



Planning | Developing | Coordinating | Advocating

ILLINOIS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

UPDATE 2020

OCTOBER 27, 2-3 PM

**NOT INCLUDING CHICAGOLAND AREA
& COLLAR COUNTIES**

ILLINOIS AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTORS

Grant Nyhammer

Northwestern Illinois AAA – PSA 01
Rockford

Marla Fronczak

AgeGuide Northeastern IL AAA – PSA 02
Lombard

Barbara Eskildsen

Western Illinois AAA – PSA 03
Rock Island

Keith Rider

Central Illinois AAA – PSA 04
Peoria

Susan Real

East Central Illinois AAA – PSA 05
Bloomington

Mike Drew

West Central Illinois AAA – PSA 06
Quincy

Carolyn Austin

AgeLinc – PSA 07
Springfield

Joy Paeth

AgeSmart Community Resources – PSA
08
O'Fallon

Tracy Barczewski

Midland AAA – PSA 09
Centralia

Shana Holmes

Southeastern Illinois AAA – PSA 10
Mt. Carmel

Becky Salazar

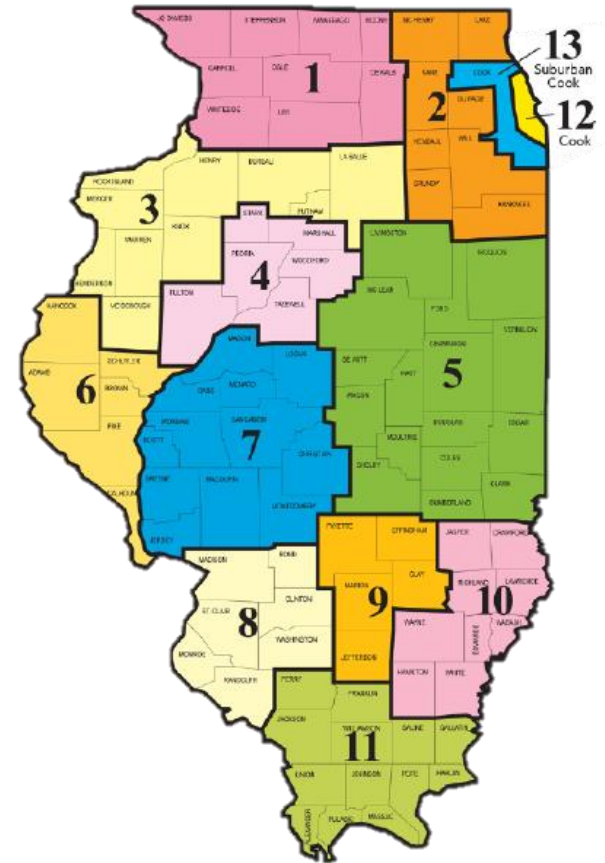
Egyptian AAA – PSA 11
Carterville

Yolanda Curry

City of Chicago – PSA 12
Chicago

Diane Slezak

AgeOptions – PSA 13
Oak Park



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT ON AGING



- Paula A. Basta, M.Div.,
Director
- Lora McCurdy, Deputy
Director
- Becky Dragoo, Manager,
Division of Home and
Community Services
- Samantha Brill,
Legislative Liaison

AGENDA

Welcome

Introduction of Legislators

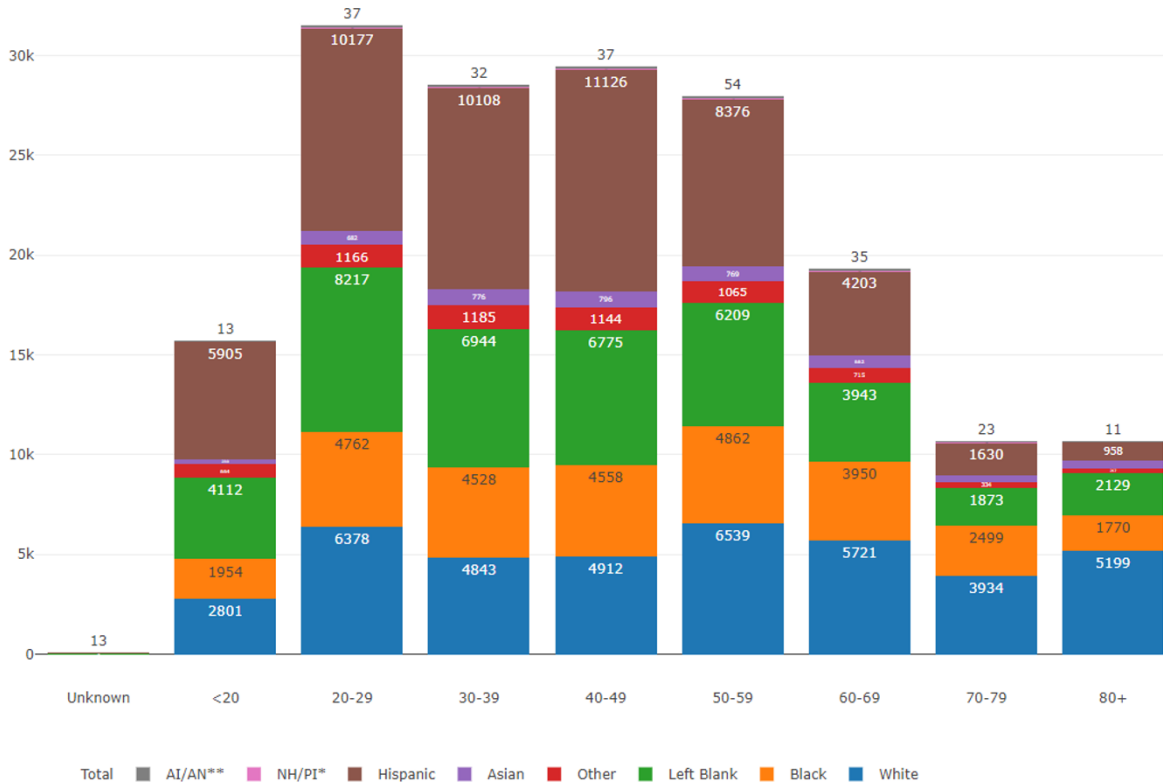
Challenges faced by the aging network in light of COVID-19

Sampling of Area Agencies on Aging COVID-19 Response Summaries

Our Ask to Legislators

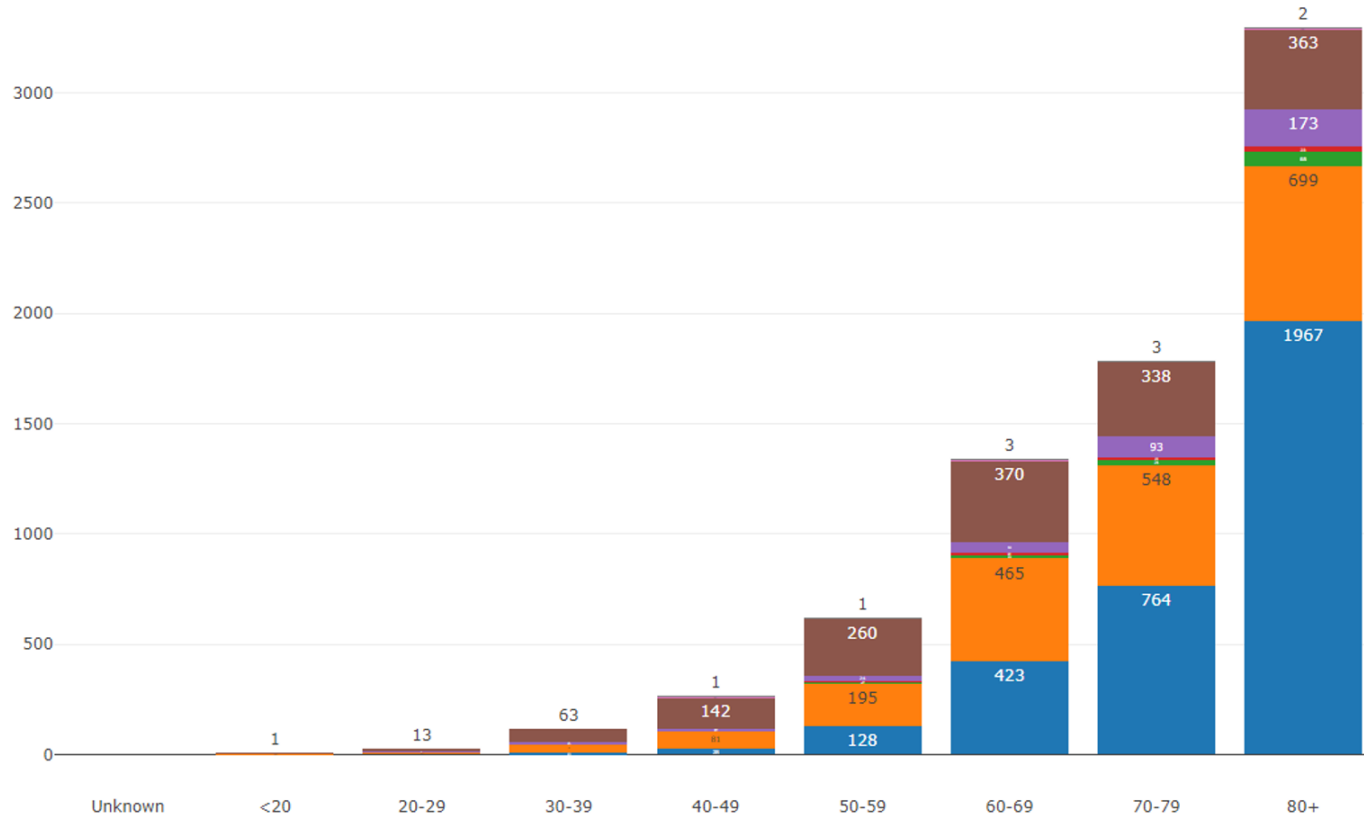
Discussion

Illinois Confirmed Cases



Confirmed cases population is a broad sampling of the Illinois population

Illinois Deaths from Covid-19



CHALLENGES FACED BY THE AGING NETWORK DURING COVID-19

Older adults are disproportionately impacted by the “side effects” of COVID-19

- Age as a risk factor – age in and of itself correlates with higher risk of hospitalizations and deaths due to COVID-19
 - 85+ year-old 13x higher chance of being hospitalized than 18-29-year-old
 - 85+ year-old 630x higher chance of dying than 18-29-year-old
- Nursing Homes – very hard to contain respiratory illness in community living facilities. LTC facilities in communities of color disproportionately impacted.
- Social Isolation – can exacerbate already existing vulnerabilities (i.e. access to food, medication, medical care)
 - Social isolation is a real marker for risk
- Suspension of in-person programming that older adults relied on –
 - Effective mid-March, Area Agencies on Aging suspended congregate services such as congregate dining sites and senior center operations.

FOOD ACCESS RESPONSE IN ILLINOIS

(NOTE: THIS IS THE MOST CURRENT INFORMATION FROM JOHN FORSTER, IDOA: YTD 9.30.2020)

- Illinois Aging Network delivered **537,220** shelf stable meals to seniors since the shelter in place order began in March (through September 30, 2020).
- Illinois Aging Network delivered over **5,152,225** meals to seniors since March 30 through the Home Delivered Meal Program, which remained open throughout shelter in place (through September 30, 2020).
- **17,238** NEW participants served since March 30 (through September 30).



Overall, we have provided over **212,255** meals to seniors each week.

This amounts to more than **5.6M** meals to seniors since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March (through September 30, 2020).

FY19 & FY20 CAREGIVER DATA OVERVIEW – STATEWIDE

FY19	Total Caregivers Served	7,661	Minorities	17.3%
	Total Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Served	955	African American	11.3%
FY20 Oct - June	Total Caregivers Served	11,105	Minorities	36.9%
	Total Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Served	806	African American	32.2%
			Minorities	17.7%
			African American	10.2%
			Minorities	18.1%
			African American	16.0%

FY19 & FY20 HOME DELIVERED MEAL DATA OVERVIEW - STATEWIDE

Services Home Delivered Meals Recipients - Statewide

FY19

Total HDM Recipients

43,436

FY20
Oct -
June

Total HDM Recipients

73,332

Minorities	30.2%
African American	23.2%
Asian	0.8%
Latinx	3.4%
Other	2.8%

Minorities	46.7%
African American	21.5%
Asian	3.3%
Latinx	11.8%
Other	10.1%

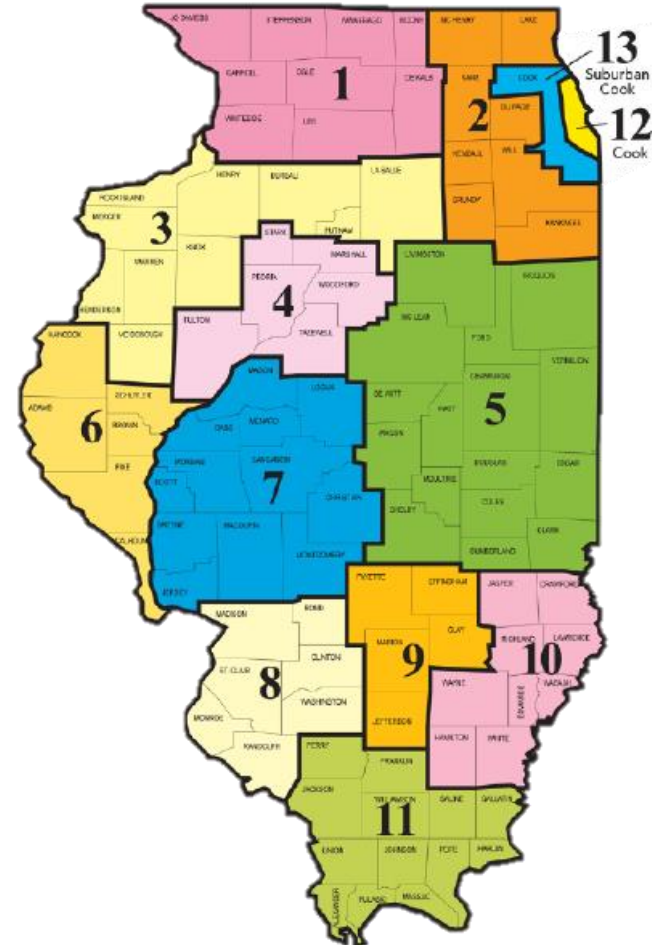


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SAMPLING OF AREA AGENCIES ON AGING COVID-19 RESPONSE SUMMARIES

Providing	Providing meals to congregate participants in alternative ways (carry-out, grab and go) while keeping the home delivered meal services intact.
Continuing	Continuing to provide information and assistance through our telephone hotlines
Providing	Providing virtual programs via Zoom or Telephone calls (Telephone Topics).
Delivering	Delivering care packages out to participants with games, puzzles, and more.
Performing	Performing telephone wellness checks on participants via volunteer networks

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF AREA AGENCIES ON AGING – COVID-19 RESPONSE SUMMARIES



PSA 03 – WESTERN ILLINOIS AREA AGENCY ON AGING

During the COVID-19 Pandemic the number one priority of Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging and all the local agencies we fund is the health wellbeing and safety of the older adults and their caregivers we serve. Every employee wears proper PPE, maintains social distancing as much as practical and follows CDC guidelines for utilizing hand sanitizer, washing hands and disinfecting work areas.

- All the community agencies we fund reach out to all older adults and their caregivers who receive Older American Act Services with friendly visitor phone calls at least weekly to alleviate social isolation during the rise in COVID-19 cases in Illinois.
- All Community Focal Points (Senior Center) and the Area Agency on Aging provide remote assistance via phone calls for Medicare Open Enrollment, Benefit Access Assistance, SNAP applications, LIHEAP applications etc. Older adults are mailing in or dropping off verifications needed to confirm eligibility. Employees utilize PPE when meeting people in agency parking lots to collect verifications and/or make copies of verifications to ensure the well being of older adults and their caregivers.
- Home Delivered Meals (HDM) are being offered to all older adults who are temporarily confined to their homes due to COVID-19. The number of older adults served has increased by 77.38% and the number of meals being served has increased by 81.23%. Every person receiving Home Delivered Meals has received at least 30 days of shelf stable meals to utilize during the pandemic and during winter inclement weather days when meals cannot be delivered due to poor road conditions or severe winter storms. Driver's who drop off meals wait to make sure the older adult gets the meal by calling them via cell phone and asking them if they are well and watch to make sure the meal is picked up from the porch. People living in high rise apartment buildings are also called each day. All Congregate Site participants who want a Home Delivered Meal are receiving them until it is safe to reopen the congregate sites they attended before COVID-19 forced closure of the sites due to safety concerns for participants health and well being.
- Information & Assistance employees are providing person centered options counseling tailored to connect older adults and their caregivers with all local community services the older adult decides will meet their needs, so they remain at home in their local community.
- The Area Agency on Aging is partnering with Community Focal Points (Senior Centers) to offer remote programming from enGaged that address social isolation. These programs may be accessed remotely by telephone, computer, iPad or other technology free of charge to bring people together via remote group activities. Utilizing programs that offer both remote access by land line phones is very important as most of the counties in our service area are rural counties where internet or hot spot access is not readily available in all townships.

PSA 05 – EAST CENTRAL ILLINOIS AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Coordinated Points of Entry/Senior Information Services

- Served older adults during the pandemic by implementing immediate technology changes
- Purchase of hot-spots to improve internet connectivity in rural areas
- Providing technology training for older adults
- Technology purchases for both clients and service providers

Nutrition Services

- Added 1,647 new participants to the nutrition program since March 30, 2020
- Delivered 78,657 shelf-stable meals during the peak of the pandemic
- Provided a second meal and weekend meal options to individuals with high nutritional risk

Caregiver Services

- Conducted support groups via Zoom meetings
- Implementing TCARE – an evidence-based, ACL-accredited solution to prevent caregiver burnout

Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

- Residents of 160 Long Term Care Facilities received regular assistance, especially in facilities hardest hit by the pandemic

GENERAL COVID-19 Response

Tremendous volunteer and community response to serve older adults adversely affected by the pandemic



PSA 07 – AGELINC

- Transitioned all direct services (Medicare Assistance, Benefit Access, Information and Assistance, Caregiver Education) programming to internet, phone and mail accessible services in order to provide continuous services.
- Helped to provide over 42,000 dollars in emergency relief funds for housing, utility, nutrition, health, medication and other COVID related needs to the aging and disabled populations.
- Coordinated the delivery and distribution of supplemental FEMA shelf stable meals for delivery and pick-up across the twelve-county service area.
- Provided additional Cares Act money to nutrition providers for immediate increase in delivered nutrition following the closure of congregate meals services.
- Provided FEMA and community donated PPE to clients and providers.
- Developed new programming to address the health and emotional needs of our service area's most isolated seniors, including The Friendly Caller Program and The Telehealth Nurse Caller Program.
- Updated website, utilizing a new user-friendly format to connect people with a myriad of services and programming from the comfort and safety of their homes.
- Coordinated efforts with CVS pharmacy to host a safe, drive-through Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Clinic for all members of the community.
- Issued several press releases in our service communities communicating the ways in which the aging, caregiver, and disabled populations may safely receive the benefits and services they need during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

PSA 08 – AGESMART COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Telephone Reassurance

Over 10,000 calls were made to over 3000 older adults to provide well-being checks.

Uber Rides for Seniors

Uber services will be available to transport older adults 60+ to and from medical appointments in the local Metro East area. The Mascoutah Senior Center will be acting as the dispatcher coordinating rides for older adults.

Agesmart's Learning Channel

AgeSmart is partnering with **GetSetup** to offer a free online learning pilot program for a limited time to help people stay connected and learn new skills. These small group classes, taught by retired educators, are designed to keep your mind active, allow you to engage with others, and increase your ability to live independently.

AgeSmart COVID Counseling

AgeSmart and Chestnut Health Systems have partnered to provide Older Adults and Caregivers of Older Adults free access to telephonic and video Counseling services. For the past 6 months, our state has been coping with unprecedented virus where the best advice is to engage in social distancing. These issues have disproportionately impacted older adults who are particularly at risk from the virus itself.

Metro East Community Wellness

Utilizing the services of the Southwestern Illinois Visiting Nurse Association is providing at risk older adults a home visiting nurse to assess, educate and provide tools and support to improve their health and well-being. Nurses can visit at least four times to complete an assessment and develop individual goals and provide follow up visits.

Video Series on Adaptive Equipment

Have you ever been discharged from a hospital with instructions on how to use equipment during your rehabilitation or as a caregiver have you tried to find resources for your loved one to help them maintain their independence? AgeSmart has partnered with Adaptive Equipment Corner. AECorner produces educational and instructional videos and AgeSmart is providing them to the public at no charge for a limited time. The mission of AECorner is to enhance continuity of care from healthcare facility to home, increase client and caregiver safety during daily care and improve and maintain the client's optimal level of functional independence. To access the video series, visit AECorner.com and use the code AgeSmartCares.

PSA 09 – MIDLAND AREA AGENCY ON AGING

- 3000 Social Isolation bags were distributed throughout our PSA
 - Including masks, exercise pages, adult coloring pages, word search, colors first aide kit, and resource information of AAA services
- Friendly Visiting converted to Telephone reassurance
- Mental Health Hot Line sent out to clients
- Friendship Cards have been sent out to clients
- Information and Assistance are doing well-being checks
- Nutrition staff are calling all congregate people
- Nutrition has activities in parking lot when meals are picked up
- Second meal delivered to Seniors
- Shelf Stable meals delivered to Seniors
- Virtual Caregiver training is available in the PSA through Advance Equipment Corner
- T-Care Assessment for Caregiver Advisor program
- Virtual training to learn how to use the internet and basic technology through Get Set Up
- Collaborating with Mayors of small town to reach the seniors that we may not have in our system.
- Using emergency funds to help get what is needed to assist seniors during Covid-19
- Drive through Legal Services
- PPE in Place at all offices in the event a Face to Face Visit is needed especially for Medicare part D clients.

PSA 11 – EGYPTIAN AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Title III-B Services

- Outreach, information and assistance, social isolation activities-all done by telephone or one-on-one contact in the parking lot with staff meeting older adults at their car.
- RSVP collaborated with Letters Against Isolation to provide hundreds of letters to homebound seniors each week
- Legal services were provided via telephone or one-on-one appointments

Title III-C2

- Waiting lists eliminated and all areas covered
- Significant increase in meals for pick-up and home delivery, with some at-risk seniors needing two meals per day.
- All clients provided two weeks of either frozen or shelf-stable meals in case a senior center had to close due to the pandemic (FEMA meals also distributed area wide)

Title III-E

- Caregiver support offered via telephone
- Caregiver support groups offered by local Alzheimer's Disease chapter online
- Every senior center was given a tablet for seniors to check-out at the centers in the parking lot to use for telehealth, support groups, or social contact
- Legal services were provided via telephone or one-on-one appointments
- Dementia Friendly Community initiative started for one of our towns to ensure support for caregivers of persons with dementia. City of Carterville issued a Proclamation to support Dementia Friendly. Area businesses are now being contacted and scheduled for education.

Title VII Ombudsman

- Facilities contacted by Ombudsman via phone, with some Facetime contacts with administrators, residents, and families
- More staff time utilized taking intakes from residents and families

ILLINOIS STATE FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE ILLINOIS AREA
AGENCIES ON AGING FOR FY 2020 –
THANK YOU!

- Thank you for supporting the older Illinoisans through Illinois General Revenue Funds for FY 2020 (source: AAA Letter #907):
- \$2,396,925 Planning & Service Grants OAA Title III Match
- \$23,800,000 Home Delivered Meals
- \$10,854,275 Planning & Service Grants Community Based Services
- \$3,130,000 Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

Total State Funding: \$40,181,200



LEGISLATIVE ASKS FOR FY 2021

- Provide dedicated funding to support the Illinois Family Caregiver Act (P.A. 93-864, enacted 8.5.2004)
 - **\$6 M** to support caregivers help older Illinoisans stay home longer, delaying costly nursing home care
- Expand funding to the Home Delivered Meal program – participant demand for meals has grown by 69% during FY 2020 with with no funding increase for FY 2021.
- Expand funding to support Reducing Social Isolation among older adults.
 - Currently **\$1 M** budgeted for Reducing Social Isolation Programs – due to COVID-19, the demand for these services has grown.

WITHOUT INCREASED FUNDING FOR AGING PROGRAMS ...

- The aging network would be faced with detrimental situations:
 - Deciding who will receive the limited supply of to-go/home delivered meals
 - Cutting back on vital programs that provide social engagement opportunities for older adults and family caregivers
 - Cutting back on vital programs that provide in-home and community supports that allow older adults to age safely in their communities

MEMBERS OF ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 101st General Assembly Member List outside of Chicagoland area and Collar Counties



HOUSE MEMBERS OF ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (OUTSIDE OF CHICAGOLAND AREA & COLLAR COUNTIES)

District	Name	Hometown	PSA	District	Name	Hometown	PSA
67	Representative Maurice West	Rockford	1	99	Representative Mike Murphy	Springfield	7
68	Representative John Cabello	Rockford	1	100	Representative CD Davidsmeyer	Jacksonville	6, 7
69	Representative Joe Sosnowski	Rockford	1	101	Representative Dan Caulkins	Decatur	5
70	Representative Jeff Keicher	Sycamore	1, 2	102	Representative Brad Halbrook	Shelbyville	5
71	Representative Tony McCombie	Savanna	1, 3	103	Representative Carol Ammons	Champaign	5
72	Representative Michael Halpin	Rock Island	3	104	Representative Michael Marron	Danville	5
73	Representative Ryan Spain	Peoria	3, 4	105	Representative Dan Brady	Bloomington	4, 5
74	Representative Dan Swanson	Alpha	1, 3	106	Representative Thomas Bennett	Watseka	4, 5
75	Representative David Welter	Morris	2, 3	107	Representative Blaine Wilhour	Effingham	8, 9
76	Representative Lance Yednock	Ottawa	3, 5	108	Representative Charlie Meier	Highland	8
87	Representative Tim Butler	Springfield	4, 7	109	Representative Darren Bailey	Effingham	9, 10
88	Representative Keith Sommer	Morton	4, 5	110	Representative Chris Miller	Charleston	5, 10
89	Representative Andrew Chesney	Freeport	1	111	Representative Monica Bristow	Alton	8
90	Representative Tom Demmer	Rochelle	1, 3	112	Representative Katie Stuart	Edwardsville	8
91	Representative Michael Unes	Peoria	4, 7	113	Representative Jay Hoffman	Collinsville	8
92	Representative Jehan Gordon-Booth	Peoria	4	114	Representative LaToya Greenwood	East St. Louis	8
93	Representative Norine Hammond	Macomb	3, 4, 6, 7	115	Representative Terri Bryant	Murphysboro	8, 9, 11
94	Representative Randy Frese	Quincy	3, 6	116	Representative Nathan Reitz	Steelville	8
95	Representative Avery Bourne	Litchfield	7, 8	117	Representative Dave Severin	Benton	11
96	Representative Sue Scherer	Decatur	5, 7	118	Representative Patrick Windhorst	Metropolis	10, 11

SENATE MEMBERS OF ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (OUTSIDE CHICAGOLAND AREA & COLLAR COUNTIES)

District	Name	Hometown	PSA
34	Senator Steve Stadelman	Rockford	1
35	Senator Dave Syverson	Rockford	1, 2
36	Senator Neil Anderson	Moline	1, 3
37	Senator Chuck Weaver	Peoria	1, 3, 4
38	Senator Sue Rezin	Morris	2, 3, 5
44	Senator Bill Brady	Bloomington	4, 5, 7
45	Senator Brian Stewart	Freeport	1, 3
46	Senator David Koehler	Peoria	4, 7
47	Senator Jil Tracy	Quincy	3, 4, 6, 7
48	Senator Andy Manar	Bunker Hill	5, 7, 8
50	Senator Steve McClure	Springfield	6, 7
51	Senator Chapin Rose	Mahomet	5
52	Senator Scott Bennett	Champaign	5
53	Senator Jason Barickman	Bloomington	4, 5
54	Senator Jason Plummer	Edwardsville	8, 9
55	Senator Dale Righter	Mattoon	5, 9, 10
56	Senator Rachelle Crowe	Wood River	8
57	Senator Christopher Belt	Belleville	8
58	Senator Paul Schimpf	Waterloo	8, 9, 11
59	Senator Dale Fowler	Harrisburg	10, 11

THANK YOU!

I4A has supported each Area Agency on Aging to build a network of aging services at the local level, incorporating the preferences of local participants. I4A's mission is to help Illinois' older adults and people with disabilities live with dignity and choices in their homes as long as possible.



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