

Georgia CO-AGE 2018 Priorities

ARC Aging & Independence Services Committee Meeting

November 9, 2017

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Priorities

- Budget
 - Funding for Home & Community Based Services (HCBS)
 - Funding for Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs)
- Legislative
 - Abuser Registry to Prevent Abuse
 - Personal Care Home Requirements
 - Medicaid Funded Assisted Living



Funding for HCBS

- Add \$10 million in new funding for in-home services
- Reasoning:
 - HCBS delay nursing home care by ~51 months
 - HCBS allow person to live independently and in community
 - Georgia's numbers:
 - 12,000 Georgians on waiting lists for in-home services
 - FY2016: 428 people couldn't wait and went to a nursing home
 - In-home services cost less than nursing home care
 - FY2016: 428 people costs to the state
 - \$8.8 million for nursing home care
 - vs.
 - \$842,000 if HCBS had been available

Funding for ADRCs

- Add \$4 million in funding to ADRCs statewide
 - Staff
 - Assistive technology
- Reasoning:
 - ADRC funding in crisis because
 - 2 federal grant funding sources have ended
 - Increased demand for service from increase in OAs
 - Coordinated system of partnering organizations that works
 - 92,000 clients served in FY2016
 - 26,000 community based providers connected with individuals in FY2016

Elder & Disabled Abuser Registry

- Create abuser registry to prevent hiring caregivers with a known history of abuse
- Reasoning:
 - Estimated 10% are victims of abuse/financial exploitation
 - Enhanced protections have helped response to abuse incidents
 - 8 GBI agents focus on elder abuse
 - DAS law-enforcement trainings
 - 2017 funding for Elder Abuse Attorney
 - Reports of elder abuse up 550% since 2010

Medicaid Funded Assisted Living

- Enable state Medicaid program to pay for assisted living more broadly
- Reasoning:
 - Current funding to qualified seniors is limited and doesn't cover housing expenses
 - Older adults end up in costly Medicaid nursing home beds as only option

Personal Care Home Requirements

- Provide more sanction options and violation categories for Personal Care Homes (PCH)
- Reasoning:
 - Need to ensure adequate care for residents in GA's 2,000+ PCH
 - Most severe penalty in Georgia is \$601-\$1,000
 - 2017 State Scorecard for Long Term Services & Supports
 - 36th for quality of life and care
 - 44th for choice of setting and provider