

# PROPOSED DANE COUNTY 2017 AAA BUDGET PRIORITIES

## DRAFT #2

The following proposed budget priorities relate to aging programs and services provided by the Dane County Area Agency on Aging. They are in alphabetical order—not in priority order.

**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT PROGRAM** – Increase funding on a cost to continue basis by **18%** for a total of **\$22,051** to include (1) \$10,500 for 21 individual grants and (2) **\$11, 551 to maintain coordinator position at full-time**.

History – Funding currently comes from OAA/Title III E and a small amount of County GPR. The current budget covers a full-time coordinator position, client expenses (awarded through \$500 grants) and non-client general expenses (supplies, printing, outreach, etc.).

Justification – Dane County funding has remained relatively flat since 2008, however the individual grant amount has decreased from \$700 to \$500 to address the increase in grant requests (138/yr average.) (1) The \$10,500 will allow the program to maintain the number of grants awarded at the 138/year level. (2) The coordinator position workload has significantly increased as the State has decreed that grant payments can no longer be pre-paid but must be paid as services are rendered thus increasing the time to process by 20% to 25%. The position was bumped to full-time in 2016, using education, training, and supply funding. Sustaining this funding cut into 2017 will severely impact the success of the program.

Outcomes – Additional funding will provide \$500 grants to 21 caregivers thus maintaining the 138/yr level and provide adequate staff time for awarding and tracking grant requests as well as time to provide outreach and education services.

**CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES** - Provide an increase of \$36,669 for Case Management Services to meet the increasing demand and to restore funding to the 2005 level.

History - Dane County fulfills state-mandated requirements (through the Older American Act) to provide supportive services to assist older individuals to remain living in their own homes by funding Client-Centered Case Management Services through 15 Focal Points. Dane County awarded a little less than 1/3 of this funding request in 2016 (\$18,331).

Justification – Between 2005 and 2016, Dane County case management funding decreased **7%** despite experiencing a **22.1%** increase in the age 60+ population. Four Focal Points currently have waiting lists with wait times of two to eight weeks.

Outcomes - Senior adults will receive case management services in a more timely manner by eliminating waiting lists.

**CATERING: NUTRITION MEALS** – State required meal standards will change effective January 2017. These changes will likely result in a cost per meal increase as it adds another vegetable to the existing meal pattern. Several catering contracts are required to go out to bid in April 2016 and will likely result in a cost increase per meal as these involve food and fuel commodities that rise in cost over time. An amount of increase in the catering contracts for 2017 will not be known until the bid process has been concluded in May or June 2016. Given a current 5% increase in utilization of congregate meals over that of 2015 at the present time, additional catering dollars will be needed to meet existing demand, in addition to any per meal cost increase. More details will follow once anticipated shortfalls are known.

History: AAA has catering contracts with five individual caterers for congregate and home-delivered meal food preparation. Three of five catering contracts will be out for bid for 2017 meal provision to 11 sites throughout Dane County.

Justification: **TBD**

Outcome: Waitlists for home-delivered meals to frail, homebound seniors and reduced availability of days and sites may be necessary for congregate meals for nutritionally needy seniors in 2017 without additional funding.

**CULTURAL DIVERSITY PROGRAM** – Increase funding on a cost to continue basis by a total of \$37,057 to include: (1) \$26,057 to increase two program specialist positions to full-time and raise their hourly rate to \$17/hour; (2) \$10,000 for transportation; and (3) \$1,000 for program supplies.

History – Funding currently comes from OAA/Title III B monies. However, state and federal dollars available to provide services on behalf of the aged population have been constantly held without increase as compared with prior years or even reduced. From 2003-2014, the program budget remained relatively flat, increasing from \$31,400 to \$37,126 during that 12 year span. In 2015, the budget was increased by 15% to \$43,471. The current budget covers two .63 FTE program specialist positions, program supplies, travel reimbursement, and other operating expenses. These two positions are contracted to North/Eastside Senior Coalition, cover the entire County, and have been part-time since the program's inception in 1975.

Justification – Dane County continues to experience an increase in racial-minority population (over 13% according to the 2010 Census Data, [www.2010.census.gov](http://www.2010.census.gov)). The three leading minorities age 65+ represented in Dane County continue to be Latino, Asian/Hmong, and African American. Census data show three groups' populations have grown in Dane County for the past ten years: **African American 61% increase, Asian 105% increase, and Latino 138%**. Census data, using a 2009-2013 Interpolation Method, show the following about individuals living in Dane County: total number of adults age 60+ = 79,627; total number of adults (age 65+) living in a below poverty level household = 4,329; total number of racial-minority adults (age 60+) = 4,456. NESCO's two cultural diversity program specialist positions cover the entire County and have been .65 FTE or less since the beginning of the program. It has been virtually impossible to keep up with the growing population of seniors in Dane county. Over the years, NESCO has received various grants to support the program but none of these grants have been sustainable. In 2015 and 2016, NESCO partnered with the University of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA) on two evidence-based pilot programs, *Pisando Fuerte* and *Physical Activity for Life for Seniors* (PALS). These programs focus on falls prevention for senior adults. However, there is no funding available to continue these important health prevention programs after the pilots were completed.

Outcomes – Ensure that African American and Latino senior adults in the program (300+ annually) will continue to receive home visits and be connected with Focal Point case managers for additional services as needed. This funding will provide services to 200 additional African American and Latino seniors; continue falls prevention exercise classes; and a caregiver support group will be established for African American senior adults. (NOTE: The African American Cultural Diversity Program provides monthly health education discussion and diabetes support presentations. The Latino Cultural Diversity Program holds monthly health education discussion group presentations; it also offers Grandparents Raising Their Grandchildren caregiver support group (8 months/year) and a diabetes support group (4 months/year).

**NUTRITION SITE MANAGEMENT** - Provide an increase of \$25,782 for Senior Nutrition Site Management to maintain the existing 27 meal sites. Funds will restore the **9.5%** decrease in funding since 2008 and will be allocated to the 15 Focal Points that manage the 27 meal sites.

History - Site management costs include coordination and oversight of the following: (1) program outreach targeting seniors at risk of malnutrition (living alone, multiple chronic conditions or medications, racial minority, rural, low income, poor health); (2) supervision of a safe and sanitary facility; (3) service of meals in a congregate setting and delivery of meals to homebound seniors by trained volunteers when appropriate; (4) collection and data entry of required participant registration and service delivery data; (5) utilization of a meal reservation system to accurately and timely order meals through the contracted caterer; and (6) the provision of nutrition education. Dane County awarded a little more than 1/3 of this funding request in 2016 (\$12,991).

Justification - Funding has remained relatively flat while costs have increased. Since 2008, funding for site management contracts have decreased by 9.5% while associated costs for labor, insurance, utilities, and rent have continued to increase. Currently focal points are on average providing 38.5% of the total cost; a rate that many say they can no longer support.

Outcomes - Ensure existing senior meal sites will remain open in 2017.

**RSVP DRIVER SERVICES PROGRAM** - Increase funding by \$21,500 to cover a 5% increase in volunteer driver mileage reimbursement (\$17,200) and add 5 hrs/week staff time to schedule rides (\$4,300).

History - The Driver Services Program began in October 1975 when Dane County asked RSVP to develop a program to help meet the transportation needs of senior adults. RSVP staff worked with Dane County staff to set up a network of Senior Center/focal point partners throughout the county to form a volunteer driver/ride coordination program. Volunteer drivers use their own vehicles but receive additional insurance and are eligible for mileage reimbursement (51¢/mile). Some drivers donate their mileage for a savings of over \$31,000/year. Although there is no charge for the ride (not allowable per federal guidelines for RSVP), passengers are provided donation envelopes to give what they can afford. This amount averages \$31,500/year. Over the years RSVP Driver Services has grown to be one of the largest and most successful programs of its kind in the country. RSVP Driver Services/Vets Helping Vets received a 2015 Honorable Mention STAR Award from the National Volunteer Transportation Center, recognizing outstanding volunteer transportation programs. Since 1975, RSVP drivers have helped thousands of senior adults in Dane County by volunteering one million hours, driving ten million miles, providing transportation for 300,000 medical and other trips and delivering nearly 1.5 million meals. The success of this program can be attributed to the hundreds of volunteers throughout the years who have helped Dane County seniors with their transportation (primarily medical) and meal delivery needs. In 2015, 649 volunteer drivers drove 389,160 miles, taking 1,148 passengers on 8,898 rides. Of these rides, almost 4,000 were for veterans of all ages and their family members. Volunteer drivers also delivered 71,534 meals to frail elderly. Estimated savings to Dane County was over \$748,000 using RSVP instead of a for profit service.

Justification - RSVP has not received a significant increase for Driver Services in many years. Since 2013, without additional funding, we have experienced an annual increase of approximately 4% to 5% in reimbursed mileage.

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016 (est)</u>	<u>2017 (est)</u>
Reimbursed Miles	302,872	314,708	330,191	346,700	364,035
Percent increase		3.9%	4.9%	5%	5%
51 cents/mile					

In addition to increasing requests, RSVP's Finance Committee reviews the reimbursement rate for drivers every six months, reviewing the federal rate, price of gas, driver feedback, etc. In October 2014, we decreased the rate by three cents/mile but may need to increase it in 2017. Each three cent/mile increase in the rate means that we need \$11,000 more in driver mileage reimbursement. Without raising the reimbursement rate, we estimate a gap of \$17,200 for Driver Reimbursement in 2017 (reimbursing 33,844 more miles than in 2015).

RSVP also needs \$4,300 for program staff salaries and fringe for scheduling rides for Madison and Monona. (We receive some funding from the City of Monona to cover their portion.) This amount equates to an additional five hours/week to make this position 25 hours/week. Ride Scheduling for Madison/Monona has increased substantially (41% increase in rides since 2013). In 2013, we helped 285 unduplicated passengers with 1,794 rides and in 2015 we helped 358 unduplicated passengers with 2,533 rides. We served 73 additional seniors in 2015 and continue to receive requests to add new passengers.

Outcomes - With this additional funding, RSVP will provide \_\_\_\_\_ rides for \_\_\_\_\_ seniors in 2017.

**SPECIAL PROJECT FUND** – Increase funding to the original recommendation of 5% of Focal Point case management funds or **\$39,038**.

History – Introduced by the Access Committee, the Special Project Fund was endorsed by the AAA Board and ultimately received approval in the 2015 budget. The purpose was to “meet the need of new funding for Focal Point initiatives or special one-time costs.” Although not the total amount requested (5% of Focal Point case management funds or \$36,450), the County did include \$13,807 for a one-time Special Project Fund in 2015 & 2016. The AAA Board ultimately agreed with an AAA staff recommendation to add this funding to the 2015 Leck and Mally Grants to contract for a Mental Health Consultant who will provide resources, opportunities, and strategies for Senior Focal Point Case Managers dealing with senior adult clients with complex mental illness challenges. In 2016, this funding was used towards funding a pilot program: Mental Health Consultation for Focal Point Case Managers.

Justification – The Special Project Fund was established to address unmet needs not covered by the Case Management Funding Formula. Its rationale: “The formula has an over-all static quality that cannot take into account innovative case management services provided by Focal Points. It cannot allow funding of any Focal Point initiative. It cannot allow for one-time costs such as for unanticipated equipment needs, start-up costs for special projects, continuing education opportunities, limited staff time to meet emergency situations, unanticipated costs for specialized equipment or services, and increased costs for supplies, postage, equipment repairs, and services.”

Outcomes – Adequate funding will ensure Case Management initiatives and unmet needs are addressed.

**VOLUNTEER GUARDIANSHIP/REP PAYEE PROGRAM –**

History –

Justification –

Outcomes –

**Summary**

Caregiver Support Program	<b>TBD</b>
Case Management Program	\$36,669
Catering: Nutrition Meals	<b>TBD</b>
Cultural Diversity Program	\$37,057
Nutrition Site Management	\$25,782
<b>RSVP Driver Services</b>	<b>\$21,500</b>
Special Project Fund	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Volunteer Guardianship/Rep Payee</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>TBD</b>

**Key:**

**Highlighted Areas**

**Red Bold Areas**

Indicates information added/updated from previous draft

Indicates information needs to be updated or verified