


SECTION E

Other Department Programs



There are some Department programs that do not fall strictly into Older Americans Act (OAA), state-funded, or Medicaid categories. These programs are largely funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (USHHS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), or other federal sources. However, the AmeriCorps and Senior Companion Programs (SCP) receive General Revenue matching funds to supplement federal grants awarded by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Other Department Programs

Adult Care Food Program (ACFP)

Description

The Adult Care Food Program (ACFP) supports the provision of nutritious meals and/or snacks served to community-based adults attending adult care centers. These meals support the clients' nutritional status, enabling them to prolong living in their own community. The program provides meal reimbursements to participating adult care centers and other eligible centers.

Services and Activities

Participating centers may serve up to two reimbursable meals (breakfast, lunch, or dinner) and one snack or two snacks and one meal to each eligible participant each day. Centers may seek reimbursement for up to three meals/snacks per day. The level of reimbursement for meals is determined by assessing the economic need of each participant.

Administration

The Department of Elder Affairs directly administers the ACFP.

Eligibility

Centers eligible to receive meal reimbursement include the following:

- Licensed Adult Day Care Centers and public or proprietary centers (Proprietary centers must receive Medicaid Title XIX funding for at least 25 percent of their participants.);

- Mental Health Day Treatment or Psychosocial Centers;
- In-Facility Respite Centers under contract with Department-funded programs; and
- Habilitation Centers approved by the Florida Department of Children and Families.

To be eligible for the program, an individual must:

- Be age 60 or older or age 18 to 59 years old with a functional disability;
- Reside in the home or in a community-based care facility; and
- Be enrolled in a participating center.

Statutory Authority

Title 7 Code of Federal Regulations Part 226.

Funding Source and Allocation Methodologies

The program is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) as part of the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Funds are distributed to eligible centers on a reimbursement basis. No state or local match is required.

ACFP Funding History and Numbers Served

Federal Fiscal Year	Federal Funding	Adult Day Care Sites	Average Meals or Snacks Served
2008-2009	\$2,999,431	99	9,455
2009-2010	\$3,433,882	116	8,006
2010-2011	\$3,922,519	130	*2,207,541
2011-2012	\$4,093,720	125	2,321,4211
2012-2013	\$4,806,225	130	1,973,598
2013-2014	\$3,526,106	134	1,830,781
2014-2015	\$3,676,051	132	1,880,372
2015-2016	\$4,491,882	155	2,092,688
2016-2017	\$4,508,186	167	2,383,097
2017-2018	#\$4,508,186	#167	#2,399,130

**From Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 1997-2010, meals and snacks served were calculated using a daily participant average. The data collection methodology changed in 2010-2011 FFY to reflect a total number of meals or snacks served annually.*

#Projection

Source for sites and meals or snacks served: Manual reports submitted by ACFP program sites

Program Highlight

Mrs. R is an 82-year-old elder who lives in Miami. She routinely attends an adult day care center that participates in the Adult Care Food Program. Mrs. R reports that after Hurricane Irma hit in September 2017, it left many in Miami without power for several days, including herself and her family. Mrs. R explained how grateful she was to go to her adult day care and receive meals as she had very little food at home that was safe to consume. She was able to sustain her nutritive status during this crisis with the two meals and one snack provided by the Adult Care Food Program.

Other Department Programs

AmeriCorps

Description

AmeriCorps is a network of national service programs that engages a multigenerational corps of members who receive a living allowance and commit to one year of service in exchange for an education award. Members serve on a quarter-time basis (450 hours annually). AmeriCorps programs recruit members and community volunteers for intensive service to meet critical needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment. Department program services include respite care, education, and community outreach to elders, caregivers, and families.

Services and Activities

The Department operates a Legacy Corps for Veterans and Military Families project in Miami-Dade and Broward counties called the Easter Seals South Florida Respite Program, one of 16 projects administered in 11 states around the nation by the University of Maryland Department of Health Services Administration. The Department partners with AmeriCorps members and community volunteers to provide respite care services to multicultural caregivers of frail elders at risk of nursing home placement, including veteran and military families. In addition, caregivers receive information regarding available community services and support to help relieve the stress of caring for an elder loved one.

Administration

The Department provides oversight, contract management, and technical assistance to local service providers to ensure that all AmeriCorps service provisions, contractual obligations, and programmatic and financial reporting requirements are met. Local program staff manages member recruitment and development, client services, and reporting requirements.

Eligibility

All caregivers of frail homebound elders (except those already receiving paid respite services) and veteran and military families who reside in Miami-Dade and Broward counties and can benefit from program services are eligible for the Legacy Corps project.

Statutory Authority

Citizens Service Act of 2002, which amends the National AmeriCorps and Community Service Act of 1990; Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973; and section 430.07(8), Florida Statutes.

Funding Source and Allocation Methodologies

The Department receives funding for the Legacy Corps project from the University of Maryland Department of Health Services Administration through an AmeriCorps grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service. The Department contracts with Easter Seals South Florida to provide services locally.

AmeriCorps Funding History and Numbers Served

Grant Year*	Federal Funding	State Funding	Clients Served	Members	Member Hours of Service
2008	\$121,970	\$36,921	300	49	22,050
2009	\$121,000	\$41,506	320	464	21,000
2010	**\$0	\$41,602	315	52	22,050
2011	\$165,000	\$60,000	400	60	27,000
2012	\$220,000	\$65,530	100	83	36,000
2013	\$163,800	\$67,133	250	67	30,150
2014	\$165,000	\$61,173	200	60	27,000
2015	\$160,050	\$66,123	200	60	29,479
2016	\$160,050	\$66,123	200	60	27,000
2017	#\$160,050	#\$66,123	#200	#60	#27,000

Note: The number of AmeriCorps programs differs from year to year. Required local and in-kind match contributions are not reflected in above dollar amounts.

**Beginning in 2016, the Grant Year runs September to August. Prior to 2016, the Grant Year ran April to March.*

***University of Maryland received award late in fiscal year and did not distribute to the Department.*

#Projection

Program Highlight

“The services provided by the AmeriCorps program have been allowing me to continue to care for my mother while I work. Thanks to the AmeriCorps program, I can enjoy some peace of mind knowing that my mother is comfortable at home accompanied by an AmeriCorps volunteer. I am very grateful to the AmeriCorps program.”

- AmeriCorps Program Caregiver, Miami-Dade County

Other Department Programs

Emergency Home Energy Assistance for the Elderly Program (EHEAP)

Description

EHEAP assists low-income households that include at least one person age 60 or older living in the home when the household experiences a home energy emergency.

Services and Activities

Services provided include payments for home heating or cooling and other emergency energy-related costs during the heating (October-March) and cooling (April-September) seasons. Eligible households may be provided one benefit per season. The maximum crisis benefit is \$600 per household per season. Payments are made directly to the vendor for electricity, natural gas, propane, fuel oil, kerosene, or wood.

Program beneficiaries may receive vouchers to purchase blankets, portable heaters, and fans. The program can also help pay for repairs to existing heating or cooling equipment or for energy-related utility reconnection fees.

Administration

The Department manages EHEAP through a contract with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and through 11 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs). Monitoring, training, and technical assistance are performed by Department of Elder Affairs staff. The Department contracts with the AAAs statewide to administer the program locally and monitor local service providers.

Eligibility

To be eligible for assistance, households must have the following:

- A heating or cooling home energy emergency;
- At least one individual age 60 or older living in the home; and
- A gross household annual income of no more than 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

Statutory Authority

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981; 42 United States Code 8621 et seq.; Title XXVI of Public Law 97-35, as amended; 45 Code of Federal Regulations 96, Subpart H; 45 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 75; section 409.508, Florida Statutes; Chapter 91-115, Laws of Florida, section 10; Chapter 9B-65, Florida Administrative Code; and Chapter 73C-26, Florida Administrative Code.

Funding Source and Allocation Methodologies

This program is 100% federally funded through a grant by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. There is no state match requirement. EHEAP is a component of the federally funded Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which is administered by DEO. The amount of funds available varies each year, and Presidential awards for crisis funding

may be made available to provide assistance during extreme weather conditions.

Allocation of EHEAP funding is based on the following:

- The Planning and Service Area population age 60 and older that is at or below 150 percent of the poverty level, divided by the statewide population age 60 and over that is at or below 150 percent of the poverty level; and
- Allocation of direct client assistance dollars take into account a base allocation and heating and cooling costs combined. Costs are determined after the state has been divided into three climatic regions (North, Central, and South) based on the average number of heating and cooling degree days over the most recent 10-year period.

EHEAP Funding History and Numbers Served

Grant Year*	Federal Funding	Households Served	
		Heating Season	Cooling Season
2008-2009	\$1,761,778	3,854	3,696
2009-2010	\$6,609,824	5,671	6,130
2010-2011**	\$7,697,784	9,779	10,991
2011-2012	\$6,024,004	9,283	6,556
2012-2013	\$4,681,212	7,476	9,052
2013-2014	\$4,727,416	5,795	6,825
2014-2015	\$4,235,981	6,033	6,710
2015-2016	\$4,115,280	5,427	6,197
2016-2017	\$4,207,309	5,308	5,806
2017-2018	#\$3,882,779	#4,899	#5,357

*EHEAP Grant Year runs April to March.

**Contract period was extended through August 2011.

#Projection

Source for households served: Contractor reports (prior to 2011-12); CIRTS (beginning in 2011-12)

Program Highlight

Mr. D applied for the Emergency Home Energy Assistance for the Elderly Program at a community service agency. He lives in a rented townhouse where, until recently, he was raising two grandchildren. One of them recently moved, and the other remains in the home. Mr. D retired early in order to be better able to take care of his grandchildren and struggles financially.

Mr. D's grandson, who continues to live with him, has a significant disability. He is a full-time college student, and Mr. D is committed to seeing his grandson finish college, pursue a career, and attain self-sufficiency. Mr. D applied for EHEAP when he found himself coming up short this summer, as the household income consists of Mr. D's Social Security retirement supplemented with SNAP for food assistance. Mr. D was unable to pay his utility bill, resulting in the loss of cool air during the hottest months of the year. EHEAP staff reviewed Mr. D's application, determined he was eligible for assistance, and made a commitment to his utility company for \$346.73. The energy assistance helped them overcome imminent financial hardship.



Other Department Programs

Senior Companion Program (SCP)

Description

The Senior Companion Program (SCP) is a national service peer-volunteer program that provides services to elders at risk of nursing home placement due to chronic illnesses, disabilities, or isolation. Volunteers receive pre-service and monthly training, a modest tax-free stipend to help defray expenses, local transportation reimbursement, accident and liability insurance while on duty, and an annual medical checkup.

Services and Activities

Senior Companion volunteers provide transportation to medical appointments, shopping assistance, meal preparation, companionship, and advocacy. They also provide respite services to caregivers of frail elders. By remaining active and contributing to their communities, Senior Companion volunteers benefit from the program along with the clients they serve.

Administration

The Department partners with seven local providers which serve as volunteer stations that assist the Department of Elder Affairs; administer program services; and recruit, train, and assign the senior companions. The Department provides ongoing program supervision and technical support to local volunteer stations. The program is administered in Palm Beach, Duval, Citrus, Marion, and Osceola counties.

Eligibility

Volunteers must be low-income individuals age 55 and older who pass a criminal background check and are able to commit a minimum of 15 hours of service per week.

Recipients of Senior Companion volunteer services are elders age 60 and older who are at risk of nursing home placement due to chronic illness, disability, or isolation.

Statutory Authority

Sections 430.07- 430.071, Florida Statutes; Public Law 93-113, Domestic Volunteer Service Act.

Funding Source and Allocation Methodologies

The Corporation for National and Community Service awards the Senior Companion grant to the Department of Elder Affairs. General Revenue funds are allocated as match for the federal grant award.

Senior Companion Funding History and Numbers Served

State Fiscal Year	Federal Funding	State Funding	Clients Served	Volunteer Companions	Hours of Service
2008-2009	\$351,608	\$117,764	481	158	82,151
2009-2010	\$351,608	\$117,764	308	121	80,000
2010-2011	\$356,882	\$58,328	324	102	72,000
2011-2012	\$356,882	\$58,328	347	100	66,692
2012-2013	\$356,882	\$58,328	255	84	60,031
2013-2014	\$342,607	\$58,328	300	84	64,500
2014-2015	\$342,607	\$58,328	235	68	46,153
2015-2016	\$342,607	\$58,328	283	67	57,179
2016-2017	\$342,607	\$58,328	260	80	64,000
2017-2018	#\$342,607	#\$58,328	#260	#80	#64,000

Note: Required local match and in-kind contributions are not reflected in the above dollar amounts.

#Projection

Source for clients served, companions, and service hours: Department records and manual reports submitted by program sites (client and companion data)

Program Highlight

Mr. C moved to Florida after a debilitating stroke. With no family in the area to help him, Mr. C was experiencing loneliness, making poor financial decisions, and was struggling to accomplish activities of daily living. After reaching out for services, Mr. C was matched with Maria, a senior companion serving in the Senior Companion Program (SCP). Maria brings Mr. C to the senior center three times a week for socialization and has helped Mr. C straighten out his finances, ensuring his bills are paid on time. Maria also takes Mr. C to the doctor and makes sure his medications are filled. Mr. C says Maria “saved his life.” With Maria’s help and constant companionship, Mr. C is able to remain living independently and safe in his home.

Other Department Programs

Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

Description

The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) provides coupons to low-income elders to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables to support their health and good nutrition. The program also supports local farmers by increasing their sales through coupon redemption. Coupons can be exchanged for approved locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets by eligible elders in Alachua, Bay, Escambia, Gadsden, Hernando, Jackson, Leon, Liberty, Sumter, Suwannee, Union, and Washington counties. The coupon program typically begins April 1 and ends July 31 of each year. Funds remaining after this period may be reallocated to contract for additional coupons, which are subsequently distributed in the fall, with an expiration date of no later than November 15 for bundles of fresh produce valued at \$40 per bundle.

Services and Activities

Low-income elders who live in participating counties may apply for the program through the local elder services lead agency. Eligible elders who participate in the produce-value coupon portion of the program receive two coupon booklets per season. Each booklet contains five \$4.00 coupons that can be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables from participating farmers' markets.

Administration

The Department coordinates with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer

Services (DACs), which operates the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, to simplify administration of SFMNP and reduce administrative expenses. A Memorandum of Agreement gives DACs primary responsibility to recruit, authorize, train, and monitor participating farmers. DACs is also responsible for providing participating farmers with vendor stamps, program manuals, and program participation signs to display at farmers' markets. The Department operates the program in cooperation with local agencies in the participating counties previously mentioned. Family and Consumer Science agents from the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Science (IFAS) Extension Service provide nutrition education for program participants.

Eligibility

Participants must be age 60 or older and have an annual income of less than 185 percent of federal poverty income levels. Participants must redeem coupons for approved produce at authorized farmers' markets sold by authorized farmers at designated locations.

Statutory Authority

Section 5(e) of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act; 15 United States Code 714c(e).

Funding Source and Allocation Methodologies

Coupon funding consists of a federal grant award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Commodity Credit Corporation. No state or local match is required. Although considerable administrative time is involved in overseeing the program, all program funds go to food value.

SFMNP Funding History and Numbers Served

Grant Year*	Federal Funding	Farmers	Farmers' Markets	Participants Receiving:	
				Coupons	Bundled Produce
2008	\$104,903	186	17	2,194	253
2009	\$108,436	203	19	2,714	272
2010	\$107,132	203	38	2,680	N/A
2011	\$106,577	202	26	2,448	N/A
2012	\$106,577	203	34	2,467	401
2013	\$101,458	158	28	1,953	550
2014	\$98,752	174	43	1,891	450
2015	\$98,752	124	41	2,071	275
2016	\$97,139	139	40	1,901	475
2017	\$101,366	136	48	2,228	307
2018	#\$101,366	#136	#48	#2,228	#307

*SFMNP Grant Year typically runs March to November.

#Projection

Source for farmers, markets, and participants: Department program data and reports

Program Highlight

In 2017, there was an 88 percent redemption rate of coupons distributed to seniors in participating counties throughout the state. This redemption rate reflects the success of the program's administration, as well as our seniors' strong desire for this program in our state. With funds provided by the SFMNP, we provide much-desired Florida fresh produce to seniors. Each year at coupon and bundled produce distribution, seniors express their gratitude for this program that affords them the opportunity to have food they may not otherwise have. As one senior put it, "Strawberries are a luxury I can now enjoy thanks to your program."

Other Department Programs

Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders Program (SHINE)

Description

Through a statewide network of trained volunteer counselors, the SHINE Program provides the only source of free, personal, unbiased, and confidential Medicare-related counseling assistance for Florida's Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers. SHINE is part of the national State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP).

Services and Activities

Trained volunteers of the state's 11 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) provide free and unbiased information, counseling, and assistance related to Medicare, Medicaid, long-term care insurance, prescription assistance, supplement insurance, preventive benefits, fraud prevention, cost-saving programs, and beneficiary rights. Counseling and other services are provided in person at counseling sites, via telephone and email, and through web-based video conferencing programs.

In addition to counseling, SHINE has a strong community education and outreach component. Volunteers make educational presentations on Medicare and health insurance issues to a variety of community groups and disseminate information at numerous health and senior fairs throughout the state. Education and outreach efforts focus on health promotion, consumer protection, and beneficiary rights.

Administration

SHINE is administered at the local level through a partnership with the state's 11 AAAs. Department staff provides planning, training, technical assistance, and support to volunteers.

Eligibility

All Medicare beneficiaries, their representatives, family members, and caregivers are eligible to receive free, unbiased services and information from SHINE.

Statutory Authority

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, section 4360; and section 430.07, Florida Statutes.

Funding Source and Allocation Methodologies

SHINE began providing services in 1993 and is funded through a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Community Living (ACL). Funding allocations are based on the number of beneficiaries in the state, with adjustments based on concentrations of low-income or rurally located beneficiaries.

SHINE Funding History and Numbers Served

Grant Year*	Federal Funding	Volunteers	Client Contacts
2008-2009	\$2,349,987	391	**51,000/505,700
2009-2010	\$2,349,987	400	65,887/550,000
2010-2011	\$3,407,745	400	***92,511
2011-2012	\$3,452,321	475	106,052
2012-2013	\$3,494,146	481	148,296
2013-2014	\$3,522,766	523	161,205
2014-2015	****\$4,251,813	579	169,565
2015-2016	\$3,997,201	547	182,087
2016-2017	\$4,200,390	518	175,762
2017-2018	#\$4,064,482	#600	#200,000

*SHINE Grant Year runs April to March.

**Beginning with the 2004-2005 program year and ending with the 2009-2010 program year, the clients contacted column has two entries. The first number is Medicare beneficiaries provided one-on-one, Medicare-related counseling (i.e., Part D plan enrollment, completing Low-Income Subsidy and Medicare Savings Program applications, and billing and coverage issues). The second number includes all customers served indirectly (i.e., information-based assistance, referrals, and general education at outreach and publicity events).

***Beginning in the 2010-2011 program year, the SHINE Program began collecting only data on Medicare beneficiaries receiving one-on-one counseling as per Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Performance Reporting database requirements. Thus, for 2010-2011, the number of clients (Medicare beneficiaries) contacted was 92,511.

****2014-2015 federal funding amounts consist of the following: Serving the Health Needs of Elders (SHINE) Grant, Performance Improvement & Innovation (PII) Grant, and Medicare Improvements for Patients & Providers Act (MIPPA).

#Projection

Source for volunteers and clients contacted: SHIP National Performance Reporting System

Program Highlight

A Delray Beach elder could not afford the cost of two drugs that doctors had prescribed to control his Parkinson’s disease. The elder emailed DOEA and noted that the cost would exceed his monthly income, even with an existing health care plan, and asked for help.

Through SHINE, the elder was counseled and referred to the Patient Access Network (PAN) Foundation – a national, independent organization dedicated to helping people with chronic, critical, and rare diseases. SHINE representatives in Tallahassee and Palm Beach County used NeedyMeds, a national non-profit organization, to identify the PAN Foundation as a resource and then connected the senior to the foundation. The gentleman was beyond grateful when the PAN Foundation agreed to donate \$16,000 to help pay for his medications.

