance to become a CFL.