



Mission Statement

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The Department on Aging's mission is to serve and advocate for older Illinoisans and their caregivers by administering quality and culturally appropriate programs that promote partnerships and encourage **independence, dignity and quality of life.**

Respect for yesterday, support today, and plan for tomorrow.

- Implement innovative and evidence-based programs to support older adults ability to remain in the community and avoid premature institutionalization.
- Maximize federal, state, local and private resources to increase healthy aging options and social programs for older adults.
- Promote responsive management, accountability and advance technologies to meet the needs of the most vulnerable while create efficiencies in statewide systems.

Response to COVID – Ensuring Older Adults Basic Needs are Met

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- ▶ During the COVID pandemic, the Aging Network maintained older adults' health, welfare and safety through the following:
- ▶ Expansion of Home Delivered Meals and Shelf Stable Meals to respond to food insecurity.
- ▶ Creation of a new program - Emergency Senior Services (ESS) to meet older adults' immediate needs, e.g. transportation, grocery shopping.
- ▶ Provided over 1M pieces of PPE to our network of community-based agencies and providers; as well as older adults to address their safety and prevent the transmission of COVID.
- ▶ Collaborated with State sister agency – DHS and federal ACL to provide older adults and persons with disabilities access to assistive devices and hotspots to address increased social isolation as a result of COVID.

COVID – Shifting Landscape & Sustaining the Aging Network

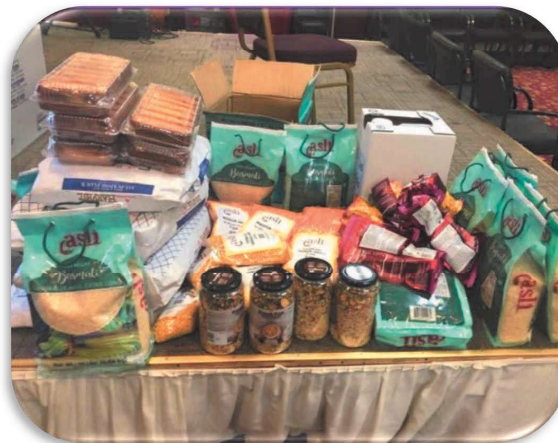
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- ▶ The COVID pandemic forced the Aging Network to quickly pivot to mostly a remote model of service delivery. DoA prioritized sustaining the Aging Network through the following action steps:
- ▶ Provision of PPE offset payments to ensure access to critical PPE.
- ▶ Adult Day Service preservation grants to maintain the ADS network, including remote calls to participants.
- ▶ Collaboration with FEMA & IEMA to obtain and distribute over 1M pieces of PPE.
- ▶ Rate increase for In-Home providers effective 4/1/21 moving rate to \$23.40 per hour.
- ▶ Coordination with HFS to obtain increased flexibilities included in Elderly Waiver, Appendix K to ensure adequate provider capacity.
- ▶ Collaboration with DPH on the development of over 200 pieces of guidance specific to COVID 19 and the providing up-to-date outreach to the Aging Network.

COVID & Food Security

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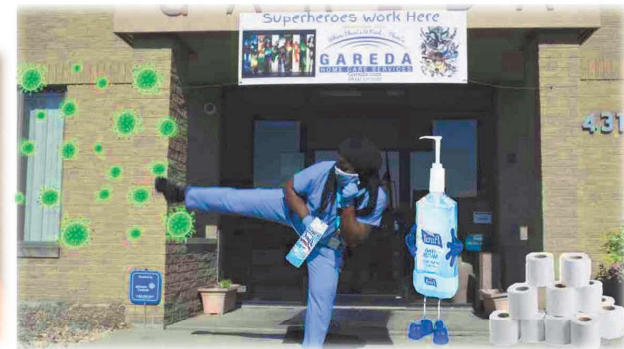
- ▶ Coordination with FEMA / IEMA – due to the COVID-19 pandemic, IDoA received an additional \$44 million in additional federal funding. IDoA has coordinated with FEMA and IEMA to obtain shelf stable meals at no cost to the state that are delivered in collaboration with our AAA network.
- ▶ **To give you an idea of what that means, we provided 58,000 shelf stable meals to our seniors in total last year. Since March 30th, we have provided 1.2 million shelf stable meals to our seniors.**
- ▶ Expansion of Home Delivered Meals (HDMs) to address substantial increase in demand as a result of COVID pandemic and the temporary closure of congregate dining sites. Since March 30th through December, 10.4M HDMs have been provided with an average of 48,000 meals being provided per day.



Collaboration with IEMA & Aging Network

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- ▶ To date, through coordination with IEMA, IDoA has provided over 1 million pieces of Personal Protective Equipment to providers in our Network such as In-Home Service, Adult Day Services, EHRS / AMD, CCUs, Regional Ombudsman, Adult Protective Service agencies, nutrition providers, CCRS, and Area Agencies on Aging.
- ▶ Additionally, the Department is providing PPE off-set payments to our provider network to ensure access to PPE for both providers and recipients of services.
 - ▶ The most recent delivery of PPE included face shields, masks, N95 respirators, gowns, and temporal thermometers.



Emergency Senior Services (ESS) – Gap Filling Funds

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An estimated **10,000** individuals have had their needs met through purchases made with ESS funds provided by the IDoA. These additional gap-filling funds, made available in response to the pandemic, have assisted vulnerable older adults by making access to many necessary goods and services a reality. ESS has met the ever-changing needs and improved quality of life for many older Illinoisans through targeted outreach and a person-centered approach:

Person-Centered Purchasing (needs based):

- ▶ Addressing food insecurity and cutting waiting lists in standard HDM programs, grocery assistance, grocery delivery, nutrition “bundles”.
- ▶ Assistance with medication costs, transportation, purchase of wheelchairs, walkers, assistive devices, assistive technology, PPE, cleaning supplies, environmental modifications, utility costs, personal hygiene items, etc.

Targeted Outreach:

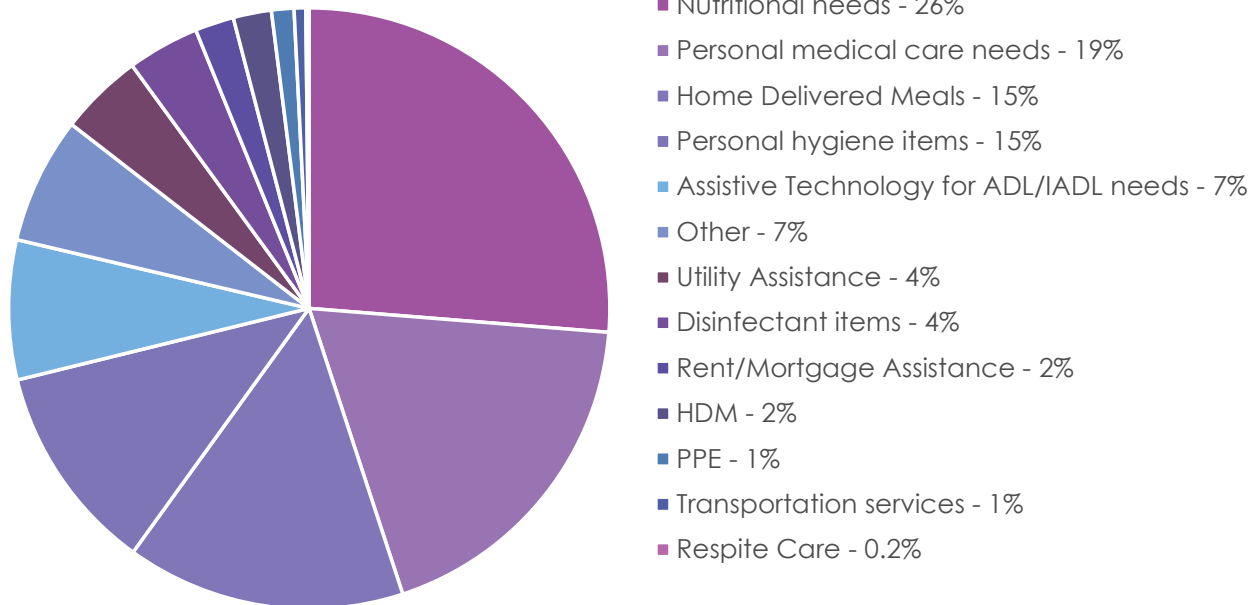
- ▶ Addressing ethnic meal needs in communities that are largely BIPOC.
- ▶ Meeting needs in communities and neighborhoods most heavily impacted by protests and civil unrest.



Emergency Senior Services

- ▶ The Department was able to shift a total of \$5 million in resources within its Fiscal Year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021 budgets to create a new program, Emergency Senior Services.
- ▶ In the first 6 months of FY21, just under \$2 million has been used to purchase ESS services and supports.

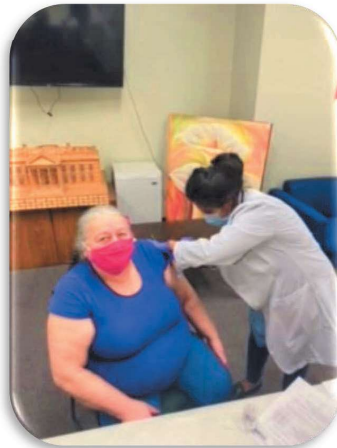
Gaps Addressed



COVID Vaccine Outreach

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- ▶ Collaboration with our 13 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) to provide direct assistance and support to older adults with the vaccination registration process. The \$1.2M grant to the AAAs will enable increased outreach and education to our most vulnerable older adults, including our minority populations.
- ▶ The Care Coordination Units (CCUs) continue to directly outreach to CCP participants to determine their need for assistance with the vaccination registration process. Emergency Senior Service funding is available to the CCUs for the provision of assistance, including transportation needs.



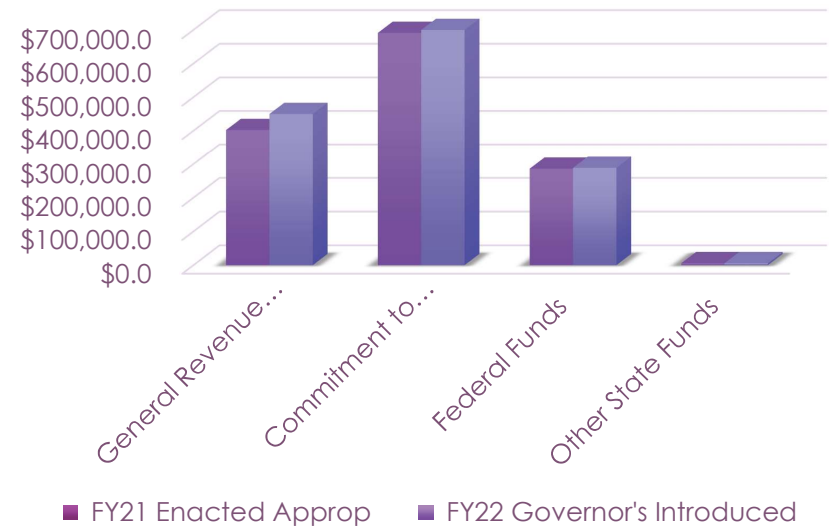
FY22 Governor's Introduced Budget

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Total All Funds increase of 4.3%

| Fund Name | FY21 Enacted Approp | FY22 Governor's Introduced | Change From FY21 \$ | Change From FY21% |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| General Revenue Fund | \$402,039.5 | \$449,716.2 | \$47,676.7 | 11.9% |
| Commitment to Human Services Fund | \$690,918.2 | \$699,654.6 | \$8,736.4 | 1.3% |
| Federal Funds | \$285,808.0 | \$288,379.8 | \$2,571.8 | 0.9% |
| Other State Funds | \$5,745.0 | \$5,745.0 | \$0.0 | 0.0% |
| Total All Funds | \$1,387,208.0 | \$1,446,192.9 | \$58,984.9 | 4.3% |

FY22 Governor's Introduced from FY21 Enacted



FY22 Governor's Introduced Budget Highlights (DoA)

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Program Highlights

- ▶ \$11.3M for the expansion of Home Delivered Meals to meet the increased demand as a result of COVID 19 and to address waiting lists in two planning and service areas.
- ▶ \$5M to continue addressing seniors' emergency needs through the Emergency Senior Services Program.
- ▶ \$1M to add Assistive Technology to the Community Care Program.

Addressing Minimum Wage Effective 1/1/2022

- ▶ \$204K to allow for the continuation of the Senior Employment program at the proper \$15/hr. Effective 1/1/2022.
- ▶ \$2.4M to address minimum wage increase within Older American services programming. Effective 1/1/2022.
- ▶ \$29.3M which will address the minimum wage pressures with the Community Care Program Services. The in-home services rate will go to \$24.96/hour, Adult Day Services will move to \$15.30/hour, and Adult Day Services Transportation rate will go to \$11.29/ride. Effective 1/1/2022.

Planning for the Future

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- ▶ Expand and ensure equitable access to programs that address the social determinants of health with a focus on identifying and understanding the needs of underserved and diverse populations.
- ▶ Promote responsive management and improve efficiencies within the delivery of services through the use of data and enhanced IT systems.
- ▶ Protect older adults and persons with disabilities by strengthening interagency collaboration to prevent abuse, neglect and exploitation, and increase public awareness.

Maintaining the Mission of IDoA - Illinois Care Connections

- ▶ The Department along with the Illinois Assistive Technology Program (IATP), and IDHS' Division of Developmental Disabilities and Division of Rehabilitation Services launched Illinois Care Connections as a result of a successful application to the federal Administration on Community Living.

- ▶ Illinois Care Connections provides technology devices such as iPads or Tablets to older adults and persons with disabilities who are socially isolated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, to help facilitate social connections with family and friends. To date, DoA has received 1059 referrals for devices and 340 referrals for hotspots with 508 devices delivered to participants to date.

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It is incredibly hard for me to be isolated, but the iPad I received from Illinois Care Connections helps me connect with others. My grandchildren have helped me learn how to use this equipment, and we share our days with each other. This is very new for me, but I have enjoyed learning this technology. Hopefully, more of my friends will be able to take advantage of the program, and we can communicate with each other better. Thank you so much for this opportunity.

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~ Clarence, a senior from Chicago

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Thanks to the Illinois Care Connections program, I was able to video chat with my daughter during the holidays. I would not have been able to do this if it wasn't for the generosity of the program. Thank you so much for assisting me during this difficult and different holiday season.

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~ Wanda, a senior from Illinois

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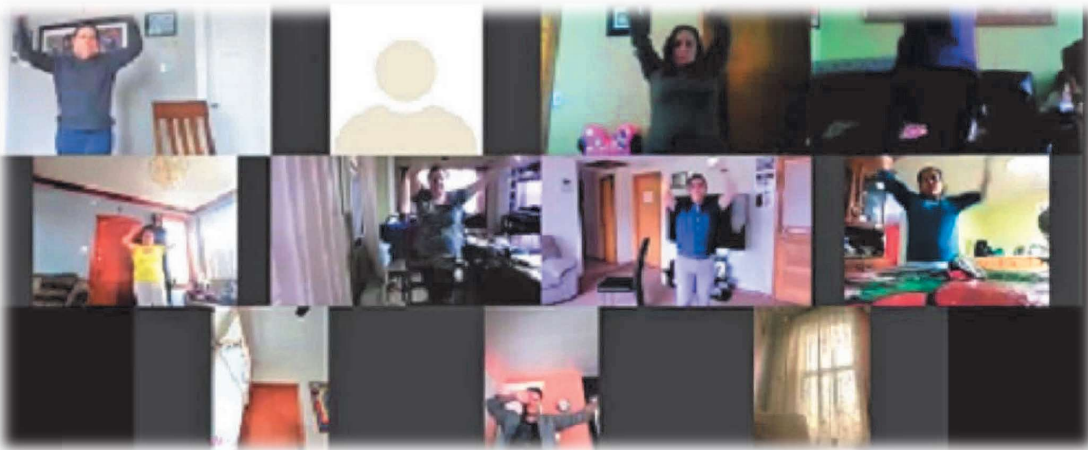
Never in a million years would I have ever expected such a gift as this. I feel so blessed because it has allowed me to keep in touch with my children who live out of state. It has also afforded me the opportunity to keep in contact with friends far and near. This is especially important during this global pandemic when seniors like myself with underlying conditions must social distance, wear masks and quarantine for our safety. The iPad has kept me in touch with the events of the world, keeping my brain active and stimulated. This is the best Christmas gift ever.

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~ Marsha, a senior from Chicago

Adapting to the ever-changing landscape of service delivery

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We really need each other, even more than we understand or know. At the end of the day, it's our passion for aging that solidifies why we do what we do.

- Paula Basta, Director IDoA

