

BUDGET

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ADRC Funding

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The problem:

As Georgia's older population continues to grow exponentially, the need for access to information on aging options also grows. Georgia's ADRC (Aging and Disabilities Resource Center) network is the No Wrong Door access point for these information requests. Finding the right services can be challenging for individuals and families unfamiliar with programs designed to help older Georgians. The ADRC network meets this need by offering information and assistance to help people navigate the complex programs and get the assistance they need.

Enhanced promotion and education has greatly increased the workload for the ADRC network. As the demand grows, the ADRC network needs more resources to continue to help older Georgians. ADRCs offer a centralized access point for intake and assessment of individuals seeking assistance. ADRC counselors then provide information on options available and help families and individuals apply for programs and services at home or in their community. Because the state continues to maintain waiting lists for Home and Community Based Services, the need has increased for the enhanced services that ADRCs provide. In other words, as people grow more vulnerable on the wait lists, their situations become more complex and families need the ADRC's services more.

What other states are doing:

Most states have ADRCs. Georgia was an early leader in the ADRC effort. The Administration on Aging (AoA) and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) have led the effort to take ADRCs into every community, in every state. ADRCs across the country are a coordinated system of organizations that provide information about publically and privately financed long-term support services and offer support to individuals and families who are aging or living with a disability. In order for Georgia to maintain a robust ADRC network, additional technology and staff are necessary.

Funding Request:

\$4 million

What this funding would do:

An additional \$4 million would greatly strengthen the statewide network providing more capacity to meet the growing need. This funding will provide additional staff (3 state level staff and 2 additional staff at each AAA), technology improvements, and marketing.

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Any Opposition:

None. Only competition for resources.

Helpful Resources:

<https://www.n4a.org/adrcs>

<https://www.acl.gov/programs/connecting-people-services/aging-and-disability-resource-centers-programno-wrong-door>