



JUST THE FACTS

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Department of Human Services | Division of Aging Services



AGING SERVICES

The Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Aging Services (DAS) is the federally designated unit on aging for the State of Georgia. DAS is committed to assisting older individuals, at-risk adults, persons with disabilities, their families and caregivers so that they may achieve safe, healthy and independent lives.

In fiscal year 2019, DAS continued to provide services in each of its major program areas, including Home and Community Based Services, the Aging and Disability Resource Connection, Adult Protective Services and the Public Guardianship Office. A few of our results and accomplishments include:

- **35,947 consumers** received Home and Community Based Services.
- **2,663,361 home-delivered meals** and **1,605,325 congregate (senior center) meals** were served.
- There were **51,422 reports** of abuse, neglect and exploitation to Adult Protective Services.
- The Department served **1,029 individuals as Guardian of Last Resort**.
- **188 individuals** were transitioned from nursing facilities back to the community using state Nursing Home Transition funds.
- The Elderly Legal Service Program saved older Georgians **\$12,772,703**.
- GeorgiaCares saved Medicare beneficiaries **\$9,372,437.02** in out-of-pocket expenses.
- The Aging and Disability Resources Connection (ADRC) provided **90,414 clients** and **family members** with information regarding available resources and services.
- The Forensic Special Initiatives Unit (FSIU) trained **416 law enforcement officers, medical staff, prosecutors and other mandated reporters** on elder abuse, neglect and financial exploitation issues.

Georgia Memory Net

DAS continues to advance the Georgia Alzheimer's and Related Dementias (GARD) State Plan through collaborations with stakeholders on initiatives in areas such as workforce development, service delivery and public safety. DAS partners with Emory University on Georgia Memory Net and has established five Memory Assessment Clinics across the state to provide early and accurate dementia diagnoses as well as connections to community support.

Senior Hunger

In State Fiscal Year 2019, three recommendations in the State Plan to Address Senior Hunger published in 2017 were accomplished. These included: hiring the DAS Senior Hunger Coordinator, development of the 12 Senior Hunger Regional Coalitions and expansion of the What a Waste program. Georgia held two Senior Hunger Summits this state fiscal year, September 2018 and June 2019, marking a transition in the time of year the summit is held. The annual summit addresses the focus areas of the state plan, identifies critical targets for the future and continues to bring together key stakeholders in the fight to combat senior hunger.

Assistive Technology

Nine Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) have established 11 Assistive Technology (AT) labs to cover the entire state. All 12 AAAs have Assistive Technology toolkits for public demonstrations. Additionally, several AAAs used Innovation Grant Awards provided by DAS to implement AT labs, provide AT for falls prevention and implement search and rescue AT for Alzheimer's patients at risk of wandering.

Grants

DAS was awarded several grants that will allow the aging network to keep people safe, healthy, independent and living in their communities longer.

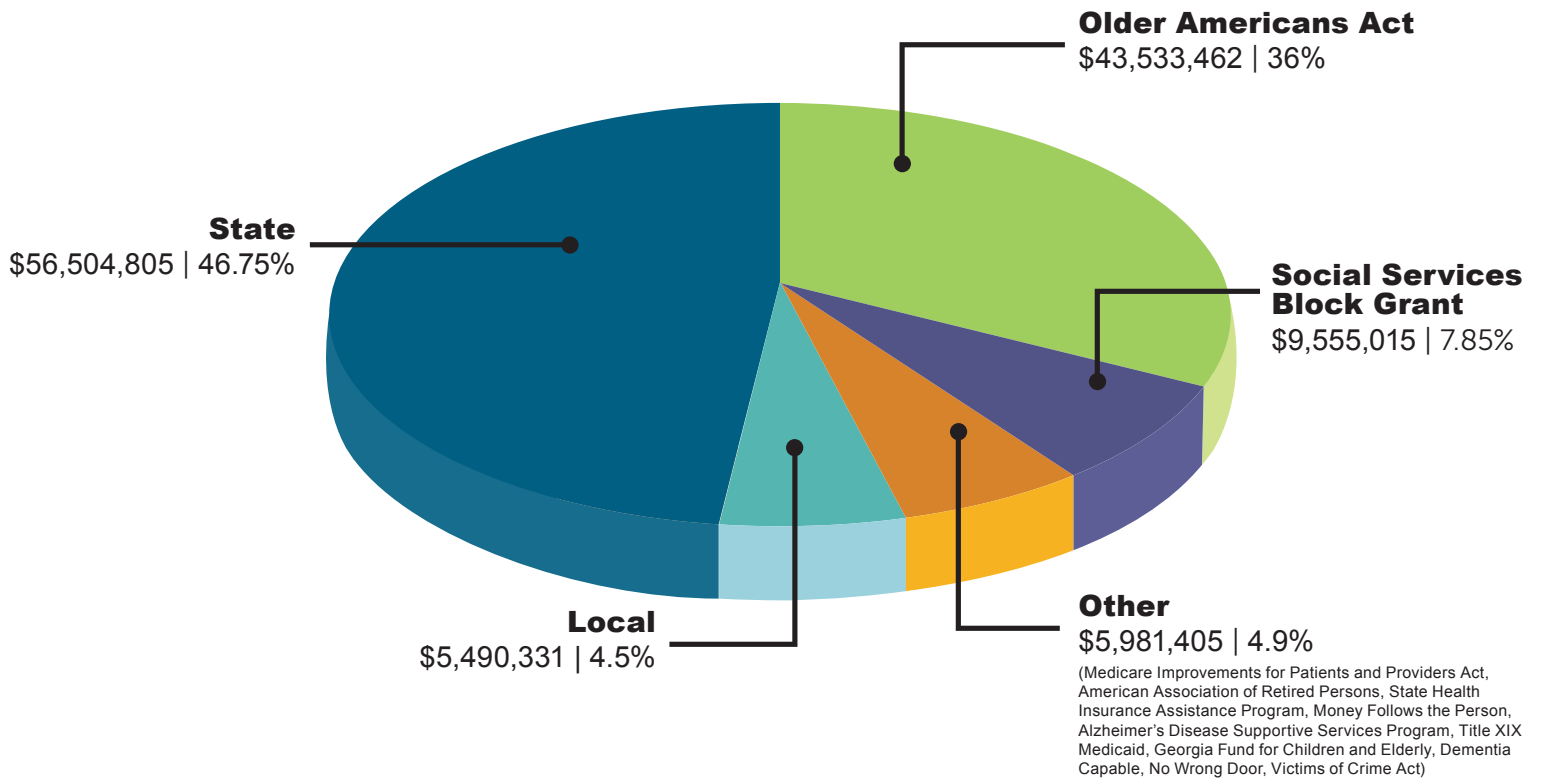
- The No Wrong Door grant is an Administration for Community Living-led initiative aimed at establishing a cost-to-benefit ratio to demonstrate the return on investment for providing information and assistance to consumers primarily through the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC).
- The National Center on Advancing Person-Centered Practices and Systems (NCAPPS) technical assistance grant helps promote system change that makes person-centered principles more prominent in long-term care services and supports.
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Program is funded by the Department of Justice (DOJ) Office for Victims of Crimes (OVC) to provide services to crime victims, including those from underserved population such as victims of elder abuse and those living with disabilities.

Other new initiatives

- Dementia Friends, is an Alzheimer's Society initiative to change people's perceptions of dementia and ultimately transform the way the state thinks, acts and talks about Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.
- The Georgia Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) grant through Emory University will work with DAS to improve the self-sufficiency, health and well-being of older Georgians, their families and their communities through partnerships in a program of interdisciplinary education to improve health outcomes across urban and rural areas.

FUNDING

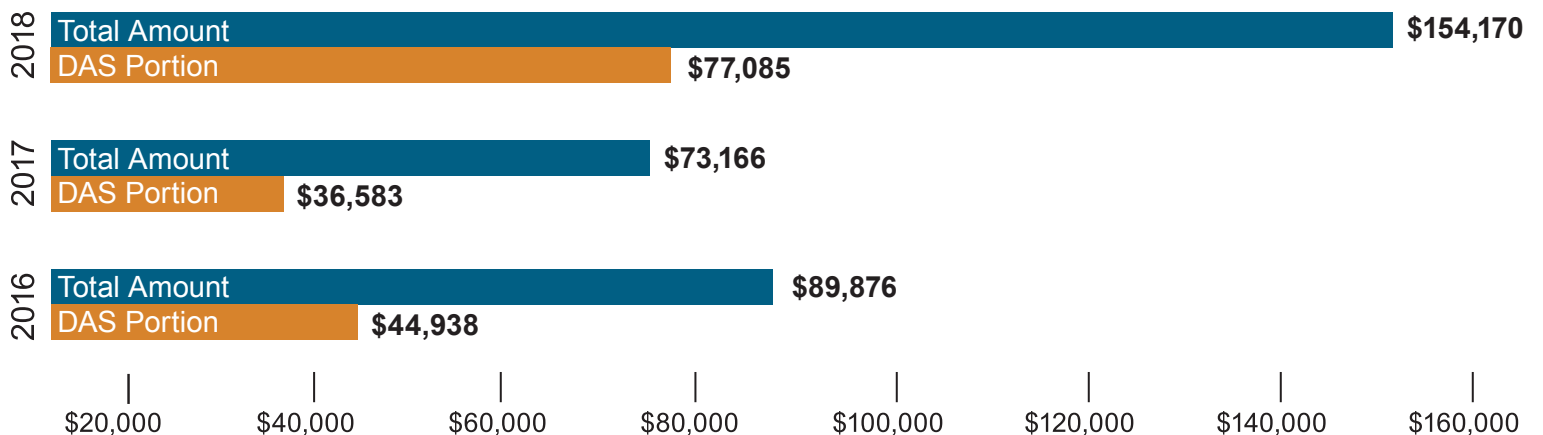
Division Budget Expenditures State Fiscal Year 2019



Georgia Fund for Children and Elderly

DAS co-administers the fund with the Department of Public Health's Maternal and Child Health Program Division. DAS receives 50% of the fund's donations each year, and those monies are distributed to Area Agencies on Aging for home-delivered meals and senior transportation. The remaining 50% is allotted to the Department of Public Health to provide grants for programs that serve children and youth with special needs.

Income tax check-off donations received between calendar years / income tax years 2016 and 2018 are shown below.



PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Non-Medicaid Home and Community Based Services

Non-Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) provides individual and group services to support and assist older Georgians to stay in their homes and communities. These services promote health, self-sufficiency and independence.

Caregiver Programs and Services

Georgia's aging network provides an array of services designed to support family caregivers. Services to caregivers included adult day care, respite care, case management and counseling, information and assistance, support groups, material aid, homemaker and personal care, as well as education and training for caregivers.

Aging and Disability Resource Connection

The Georgia Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) is a partnership between DAS and multiple organizations including state agencies and other public and private organizations that offer a No Wrong Door system for resources and services for all populations and all payers.

Elderly Legal Assistance Program

The Georgia Elderly Legal Assistance Program (ELAP) serves people age 60 and older by providing legal representation, information and education in civil legal matters throughout the State of Georgia.

Money Follows the Person

The Money Follows the Person (MFP) Program transitions eligible individuals from long-term inpatient facilities back into community settings.

GeorgiaCares

GeorgiaCares is Georgia's State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and is a volunteer-based program that provides free, unbiased and accurate information and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers with health and drug plans.

Adult Protective Services

The Division of Aging Services administers the Adult Protective Services (APS) program which investigates reports alleging abuse, neglect or exploitation of persons with disabilities age 18 and older and to prevent recurrence through the provision of protective services interventions.

The Public Guardianship Office

The Department of Human Services is the appointed guardian of last resort when there is no willing or suitable person to act as the guardian for an adult whom the probate court has determined lacks enough capacity to make or communicate significant responsible decisions concerning health or safety. The Public Guardianship Office (PGO) of the Division of Aging Services is assigned oversight and delivery of guardianship case management services on behalf of the Department of Human Services.

Forensic Special Initiatives Unit

The Forensic Special Initiatives Unit (FSIU) provides awareness of elder abuse to statewide mandated reporters by identifying and addressing system gaps and developing process improvements to protect Georgia's at-risk adults from abuse, neglect and exploitation. Services provided by FSIU include training, outreach, technical assistance and case consultation and review.

The Senior Community Service Employment Program

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) provides useful part-time community service assignments and training for unemployed, low-income older Georgians and helps them obtain paid employment. While participants develop job-related skills and earn minimum wage, the community directly benefits from the work they perform.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) are the nationwide network of state and local programs designed to help older people plan and care for their life-long needs. AAAs are created under the federal Older Americans Act. The State of Georgia is divided into 12 Planning and Service Areas named below, with corresponding counties indicated in the map. The AAAs are the service providers for DAS programs and services.

Demographic snapshot

1. Northwest Georgia

9.94% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

2. Georgia Mountains

8.27% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

3. Atlanta Region

36.46% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

4. Southern Crescent

5.54% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

5. Northeast Georgia

6.28% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

6. River Valley

4.03% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

7. Middle Georgia

5.49% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

8. Central Savannah River Area

5.18% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

9. Heart of Georgia

3.52% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

10. Southwest Georgia

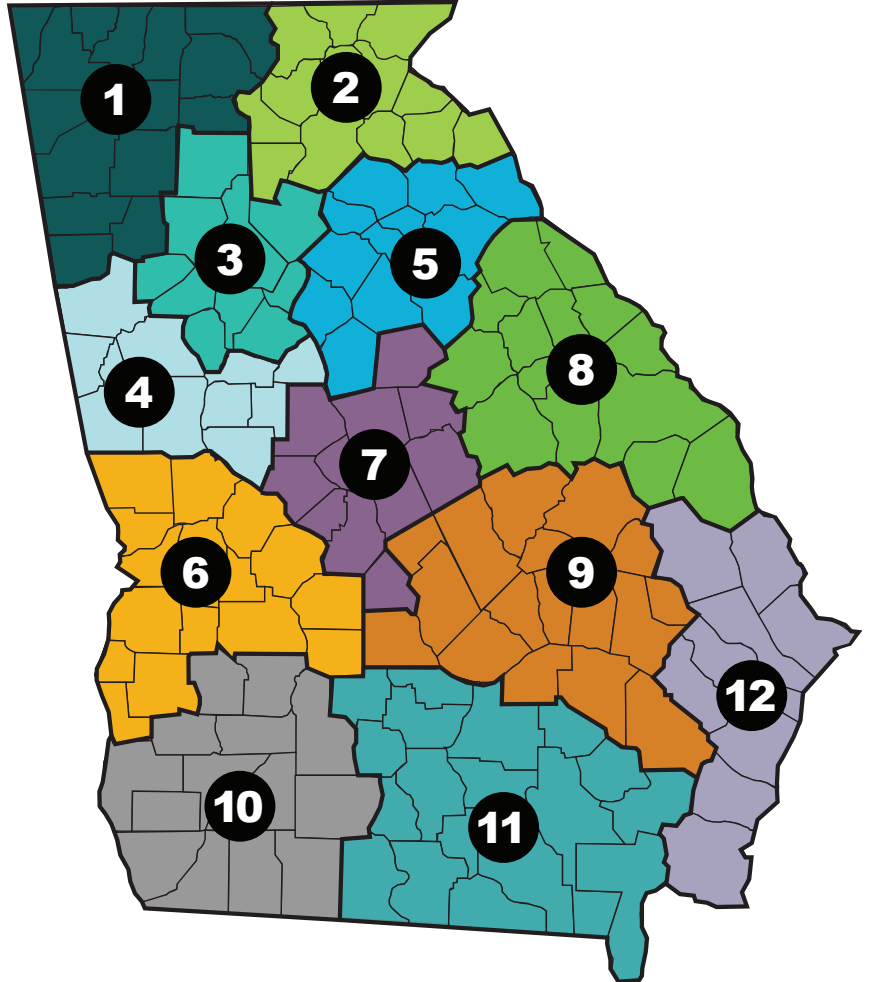
4.11% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

11. Southern Georgia

4.36% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population

12. Coastal Georgia

6.81% | Percentage of Georgia's 65+ population



SFY 2019 Clients Served by Planning and Service Areas

Region	Aging and Disability Resource Connection	GeorgiaCares	Home and Community Based Services	Money Follows the Person	Nursing Home Transitions	Adult Protective Services**
Atlanta Region	49,105	3,187	10,522	55	29	7,289
Central Savannah River Region	3,570	545	2,536	0*	0*	1,237
Coastal Georgia Region	3,132	675	2,602	8	9	1,459
Georgia Mountains Region	3,609	2,314	3,142	7	14	1,567
Heart of Georgia Region	2,549	225	1,440	10	10	705
Middle Georgia Region	4,727	887	1,803	17	9	1,173
Northeast Georgia Region	4,358	1,133	2,685	7	12	1,320
Northwest Georgia Region	5,902	1,714	3,461	15	15	2,287
River Valley Georgia Region	2,495	667	1,474	7	10	774
Southern Georgia Region	4,427	1,065	1,853	16	12	986
Southwest Georgia Region	3,443	1,243	1,924	10	11	865
Three Rivers Region	3,097	1,146	2,505	16	18	1,150
State DAS/CILS*	0	0	0	46	39	0
Statewide Total	90,414	14,801	35,947	214	188	20,812

*Centers for Independent Living

** APS Clients Served is defined as the number of intakes that met criteria during the fiscal year by PSA region.



Georgia Department of Human Services

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