

TITLE III OF THE OLDER AMERICAN'S ACT and State FUNDING AWARDS FY 2025

October 2024

Background:

The Older American's Act and sources of State funding from the Ohio Department of Aging supports a range of home and community-based services. These services help older individuals stay as independent as possible in their homes and communities. They are also aligned with Federal and State requirements, the priorities in our regional Area Plan, and availability of funding.

A county funding formula is used to distribute funding to each county based on population factors from the 2020 census. While the funding formula did not change, distribution levels between counties did shift due to changes in the census data. The funding formula is:

- \$110,000 base funding for each county (\$90,000 Title III plus \$20,000 Title III E)
- 43% 60+
- 28% 75+
- 11% 60+ Poverty
- 8% Minority
- 8% 60+ Living alone
- 2% 60+ Rural

The original award decisions were made using priority criteria as part of our approved Area Plan to meet the needs of the aging population in our region. These priorities were established based on results from community needs assessments. See Table 1 for more details. A competitive request for proposal was issued during 2023, and those funding recommendations were approved and awarded for Fiscal Year 2024.

The awards that were approved last year included a significant amount of one-time ARPA funds for several projects, pilot programs, and to meet the surging demand and rising costs for services as we came out of the pandemic. The ARPA funds are now depleted, and there have been a number of changes in providers and the service delivery model which is requiring us to adjust our plan and to document a sustainable funding plan for the services for the remainder of our current Area Plan.

Fiscal Year 2025 Funding Changes:

This section highlights the funding changes from FY 2024 to FY 2025.

1. There was shift in the Alzheimer's Association awards to also support them in providing new programs of Alzheimer's Core Outreach services and Alzheimer's Core Care Community Coaching. These reflect the changes which did not have any net change in the total funding received by the Alzheimer Association.
2. There were decreases in the Butler County ESP for adult day, respite and home delivered meals due to several reductions in federal funding sources.

TITLE III OF THE OLDER AMERICAN'S ACT and State FUNDING AWARDS FY 2025

3. Catholic Charities of Southwest Ohio received \$15,000 award to provide in-person evidence-based health education. We are utilizing carry-over funds and will evaluate our ability to continue to fund for the remainder of the area plan period.
4. Central Connections contracts were terminated, and their awarded funds were reallocated to other providers who are able to provide similar services to meet the needs in those communities. The Central Connections funding went to the following organizations:
 - i. The congregate meals award of \$159,984 was redistributed to Meals on Wheels of SW Ohio & NKY and to Warren County Community Services to operate congregate meal programs at several Midpoint Library settings in Butler County.
 - ii. The supportive services award of \$14,100 was redistributed to Oxford Seniors.
 - iii. The Social Isolation award of \$19,216 was redistributed to Oxford Seniors.
 - iv. Transportation award of \$122,352. was redistributed to Partners in Prime and Oxford Seniors.
 - v. The remainder was redistributed to the Area Wide Initiatives.
5. Clinton County ESP levy funds are sufficient to cover the home delivered meal service. There was some reduction in federal funds, and \$50,149 from this service was shifted to Clinton County Community Action Program (CCCAP) to support Congregate Meals, Social Isolation and Transportation services. The CCCAP has seen a significant increases in their senior center attendance and programming.
6. Creative Aging was unable to complete their precertification, and their funding is going toward other Area Plan initiatives.
7. DUPREE Meals on Wheels received a one-time increase of \$99,550 from the 2024 carryover which will help to right size the program starting in 2026 with no carry over money.
8. There were decreases in the Hamilton County ESP for adult day, respite and home delivered meals due to several reductions in federal funding sources.
9. Maple Knoll Outreach Services closed their doors. Their funding was reallocated to meals on wheels and area plan initiatives.
10. Mayerson Jewish Community Center received an increase to their popular Swipe and Dine congregate meal program of \$56,000. This is funded from carryover funds. The ability to sustain this level of funding will be evaluated during the year.
11. Meals on Wheels of Southwest Ohio and N.KY received increases for:

TITLE III OF THE OLDER AMERICAN'S ACT and State
FUNDING AWARDS
FY 2025

- a. Congregate meals in Butler County which came from Central Connections reallocated funding. They are operating the meal program at Midpoint Library in West Chester.
 - b. An increase of \$56,000 to fund their popular Swipe and Dine program. This is funded from carryover funds. The ability to sustain this level of funding will be evaluated during the year.
 - c. Transportation in Hamilton County which came from the Maple Knoll reallocated funding.
 - d. Supportive Services in Hamilton County came from Maple Knoll reallocated funding.
12. Oxford Seniors received increases for Social Isolation, Supportive Services and Transportation from the reallocated funds initially awarded to Central Connections.
13. Partners in Prime received an increase for their transportation services in Butler County from the reallocated funds initially awarded to Central Connections.
14. Warren County ESP saw a reduction in adult day and home delivered meals due to several reductions in federal funding sources.
15. Warren County Community Services was awarded funding for Congregate Meal service in Butler County from the reallocated funds initially awarded to Central Connections.
16. Area Plan Contract Initiatives: with the availability of ARPA funding in 2024, this funding was spent first which permitted Title III funding to carry over into FY 2025 in the amount of \$325K. These remaining unspent funds are being used to support the Area Plan Contract Initiatives for a new Mental Health Program in Hamilton County, the COA Website and for a Live Well Project to improve ADRC operations with PASSPORT enrollment, and the development of a tool to assist with options counseling with PACE. These projects are utilizing one-time Federal funds and will likely not be available in future years.
17. Council on Aging: The number of facilities which provide Adult Day Services has reduced in our area. We are reallocating \$200,000 to Care Giver Education in our PSA1 area for additional caregiver support.

TITLE III OF THE OLDER AMERICAN'S ACT and State FUNDING AWARDS FY 2025

(Table 1)

Funding Priorities based on AAA1 Area Plan: Rank Ordered by Priority		
Behavioral Health Services	All Five Counties	Title III B
Social Isolation Interventions	All Five Counties	Title III B
Transportation ^{1*}	All Five Counties	Title III B and Senior Community Services (SCS)
Congregate meals*	All Five Counties	Title III C1, Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)
Home Delivered Meals*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clermont County – Title III RFP • Butler, Clinton, Hamilton, and Warren Counties via Elderly Service Program RFP 	Title III C2, NSIP, Title III E Kinship Meals
Adult Day Service/Caregiver Respite Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) Personal Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clermont County – Title III RFP • Butler, Clinton, Hamilton, and Warren Counties via Elderly Service Program RFP 	Title III E, Alzheimer Respite
Supportive Services*	All Five Counties	Title III B
Evidence-Based Programs	All Five Counties	Title III D, SCS, and Title B
Ombudsman ^{2*}	Pro Seniors (designated by ODA to serve all 5 counties)	Title III B
Legal Services*	One Provider to service all five counties	Title III B
Caregiver Services* FCSP Support Group FCSP Counseling	All Five Counties	Title III E
Alzheimer's Education* Alzheimer's Core*	All Five Counties	Title III E and Alzheimer's Respite, Core
<p>Notes: ¹Transportation must include door-to-door, standby and/or physical assistance by driver. ²ODA designates Pro Seniors as the Ombudsman provider. Pro Seniors has an option to compete for funding over the mandated amount; therefore, Ombudsman is included in the RFP. *Required funded service</p>		