

2020-2022 Area Plan Program Module

Executive Summary

This section describes the role of the Senior Resource Alliance as an AAA and includes major highlights, key initiatives, and how the significant and particular needs of the PSA will be addressed.

The Senior Resource Alliance (SRA) is the Area Agency of Central Florida, Inc., a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization that also serves as the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) for Central Florida. Under the direction of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, SRA provides home and community-based services in Planning and Service Area (PSA) 7 which includes Brevard, Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties. The mission of the Senior Resource Alliance is to enable elders to age with independence and dignity in the setting of their choice. SRA oversees the Older American Act; Community Care for the Elderly; Home Care for the Elderly; the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative; and, other local, state, and federal programs. Primary responsibilities include information and referral services; intake and screening; planning and contract management; quality assurance; resource development; and, advocacy.

SRA is one of eleven Area Agencies in Florida working together to connect older adults, caregivers, and the disabled to critical resources within their communities. The Elder Helpline is the number to call at 1-800-96ELDER. Call center specialists handle over 60,000 contacts annually and screen clients for potential eligibility to Medicaid Managed Care Long-Term Care Services. SRA has 8 Prime Contractors: in Brevard County, Aging Matters in Brevard and Brevard Alzheimer's Foundation; in Orange and Seminole County, Seniors First and Share The Care; in Seminole County, Meals On Wheels, Etc.; in Osceola, the Osceola County Council on Aging; and, in the tri-county area, the Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center and Informed Families. These contractors provide meals, homemaker, personal care, transportation, adult day care, respite, legal assistance, counseling, caregiver support, nutrition counseling, and/or other support services. SRA monitors these agencies on annual basis to ensure compliance with federal and state program regulations.

SRA provides evidence-based programs, including the "Living Healthy" Chronic Disease Self-Management Program® and Diabetes Self-Management Program in English and Spanish;® and, A Matter of Balance® fall prevention program in English and Spanish, as well. These health and wellness programs are funded by the federal Older American's Act and a grant from the Administration for Community Living managed by Florida Health Networks, Inc. One of this year's goals is to establish Medicare accreditation for the Diabetes Self-Management Program.

SRA also administers the Adult Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation Program (ANE) with public awareness campaigns and professional training sessions; CarFit; ® the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (EHEAP); and the SHINE Program – Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders, including the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Program and the MIPPA Program – Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act which provides “Extra Help” with Medicare costs. The newest project underway is the Veterans Directed Home and Community-Based Services Program. SRA is working with the Orlando VA to provide much needed support services to Veterans in Central Florida. This is designed to be a consumer-directed program which allows the veterans to select their own home care providers based on a monthly care plan.

The Area Plan on Aging reviews local, state, and national demographic data, needs assessments, and other key indicators to establish goals, objectives, and action steps in a three-year planning cycle. According to the Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, “Over the past 10 years, the population 65 and over increased from 37.2 million in 2006 to 49.2 million in 2016 (a 33% increase) and is projected to almost double to 98 million in 2060. Between 2006 and 2016 the population age 60 and over increased 36% from 50.7 million to 68.7 million. The 85+ population is projected to more than double from 6.4 million in 2016 to 14.6 million in 2040” (Excerpts from “A Profile of Older Americans: 2017).

These trends are true in Florida and Central Florida, as well; and, there is an ever increasing need for supportive services to help elders and caregivers maintain healthy, independent lives. According to the 2018 Florida County Profiles, the total population in PSA 7 is over 2.7 million, with 573,828 people age 60 or older (21%). The growing demand for services far exceeds the available resources. As of December 2018, there are 19,297 active clients; however, 11,378 clients are now wait-listed for federal and state programs.

The Area Plan on Aging analyzes the significant and particular needs of the PSA to address challenges unique to each of the four counties. SRA focuses on county demographic data, client data, and underserved target areas to develop outreach strategies, potential partners, service hubs, and collaborative opportunities with service providers.

The overarching goal aligns with that of the National Council on Aging’s advocacy efforts for the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA) to “improve and support scaling of evidence-based programs and innovations that can improve outcomes and promote independence and healthy aging. OAA programs and innovative aging services effectively address social determinants of health, save Medicare and Medicaid dollars by reducing emergency room and hospital admissions, and delaying nursing home placement.”

Mission and Vision Statements

The Mission Statement defines the purpose and primary objectives of the AAA. The Vision Statement describes what the AAA intends to accomplish or achieve in the future.

Mission:

The mission of the Senior Resource Alliance is to help elderly individuals maintain their dignity and independence in their homes and in their communities by providing coordinated and cost effective long-term care services and communities for a lifetime throughout our planning and service area.

Vision:

The Senior Resource Alliance will educate & enable elders to age with respect and independence.

Core Values

In the management of our programs and our strategic planning process SRA is guided by a set of core values that we adhere to in carrying out our mission. These values include: Accountability; Integrity; Quality; Diversity; Caregiver Support; Innovation; and, Elder Rights.