

REVIEW OF THE BUTLER COUNTY ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM

Scripps Gerontology Center



Do Program Participants Meet the Established Eligibility Criteria?

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BACKGROUND

With an increased older population and greater demand for services, it is critical to ensure that public funds are used efficiently and effectively. A first step in assessing program operations is to review whether the established program eligibility criteria are being implemented as designed. The Butler County Elderly Services Program (BCESP) uses the following criteria to determine program eligibility:

- Butler County resident
- Age 60 and older
- Alzheimer's or dementia diagnosis or
- Impairment in two activity or instrumental activities of daily living

REVIEW PROCESS

Using enrollment data from June 2025, we examined the characteristics of BCESP participants. During this month there were just over 2,600 individuals enrolled in the program. Table 1 displays the demographic characteristics of participants. The average age of program participants was 79.4, with three in ten individuals age 85 and older. Seven in ten participants were women and six in ten lived alone. One in five have a monthly income at or below \$1,350. Participants record high levels of need, with nine in ten (93%) having two or more activity of daily living limitations (ADL), including, 98.6% having difficulty transferring from bed to chair, 80% needing assistance with bathing, three-quarters needing assistance with mobility, and more than half needing assistance with getting to the toilet (See Table 2). For the instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) 98.9% record two or more areas requiring assistance with, shopping (94%) and homemaking (78%) the two largest need areas. Finally, one in ten (10.5%) program participants have a diagnosis of Alzheimer's or another form of dementia.

TABLE 1. DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF BUTLER COUNTY ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS, JUNE 2025

CHARACTERISITICS	%
Average age	79.4 (Range 60-102)
60 and over	100
60-84	68.9
85+	31.2
Female	71
Living Alone	59
Living with Spouse	17.8
Living with other Family or Friend	23.2
Monthly Income Less than or Equal to \$1,350	18
N	2613*

NOTE: *52 HDM only – Eligible Spouse/Disabled Individual/Kinship clients removed and 1 client with a form without complete responses removed from 2665 original dataset.

TABLE 2. FUNCTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF BUTLER COUNTY ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS, JUNE 2025

ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING	%
Transferring	98.6
Bathing	80.2
Mobility	75.3
Toileting	53.8
Dressing	9.0
Eating	2.7
Grooming	1.2
2 or more ADL impairments	93.2
INSTRUMENTAL ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING	%
Shopping	93.7
Homemaking	77.8
Telephoning	76.1
Med Administration	70.4
Transportation	67.2
Meal Preparation	65.5
Laundry	54.3
Legal/Financial	35.6
2 or more IADL impairments	98.9
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE /DEMENTIA	10.5**
N	2348

NOTE: *265 BCCESP participants missing responses for either Total ADL or Total IADL.

** Out of 2613 responses.

We next compared the participant characteristics to the established program eligibility criteria (See Table 3). As shown, for the age criteria, 60 and above, there were no individuals below the required age. A review of the ADL and IADL criterion found that more than 99% of program participants met the two or more activity need for assistance threshold. When applying the dementia criterion our review finds that 99.9% of participants meet the stated program eligibility criteria. Three participants out of the sample of 2,613 did not have complete assessment data and eligibility could not be verified for these individuals.

TABLE 3. REVIEW OF WHETHER BUTLER COUNTY ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS MEET ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

CRITERIA	%
Age 60 and over	100
At least 2 or more impairments	99.6
Alzheimer's Disease/ Dementia	9.3
Eligible for BCCESP	99.9
N	2610*

NOTE: *Three individuals out of the sample of 2,613 did not have complete assessment data and eligibility could not be verified for these individuals.



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