Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

2025 Annual Review

Presentation for the Dane County Health & Human Needs Committee

7/9/26

Area Agency on Aging of Dane County:

Diane Farsetta
AAA Board Chair

Lynn Seversin Riley
AAA Manager
Riley.Lynn@danecounty.gov

Angela Velasquez
Division Administrator
Velasquez.angela@danecounty.gov

Dane County's Aging Population

From 2020 to 2050, Dane County's age 60 and over population is projected to grow by 50.9%.

Key Takeaways from 2025

- AAA supported core services across nutrition, transportation, caregiver support, wellness, benefits counseling, and case management
- County investment remained essential, especially for case management and local matching requirements
- Community-based and culturally responsive programs helped extend reach and responsiveness
- Demand pressures continue in transportation, complex needs, and support for aging in the community

What is AAA of Dane County?

- Established under the Older Americans Act
- Dane County's local hub for aging services
- Plans, funds, coordinates, and advocates
- Supports older adults, caregivers, and community partners

The Aging Network

Administration for Community Living (ACL)

Wisconsin Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources

Area Agencies on Aging

Focal Points and other Community Partners

Older Americans Act Title III

- Major source of funding for local aging services
- Prioritizes older adults with greater social or economic need
- No income or asset test
- Voluntary contributions only
- Counties must provide a match

AAA Supports Essential Services Such As:

- Senior nutrition programs
- Transportation for medical appointments and daily needs
- Caregiver support and respite services
- Health and wellness programs
- Benefit Counseling
- Case management

SENIOR NUTRITION

- 270,449 meals served
- 5,181 older adults reached
- 26 Sites + Home Delivered meals Countywide

- 450 volunteer drivers
- 32 nutrition counseling recipients
- 2000+ received nutrition education
- 985 Farmers market voucher recipients

TRANSPORTATION

- $556,870 in county levy leveraged an additional $1,560,361 in other funds
- **221,035** rides provided
- Supported access to medical care, meals, groceries, and community programs
- In addition, connected people with their community to combat loneliness and isolation as well as helped low-income individuals search for work.

National Family Caregiver Support Program 2025

- Caregiver Grants provided to 80 caregivers totaling $86,345.
- Provided Coordination and Connection of about 200 Caregivers with Caregiver Support Groups & Services
- Education about Caregiving Issues & Opportunities Newsletter – “Caregiver Chronicles”

Evidence-based Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Services

High level evidence-based

- **Falls Prevention (Safe Communities Contracted Agency)**
  - Stepping On - 124 seniors with 13 workshops offered across Dane County
  - Stepping Up Your Nutrition offered at four Stepping On workshops
  - Collaborated with NewBridge Senior Center to offer Pisando Fuerte
- **Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs (unfunded, but coordinated by AAA)**
  - Mind Over Matter; Healthy Bladder, Healthy Bowel
  - Healthy Living with Chronic Pain

ELDER BENEFIT COUNSELING

Legal Services - Elder Benefit Specialists served:

- **276** clients with
- **2,088** hours of service
- resulting in a gain of **$1,268,354** in benefits to older adults served

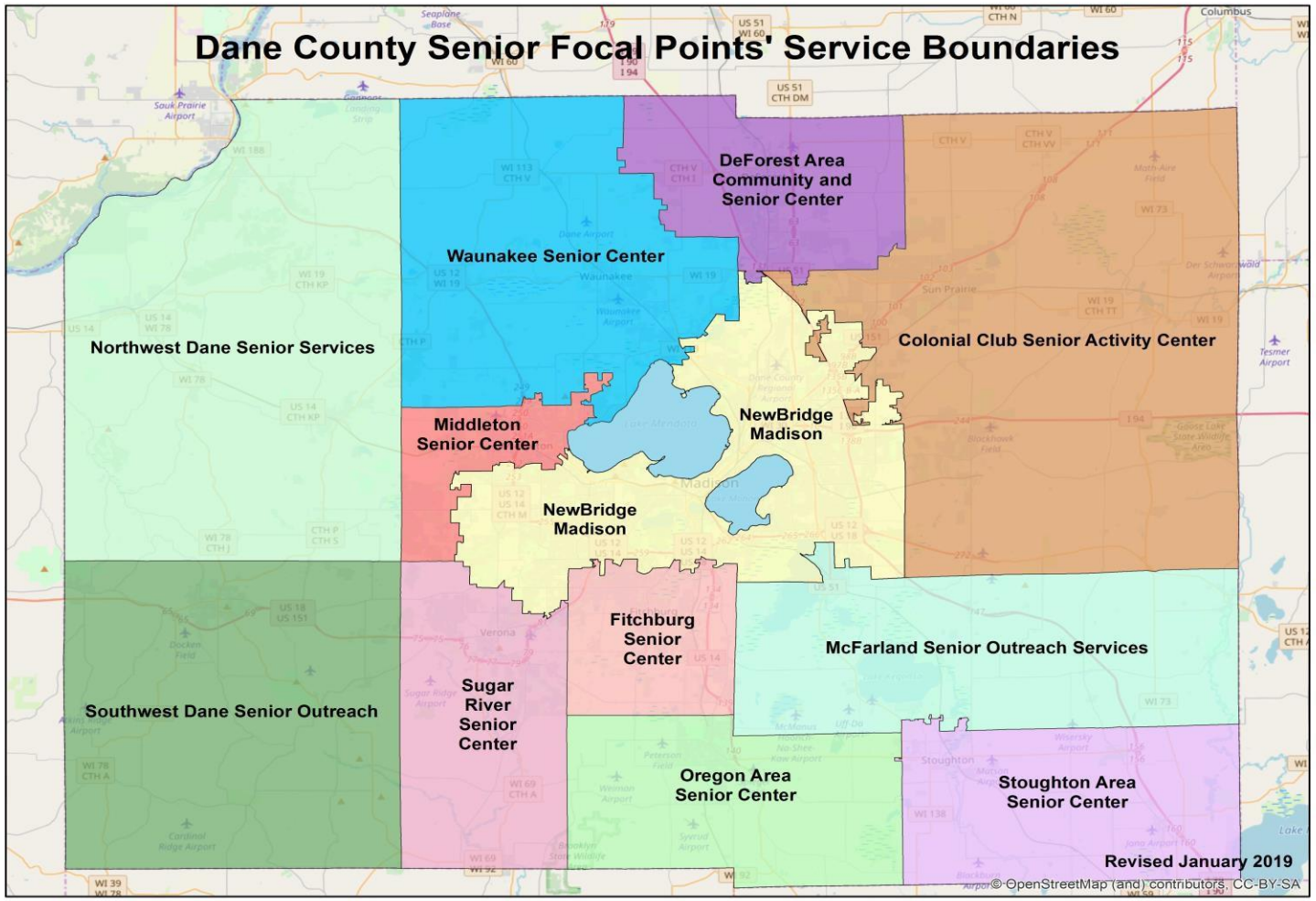
OTHER AGING SUPPORT PROGRAMS

- The Area Agency on Aging has other contracts which support community-based and culturally responsive approaches for:
  - Inclusion and belonging
  - Culturally specific services
  - Aging in place and safely
  - Mental health and decision-support services

CASE MANAGEMENT

- **FY 2025: $1,853,301 County GPR**
- **County-funded service supporting older adults to remain independent in the community**
- **Dane County is the only county in Wisconsin with this model**
- **12 Focal Point contracts**
- **3,230+ adults served; 23,500+ service hours**

Focal Points of Service



Funding Sources

Federal & State

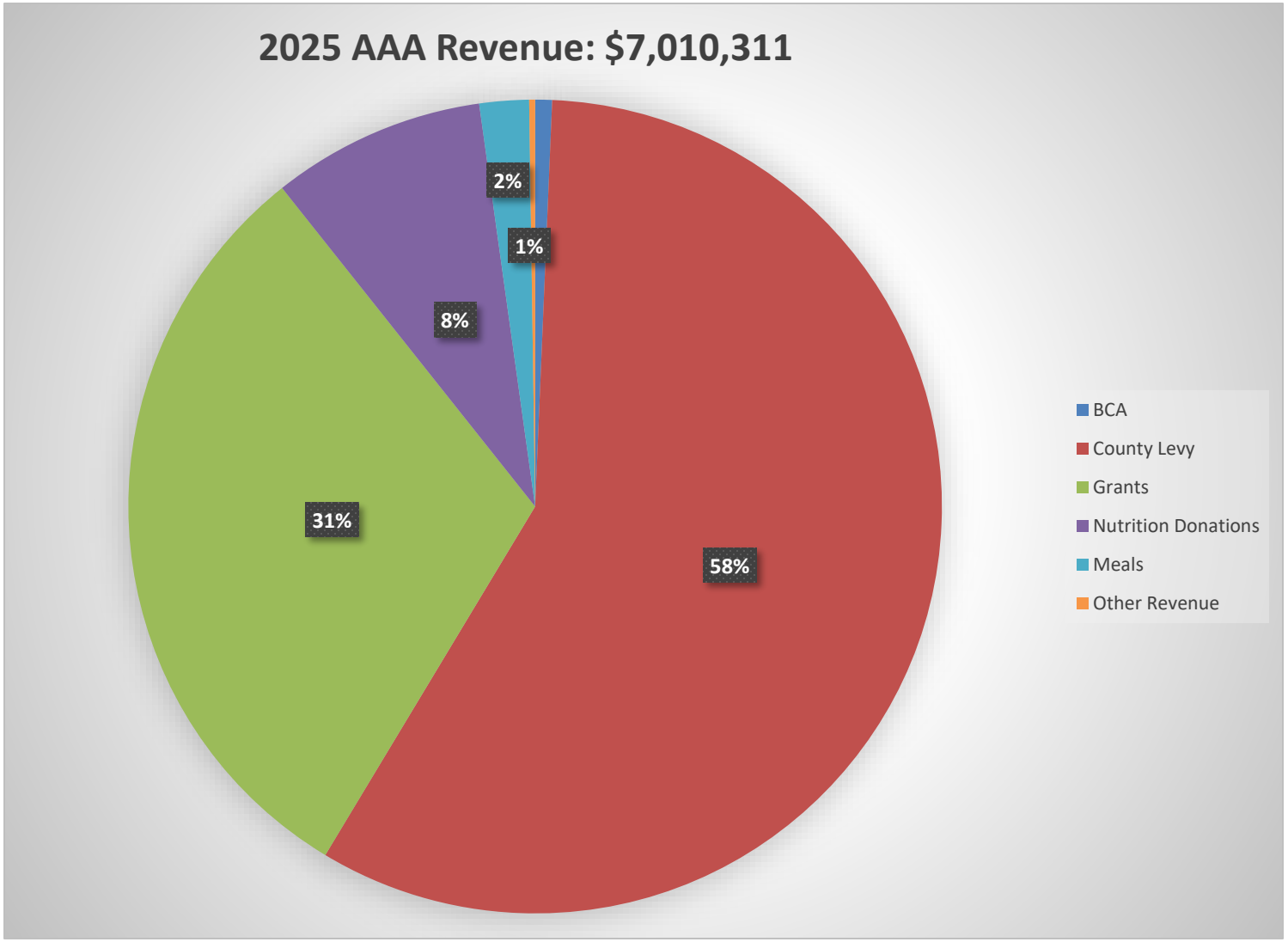
- Federal grant allocation (based on population formulas)
- State grant allocation (based on population formulas)
- Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP-USDA)
  - Reimbursement for each eligible meal served in the prior fiscal year

Local

- County GPR/tax levy
- County match
- Donations from private foundations, local civic groups, businesses, etc.
- Grants
- Gifts/bequeaths

Program Income / Contributions

- Voluntary participant donations made at dining center, via mail, etc.
- Program Income


2025 AAA Revenue: $7,010,311
2%
1%
8%
31%
58%
BCA
County Levy
Grants
Nutrition Donations
Meals
Other Revenue

AAA Governance and Guidance

- Governing Board
- Advisory Council
- Standing Committees

Role of the AAA Governing Board

- Approves the Aging Plan
- Monitors programs and contracts
- Identifies community needs
- Provides advocacy and public information
- Advises county leadership
- Approves community grant awards.

Role of the AAA Advisory Council

- Provides input and recommendations
- Advises on the Area Plan on Aging
- Identifies unmet needs
- Supports coordination of community-based aging services
- Connects AAA with community voices
- The Council is an advisory body, not a final decision-making body.

Other Committees:

- **Grant Review and Selection**:
  - Reviews and scores community grant applications
  - Recommends awards to the AAA Board
- **Nutrition/Wellness**:
  - Advises staff on nutrition services
- **Advocacy/Legislative**:
  - Reviews policy issues affecting older adults

Looking Ahead: Issues and Priorities

- Sustain core services amid growing and complex need
- Maintain county-supported case management capacity
- Continue culturally responsive and community-based outreach and nutrition services
- Strengthen transportation, caregiver support, and access to benefits
- Use board, advisory, and committee structures to guide priorities and accountability

What AAA support Looks Like for Dane County Residents

An older adult living alone begins to struggle with transportation, meal preparation, and managing on a fixed income. Through the Area Agency on Aging network, the resident is connected to home-delivered meals, transportation assistance, elder benefit counseling, and case management. With those supports in place, the resident is able to remain safely at home, attend appointments, improve financial stability, and stay connected to the community

Another example:

- Adult daughter caring for her mother at home
- Balancing work, appointments, and daily caregiving
- Feeling overwhelmed and unsure what help is available
- Connected through AAA to:
  - caregiver grant support
  - caregiver support group and education
  - transportation assistance for Mom
  - case management and service coordination
- Result:
  - less caregiver strain
  - better support for the older adult (Mom)
  - greater stability at home

Questions?