

# AAA Committee Recommendation Report

## Report to the AAA Board

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Date: 9 October 2017

From: ☐ Access Committee ☒ Legislative/Advocacy Committee ☐ Nutrition/Wellness Committee

### History/Related Actions

At the 9/27/17 Legislative/Advocacy Committee meeting, the 2018 AAA Budget Priorities was discussed:

*A motion was made by FRAZIER, seconded by MCHONE, to recommend that the AAA Board approve advocating for an additional \$8,112 in Nutrition Site Management funding in the 2018 AAA Budget to prevent the closing or reduction in service days for two meal sites (Cambridge and Sugar River). The motion carried by the following vote:*

*Ayes 8 BUNCK, DAVIS, FRAZIER, JOSEPHSON, MCHONE, OLSON,  
SCHMIDLKOFER, SCHUBACH*  
*Absent 1 KAUD*

*A motion was made by FRAZIER, seconded by MCHONE, to make seeking an additional \$8,112 in Nutrition Site Management funding the No. 2 advocacy priority for the 2018 AAA Budget, behind Case Management and ahead of Cultural Diversity and Special Project Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:*

*Ayes 8 BUNCK, DAVIS, FRAZIER, JOSEPHSON, MCHONE, OLSON,  
SCHMIDLKOFER, SCHUBACH*  
*Absent 1 KAUD*

### Financial/Budget/Other Resource Implications (if any)

Requesting additional \$8,112 from County GPR

### Recommendations

To approve the revised Dane County 2018 AAA Budget Priorities to include #2 Nutrition Site Management.

### Attachments

Dane County 2018 AAA Budget Priorities—Revised by Leg/Adv Committee 9/27/17

## DANE COUNTY 2018 AAA BUDGET PRIORITIES (revised 9/27/17)

Approved by AAA Legislative/Advocacy Committee (5/24/17) & AAA Board (6/5/17)

Revision approved by AAA Legislative/Advocacy Committee (9/27/17)

The following budget priorities relate to aging programs and services provided by the Dane County Area Agency on Aging. They are listed in priority order. This list excludes priorities that were fully funded in the AAA/DCDHS proposed budget (Catering/Nutrition Meals, Volunteer Guardian & Representative Payee Programs, and Specialized Transportation).

**# 1 CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES** – Provide an increase of \$50,000 to fund an additional full-time Case Manager at the South Madison Coalition for the Elderly (SMCE) in order to serve an additional 50-60 senior adults who currently are on a waitlist for case management services in the South Madison area of Dane County.

History: Dane County fulfills state-mandated requirements (through the Older Americans 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. Despite receiving a recent increase of \$43,477 over the past two budget cycles, this only restored a prior reduction in funding to slightly above 2008 funding levels. The current and future needs of this vital program far exceed available funding. Dane County provided \$819,701 in 2017 for this program, which only represents 39% of the total cost to operate the program. The remaining funding is provided by the local municipality and considerable fund raising activity conducted by the Focal Points each year.

Justification: By 2020, it is projected Dane County residents over age 60 will increase by 31.2% from the number of seniors in 2010. This rapid growth will continue. Both senior focal points and contracted agencies realize they need additional funding to meet the future need, estimated at 15 additional case managers costing approximately \$750,000. For the past two years, older adults residing in the SMCE Focal Point service area have and continue to experience a waiting list for services, with wait times ranging from six to 16 weeks. Factors causing the wait list include a high density of minority senior adults, living in the smallest geographic service area of Dane County, with a high rate of poverty, and limited community resources. Despite these challenges, SMCE serves the highest percentage of the total senior adult population in Dane County. Further, it consistently provides a significantly larger number of service hours than the other 14 Focal Points. For these reasons, seniors adults living in the SMCE service area are critically underserved.

Outcomes: 50-60 senior adults living in the SMCE service area will receive case management services vital to ensuring these seniors are able to remain living in their own homes through elimination of waitlists for services.

**#2 NUTRITION SITE MANAGEMENT** - Increase funding to allow two senior nutrition sites an additional year of site management funding, in order to increase the number of seniors dining at two congregate sites at a cost effective level. A total of \$8,112 is requested to fund the Cambridge senior dining site to continue serving two days/week (\$2,028) and Sugar River Senior Center to continue serving meals three days/week (\$6,084).

History: The Cambridge senior dining site is operated by McFarland Senior Outreach Services and currently serves meals two days per week (Tuesdays & Fridays). The McFarland senior dining site serves three days/week (Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays). Sugar River Senior Center (located in Belleville) currently serves meals three days/week (Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays). The average number of participants at the Cambridge site (Oct 2016-June 2017) is 12.25, McFarland is 7.2, and Sugar River's is 6.1. All three sites fall below the established minimum threshold for operating a congregate site (15 people by AAA Board policy).

Justification: The proposed 2018 DCDHS budget reduces the Cambridge site to one day/week and ends congregate meals at McFarland and Sugar River. Home-delivered meals will continue to be offered to seniors living in the McFarland and Sugar River service areas. Door-to-door transportation is available for McFarland and Sugar River seniors to attend an alternate Dane County Senior Dining Site. The McFarland Municipal Government has committed funding in 2018 to maintain the congregate meal program in McFarland. This funding request will maintain current serving days for Cambridge and Sugar River congregate sites.

Outcomes: Increased funding will maintain the current needs of seniors attending two senior dining sites (Cambridge & Sugar River) for one year and will be monitored to ensure every effort is made to meet the minimum threshold for operating a congregate meal site.

**#3 CULTURAL DIVERSITY PROGRAM** –Increase funding by a total of \$40,000 to meet the increased need for programming in the African American elder population, to include: (1) \$24,500 to hire a part-time (0.5 FTE) African American program specialist for the Cultural Diversity Program at the hourly rate of \$17/hour, (2) \$10,000 for transportation, and (3) \$5,500 for translation of brochures and other materials into Spanish.

History: Funding for the Cultural Diversity Program currently comes from Older Americans Act (OAA) monies. However the program budgeted for Dane County's Senior Cultural Diversity Program remained relatively flat from \$31,400 in 2003 to \$37,126 in 2014. In 2015, the budget increased to \$43,471 and then to \$74,708 in 2017. This money has paid for a contract with the North/Eastside Senior Coalition and allowed the Cultural Diversity program specialist position to increase from 0.63 FTE to 1 FTE. The African American and Latinx Cultural Diversity Programs provide monthly health education discussion and diabetes support presentations. The Latinx Cultural Diversity Program also offers a Grandparents Raising their Grandchildren Caregiver Support Group.

Justification: Dane County continues to experience a growth in racial-minority seniors (over 13% according to the 2010 Census Data, [www.2010.census.gov](http://www.2010.census.gov)). The three minorities with the largest populations ages 65+ in Dane County continue to be African American, Latinx, and Asian/Hmong. Currently, over 400 African American and Latinx senior adults in Dane County receive health and wellness education and are connected with Focal Point case managers for additional services as needed. This represents less than 10% of all seniors of color in Dane County.

In 2016, NESCO and South Madison Coalition of the Aging were awarded a \$10,950 Special Projects Fund grant from the Area Agency on Aging to provide culturally-inclusive case management training for two Focal Point service areas (Colonial Club Senior Activity Center and the West Madison Senior Coalition). The percentage of African American senior adults receiving case management services in these areas were disproportionately low as compared to the number of African American senior adults living in each area. The project focus was to build relationships and trust between African American seniors and case management staff by connecting these senior adults to programs and services at these two Focal Points. In 2017, a culturally-targeted program will continue to be offered for senior adults in the Colonial Club and West Madison areas to continue the work started last year.

The 2018 funding request will expand the Culturally-Inclusive Case Management training to case managers in two additional Focal Points, at least one urban and one rural. The Focal Points will be determined based on interest and the percentage of African American senior adults served in proportion to the number living in that service area. \$24,500 of this 2018 request would be used to hire a part-time (0.5 FTE) African American program specialist for the Cultural Diversity Program at the hourly rate of \$17/hour.

Unfortunately, there is limited transportation to the culturally specific programs offered by the Cultural Diversity Program as a whole unless they coincide with nutrition program hours. \$10,000 of this 2018 request would fund transportation for seniors of color to attend programs at several Dane County Focal Points.

Due to the limited number of staff members and volunteers who speak Spanish, Colonial Club needs assistance translating brochures and other informational materials into Spanish to promote their services for Spanish speaking seniors. Colonial Club currently offers regular social opportunities for Latinx senior adults and is working with the Dane County Cultural Diversity Latinx program specialist to increase participation. \$5,500 of this 2018 request would be used to translate brochures and other materials into Spanish for Colonial Club.

Outcomes: Provide services for an additional 75-100 African American seniors, provide transportation for 250-300 additional rides, and translation of brochures and other informational materials to engage Dane County Spanish-speaking senior adults.

**#4 SPECIAL PROJECT FUND** – Increase funding to the original recommendation of 5% of Focal Point case management funds or \$27,178.

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 Special Project Fund in 2015, 2016, and 2017. 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 provided 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 to fund the collaborative program *Culturally Inclusive Case Management Services for African American Senior Adults*. The 2017 grant has not yet been awarded.

Justification: The Special Project Fund was established to address unmet needs not covered by the Case Management Funding Formula. Its rationale is as follows: “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.” (NOTE: Dane County’s funding for the Case Management Program in 2017 is \$819,701; 5% is \$40,985; subtracting current funding of \$13,807 brings this requested amount to \$27,178.)

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

### Summary

Priority	Program	Requested
1	Case Management	\$50,000
2	Nutrition Site Management	\$8,112
3	Cultural Diversity	\$40,000
4	Special Projects Fund	\$27,178
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$125,290</b>