

## SUMMARY

### 2010-2011 Update to the 2009-2012 El Dorado County Area Plan for Senior Services

#### **Significant Accomplishments & Impediments to Progress for Fiscal Year 2009-10**

---

Significant changes and accomplishments have been achieved by the El Dorado County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) during the initial year of the 2009-2012 planning cycle. These accomplishments and activities demonstrate the AAA's commitment to assess the needs of older adults, adults with disabilities and their caregivers in the community and make responsive improvements to enhance the service delivery system based on information obtained from older adults, their caregivers and informed community members and service providers. These accomplishments include:

**Senior Day Care's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House Celebration.** The members and staff of the Senior Day Care Center hosted an Open House on 9/23/09 to celebrate National Adult Day Services Week and their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the provision of an adult day program and Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Center. More than one hundred people participated in this day of celebration honoring the specialized dementia care, assistance with personal care, respite services, individual and group classes, support groups and opportunities for socialization and companionship that Senior Day Care Services provides. The County Board of Supervisors adopted a proclamation designating September 20-26, 2009 as "Adult Day Services Week" in the County of El Dorado, recognizing the 20th anniversary of the El Dorado County Senior Day Care Center.

**American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding.** The Department of Human Services received various funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. ARRA funds were received from the California Department of Aging for use in the Senior Nutrition Program. The Nutrition Economic Stimulus monies were used to offset the cost of food and provided 17,429 congregate meals and 18,784 home-delivered meals.

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) ARRA funds were received from the California Department of Community Services and Development. CSBG ARRA funds have been utilized to continue and expand the El Dorado County Information and Assistance (I&A) Program to assist seniors, disabled and low-income individuals by evaluating their unique needs, helping them make informed decisions about appropriate community support, and providing linkage to specific programs and services. CSBG ARRA funds have allowed for development of the I&A Care Coordination and Monitoring (CCM) Program, which provides needs assessment, eligibility determination for appropriate community-based programs, service arrangement and more extensive care coordination that exceeds standard I&A follow-up. These services address filling the gap resulting from the elimination of the State-funded Linkages Program effective October 1, 2009.

CSBG ARRA funds will be used to offset salaries, facility lease, and direct meal preparation and service costs in the Senior Nutrition Program. Two congregate meal sites at risk of being closed July 1, 2010 due to loss of local over-match funding will be maintained with CSBG ARRA funds through September 30, 2010, at which time alternative options will be explored to maintain services.

**AARP Foundation Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP).** A contractual agreement was entered into with AARP to participate as a Host Agency in the SCSEP to allow for the provision of training, skill building and support to enhance marketability in a competitive job market. Four older adults have received employment assistance and have been placed within the Department of Human Services. The Senior Day Care Center, Public Housing Authority, Child Protective Services, and Public Guardian Office are all benefiting from services rendered by individuals supported by this program.

## SUMMARY

### 2010-2011 Update to the 2009-2012 El Dorado County Area Plan for Senior Services

**COA Website Development.** The Commission on Aging's website has been updated to better serve the older adult population and to highlight programs and services available in El Dorado County. The site includes a roster of Commission on Aging members; a current schedule of meetings, meeting agendas and minutes; local and state news; financial information; a calendar of events and links to programs for older adults in El Dorado County. The Commission on Aging's website receives approximately 235 visits each month.

**The Current Economic Environment and its Impact on Older Americans Act Programs.** The El Dorado County Area Agency on Aging experienced significant funding reductions during Fiscal Years 2008-09 and 2009-10 and anticipates continued fiscal challenges in FY 2010-11. While legislation and designations remain in place to allow for reinstatement of program activities when funding is again available, reductions to State-funded Community Based Services Programs (CBSP) at the close of the 2005-2009 planning cycle have had a significant impact on the current three-year 2009-2012 Area Plan. With the elimination of CBSP funding effective 9-30-09, the Senior Day Care/Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Center (ADCRC) experienced staffing reductions to minimum levels, and the Linkages Care Management Program was discontinued in El Dorado County on 10-1-09. Programs dependent on local overmatch, including Senior Nutrition, Information & Assistance, Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Family Caregiver Support Program, and Senior Legal Services/Elder Protection Unit, have experienced staffing reductions. Given current significant budgetary concerns at the federal, state, and local levels, our focus will be on maintaining current service levels to the extent possible. Should additional budget cuts become unavoidable, adjustments will be made, if feasible, to retain the minimum staffing levels necessary to maintain core services to ensure the least impact on our most frail and vulnerable older adults and client outcomes.

**Needs Assessment Activities.** The identification of priorities is an ongoing process that is formally discussed and reviewed in relationship to the annual update of the Area Plan. Objectives are modified, deleted or added based on the progress report and the determination as to feasibility and current community needs. For need identification, information will be gathered over the next fiscal year on targeted populations residing in the County utilizing a variety of methodologies including traditional postal mail surveys, internet-based surveys, roundtable discussions, interviews and the analysis of program data indicating current service utilization.

The Information and Assistance (I&A) program will analyze program data to determine gaps in services and prepare biannual unmet needs reports to advise the Commission on Aging. Client satisfaction will be assessed at three community focal points utilizing the AAA's active client base to gather baseline expectation and perception data as well as services preferences. The Information and Assistance program will measure referral outcomes and gaps in services. On-line surveys will be conducted to obtain input from Boomers and informal, working caregivers. Several objectives address the need to enhance awareness and expand services to minority older adults by conducting more intensive outreach and needs identification.