

Be There 4 Seniors



Budget Cuts Jeopardize Federal Funding for Aging Programs

State funding for Aging Services is now BELOW Maintenance of Effort (MOE) for Older Americans Act (OAA) programs. Further cuts risk noncompliance with OAA and jeopardize ALL Federal funds. The OAA requires states to maintain consistent state funding (known as Maintenance of Effort - MOE) to provide core senior services or lose ALL federal funds for ALL Older Americans Act programs.

Similarly, State funding must be appropriated to maintain Federal funding at current levels for NSIP congregate and home delivered meals to Georgia's most vulnerable citizens.

Last year, Georgia used ARRA funding to supplant state funds for Meals through the Nutritional Services Incentive Program (NSIP.) Without restoring state funding for nutrition services, Georgia leaves federal NSIP funding on the table.

Vulnerable seniors are at the center of a perfect storm. Losses are converging four-fold on both Georgia and its older adults:

- 1. More People** - Georgia MUST recognize the certain and rapid growth of the older adult population and MAXIMIZE all available federal funding to respond. It is critical to LEVERAGE federal funding at this time when the 60+ population has already begun to double and ranks Georgia 9th in the nation.
- 2. Less Money** - Georgia MUST plan for future savings through proven prevention practices. Budget cuts have dismantled prevention programs making Georgia vulnerable to more expensive future needs for many seniors.
- 3. Skyrocketing Costs** - Georgia MUST prevent shredding the safety net of essential needs for vulnerable older adults on fixed incomes. The current economy, rising costs of fuel, food and energy are limiting services to the elderly and homebound. Budget cuts, fewer volunteers and more seniors seeking assistance renders agencies unable to respond to more people with less money.
- 4. Overburdened Caregivers** - Georgia MUST support families taking care of their own. Without caregiver support, Georgia's burden increases through lost productivity in the workplace and far greater demands on Medicaid and long-term care systems.



Georgia cannot afford to jeopardize federal support for older Georgians with more cuts to aging programs!

Please - Be There 4 Seniors! Healthy People Cost Less!

For more information, please call 404.657.5343