

Amazing Aging!

For Seniors and Those Who Love Them
Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, Inc. • March 2003
SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE ISSUE

JAAA • 1720 SW Topeka Blvd. • Topeka, KS 66612 • Phone: 785-235-1367
(toll-free 800-798-1366) • Fax: 785-235-2443

Jayhawk Area Agency

on Aging:

- Is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization
- Advocates on aging issues, builds community partnerships and implements programs to help seniors live independent and dignified lives in Douglas, Jefferson and Shawnee counties in Kansas
- Is funded by tax-deductible contributions, federal funds, the Kansas Health Foundation, under state general funds and funds through local governments
- Does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, religion, or disability

From the Executive Director's Desk

Budgets. We all deal with budgets, especially household budgets. Every month, we try to work within our means. But sometimes, the “bottom line” tells us our needs exceed our means. So, we “tighten our belts” to stretch income as far as we can.

Now imagine getting to the end of the month and you find you're \$700 million short. In Kansas, our government leaders are facing this very challenge.

Governor Kathleen Sebelius has released her budget for the state of Kansas for the coming 2004 fiscal year, and unfortunately, the amount allocated for aging services is \$800,000 less than that of the current 2003 fiscal year. In other words, local Area Agencies on Aging will be expected to do much more with much less.

Gov. Sebelius' budget is the first draft of many, and our legislators are working to come up with solutions to the shortfall. Hard decisions will need to be made.

At Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, we will continue to work hard to stretch our resources as far as possible, making the most fiscally responsible decisions we can to help seniors live independent and dignified lives. But we cannot do it without your help.

As an advocate for older Kansans, it is crucial that you contact your elected officials and let them know how beneficial and cost-effective in-home services are to our fellow Kansans. (For helpful statistics, see the chart inside this edition of “Amazing Aging!”) The bottom

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line is that the funding of in-home services for seniors is both fiscally responsible as well as beneficial to the well-being of our aging population.

If you believe that these services have helped you or someone you love to stay in their own home and out of a nursing home, tell your legislator. Let them know how these services have improved the life of someone you love. Tell them you support funding for aging services. It is critical that other seniors be able to receive the same assistance that you, your friends and your family members have found to be so valuable.

A list of legislators for the counties served by Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging can be found on pages 4 and 5. If you need assistance in determining which legislator to contact, please visit www.cjonline.com/legislature or call Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging at 785/235-1367.

Contact your legislator now!

Respectfully,

Maria C. Russo

Maria C. Russo

JAAA's Wishing Well



Could you help with:

- Assembling gift bags of personal items for our clients?
- General office help (with mailings, phone, etc.)?
- Installation of kitchen cabinets?
- Painting of office walls?
- Proofreading?

We would love your help!

Call JAAA at 785-235-1367 for more information.

Thank you for your support!

Comparison of In-Home Services to Nursing Home Care

	Senior Care Act	Home and Community Based Services, Frail Elderly Waiver	Nursing Home
	These two programs provide in-home services (such as bathing, dressing and basic housekeeping) that allow seniors the independence to remain in their homes. The in-home services are provided by a variety of agencies under contract to either the State or JAAA. The care coordination to determine the necessary care and appropriate level of service is done through case managers with JAAA.		This is 24-hour skilled nursing care.
Funding source	state general funds	40% state general funds and 60% federal funds	40% state general funds and 60% federal funds
Client financial eligibility and responsibility	Based on client income and liquid assets; fee scale ranges from a contribution to 100% of the cost of care; for example – a single person with a monthly income less than \$738 and liquid assets less than \$10,000 would be asked for a contribution towards the cost of their care; a person with a monthly income between \$739 and \$838 with liquid assets between \$20,000 - \$30,000 would pay 15% of the cost of their care	An individual may have monthly income up to \$645 and assets up to \$2,000. (The home and one auto are excluded from the assets.) An individual with greater income or assets may qualify for assistance under certain circumstances.	An individual may have monthly income up to \$645 and assets up to \$2,000. (The home and one auto are excluded from the assets.) An individual with greater income or assets may qualify for assistance under certain circumstances.
Cost per month	\$100 per month \$1,200 per year	\$1,000 per month \$12,000 per year	\$2,400 per month \$28,800 per year
Waiting list	50 for JAAA 640 statewide	122 for JAAA 1,092 statewide	There cannot be a waiting list. This is an entitlement program.
Budget	Original FY '03 funding: \$8,062,974 FY '03 funding after cuts: \$7,256,678 Gov's FY '04 funding rec: \$6,434,359 Funding needs to be restored to at least \$8 mill to maintain services for current clients. \$8 mill will not address the needs of those on the waiting list. \$6.4 mill will mean another reduction in existing client services.	FY '03 funding: \$54,274,570 Gov's FY '04 funding rec: \$54,274,570 Funding level to remain the same as the current year. Budgeting this amount will not address the needs of those on the waiting list.	

Legislators' Names

Shawnee County		District	Representative
District	Senator		
18	David Jackson Office - 296-7365 2815 NE Rockaway Trail Topeka, KS 66617 785-357-6538	50	Becky Hutchins Office - 296-7698 700 Wyoming Holton, KS 66436 785-364-2612
19	Anthony Hensley Office - 296-3245 2226 SE Virginia Ave Topeka, KS 66605 785-232-1944	51	Mike Burgess Office - 296-7699 2610 SW Gainsboro Topeka, KS 66614
20	Bill Bunten Office - 296-7374 1701 SW 30th Street Topeka, KS 66611 785-266-6514	52	Lana Gordon Office - 296-7652 5820 SW 27th St Topeka, KS 66614 785-273-1203
Douglas County		District	Representative
District	Senator		
2	Mark Buhler Office - 296-7364 1000 Sunset Drive Lawrence, KS 66044 785-841-0481	10	Tom Holland Office - 296-7665 961 SE Virginia Ave Baldwin City, KS 66006 785-865-2786
3	Bob Lyon Office - 296-7372 14431 Saline Road Winchester, KS 66097 913-774-2427	38	Rob Boyer Office - 296-7692 26412 W 110th Terr Olathe, KS 66061 913-768-7043
19	Anthony Hensley Office - 296-3245 2226 SW Virginia Ave Topeka KS 66605 785-232-1944	44	Barbara Ballard Office - 296-7650 1532 Alvamar Drive Lawrence, KS 66047 785-841-0063
		45	Tom Sloan Office - 296-7677 772 Highway 40 Lawrence, KS 66049

es and Addresses

<p>53 Roger Toelkes Office - 296-7687 3811 SE 33rd Terrace Topeka KS 66605 785-267-7105</p>	<p>56 Nancy Kirk Office - 296-7673 932 Frazier Topeka, KS 66606 785-234-8806</p>
<p>54 Doug Mays Office - 296-2302 1920 SW Damon Court Topeka, KS 66611 785-266-4885</p>	<p>57 Vaughn Flora Office - 296-7647 431 SE Woodland Ave Topeka, KS 66607 785-232-5147</p>
<p>55 Annie Kuether Office - 296-7669 1346 SW Wayne Ave Topeka KS 66604 785-232-0717</p>	<p>58 Rocky Nichols Office - 296-7651 2329 SE Virginia Ave Topeka, KS 66605 785-357-6262</p>

<p>785-841-1526</p> <p>46 Paul Davis Office - 296-7686 1527 Massachusetts Lawrence, KS 66044 785-749-1942</p>	<p>Jefferson County District Senator 3 Bob Lyon Office - 296-7372 14431 Saline Road Winchester, KS 66097 913-774-2427</p>
<p>53 Roger Toelkes Office - 296-7687 3811 SE 33rd Terr Topeka, KS 66605 785-267-7105</p>	<p>District Representative 47 Lee Tafanelli Office - 296-7641 7075 122nd Street Ozawkie, KS 66070 785-945-3808</p>
<p>59 Joe Humerickhouse Office - 296-7641 712 S 5th Osage City, KS 66523 785-528-3289</p>	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>The General Number to the Kansas Legislature is 785-296-0111.</p> <p>The Statehouse address is: 300 SW 10th Topeka KS 66612</p> </div>

Helpful Facts on In-Home Services

We have given you much food for thought regarding the current budget crisis facing aging services, and you are ready to contact your legislator. But are you unsure of what to say? We have that covered! We have included a sample letter you are welcome to use to contact your legislator, and there are some valuable statistics included. Keep them handy when calling your legislator. Thank you for advocating for seniors, helping them live independent and dignified lives!

SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Senator/Representative,

As one of your constituents, I wanted to let you know my views on the state programs that provide in-home services for seniors.

Senior Care Act (SCA) and Home Community Based Services (HCBS) are two programs that are very important to the seniors of our community, yet both of these programs have waiting lists for people who need the help.

The two programs provide the most basic needs for our seniors by addressing routine housekeeping chores and assisting with personal care such as bathing and dressing. These services help seniors stay in their home and out of nursing homes.

Annual costs of care by program (per person):

- **Senior Care Act** - \$1,200 (with state-wide waiting list of 640 people)
- **Home and Community-Based Services** - \$12,000 (with a state-wide waiting list of 1,092 people)
- **Nursing Home** - \$28,800 (cannot be a waiting list - the state MUST pay for this level of care)

Funding for these in-home programs are not only the right thing to do for our seniors, it is also the economical thing to do.

Please work to address the funding needs of these two programs. It will help to reduce the entitlement expenses of nursing home care.

Sincerely,

(Your Name Here)



Jayhawk Area Agency
on Aging provides a wide
variety of in-home services,
helping seniors live
independent and
dignified lives.
Send your tax-deductible
donation today.
For more information, call
785-235-1367.

Cost to the State for one month's stay at
a nursing facility = \$2,400.00
Cost to the State for one month of
in-home services = \$100.00

Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, Inc.

Yes, I will support programs that help seniors live independent and dignified lives with the following gift:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Contribution: \$ _____

(Check or money order only, please, payable to Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, Inc.).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
Please mail this form with your contribution to:

**Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, Inc.
1720 SW Topeka Blvd, Topeka KS 66612**



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