

AGING STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT PROJECT

State Profile for

DELAWARE

Home- and Community-based Services for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities

Background

- Delaware's 60+ population was 169,763 in 2008 (19.4% of the state's total population), with 8.4% below the federal poverty level.¹
- The 60+ population is projected to be 281,082 in 2025 (28.4% of the state's total population).²
- About 24.6% of all households in 2007 had one or more persons age 65 years and older, and 37.6% of persons age 65 years and older had a disability.³
- Of the 149,864 Medicaid beneficiaries in the state in 2003, 5.8 were aged, 11.7% were blind and disabled, 13.1% were Dual Eligible, and 1.7% were HCBS waiver beneficiaries.⁴
- Medicaid expenditures for institutional long-term care were 64.6% of total long-term-care expenditures, compared to 35.4% for HCBS in fiscal year 2007.⁵

Abbreviations

AAA	Area Agency on Aging
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
AoA	Administration on Aging
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
HCBS	Home- and Community-based Services
IADL	Instrumental Activities of Daily Living
MRDD	Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
OAA	Older Americans Act
PACE	Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly
SUA	State Unit on Aging

¹ Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging. (2009). *AGing Integrated Database (AGID): American Community Survey (ACS) demographic data 2004-2007 and state-level population estimates data 2000-2008* [Data files]. Available from <http://198.136.163.234/default.asp>

² Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging. (2009). *AGing statistics: Projected future growth of the Older population; By state: 2005-2030; Aged 60 and above* [Data files]. Available from http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Aging_Statistics/future_growth/future_growth.aspx.

³ Reimbursement and Research Department, American Health Care Association. (2006, August 29). *The state long-term health care sector 2005: Characteristics, utilization, and government funding*. Washington, DC: Author.

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey, United States and States. *Percent of households with one or more people 65 years and over (R1104) and Percent of people 65 years and over with a disability (R1803)*.

⁵ Burwell, B., Sredl, K., & Eiken. S. (2008, September 26). *Medicaid long term care expenditures FY 2007*. Eagan, MN: Thomson Reuters.

Government Structure to Manage HCBS

- **SUA:** Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities.
www.dhss.delaware.gov/dsaapd/
- **State Medicaid Agency:** Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance.
dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dmma/about.html
- Delaware does not have a consolidated agency for long-term-care programs.
- The SUA and the Medicaid Agency are under the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/). The SUA runs three Medicaid waivers on behalf of the Medicaid agency.
- The director of Delaware's SUA reports directly to the Cabinet Secretary in the Department of Health and Social Services who in turn reports to the Governor.
- Delaware has 3 Area Agencies on Aging.

Single Point of Entry (SPE)/Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

- Delaware does not have an ADRC.

Assessment Process

Medicaid

- For Medicaid applicants, in determining functional eligibility for nursing home pre-admission, Delaware requires an in-person assessment by someone other than nursing home staff. The assessment is conducted by the Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance.

Non-Medicaid

- For non-Medicaid applicants in Delaware, nursing home pre-admission assessment is not performed by someone other than nursing home staff.

State Medicaid Plan

- Delaware provides HCBS through the state Medicaid plan.
- Refer to Table 1 for specific services provided.
- **PACE:** Delaware does not have any PACE programs.

Medicaid Waivers

- Delaware has two waivers that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. These are: Assisted Living Waiver, and Elderly and Disabled Waiver.
- **Assisted Living Waiver:** This program targets adults with physical disabilities, older adults who have limitations in their ADLs, and those who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias who would otherwise require nursing home care. Assisted Living services are considered an important component of Delaware's long-term-care system and serve as an alternative to nursing home placement.
- **Elderly and Disabled Waiver:** This waiver serves as a nursing home diversion program. Participants in the program remain in their own homes and receive HCBS services. Once the Medicaid office determines that an applicant meets Medicaid eligibility criteria, the applicant is offered a choice between nursing home placement and HCBS under this waiver. In this manner, the Medicaid agency and the SUA work closely to ensure that applicants have choices other than nursing home placement. The income limits are based on the state's Medicaid guidelines. The asset limit for a single individual is \$2,000. Case management in this waiver is provided as an administrative service.
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered under each program.

CMS-funded Programs and Grants

- Delaware has one CMS-funded program that provides HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. This is Money Follows the Person.

- **Money Follows the Person:** This program enables nursing home residents who are on Medicaid to transition into the community with supportive services. It uses a person-centered, consumer-directed approach to develop a customized HCBS plan for individuals. The consumer works with a transition coordinator on an ongoing basis to determine the type of services needed to live independently in the community. Consumers can select their own providers. In addition to regular services provided under the Medicaid waivers, the program pays for transitional services to help the nursing home resident move into the community. The SUA and the Medicaid agency work closely to help applicants with their transition.
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered.

State-funded HCBS Programs

- Delaware has three state-funded HCBS programs that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. These are: Alzheimer's Day Treatment; Personal Attendant and Personal Emergency Response Program; and Respite.
- **Alzheimer's Day Treatment:** This program targets adults with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. It is a non-residential day program providing participants with medical, recreational and personal care. It also provides caregivers with respite services. Program staff receive specialized training in Alzheimer's disease and dementias.
- **Personal Attendant and Personal Emergency Response:** This program targets adults who are physically disabled and have Alzheimer's disease and related conditions. There are two types of primary services provided under this program: personal attendant services and emergency response. The goal of this program is to support persons with disabilities who need ongoing assistance to live independently. The program helps maintain independence by allowing participants to work, complete their education, and/or avoid living in a highly supervised setting. The participant or his or her caregiver has control over the use of services and can hire and fire personal attendants but does not have the authority to control the budget. Services are determined based on the participant's lifestyle, preferences and abilities. Delaware is planning to move the state-funded Personal Attendant Services program under the Elderly and Disabled Medicaid Waiver program. The goal of the personal emergency response system is to allow a person at high risk (for example an older adult who lives alone and has a health problem) to receive immediate help in the event of an emergency.
- **Respite:** This program specifically targets caregivers of adults with physical disabilities, older adults and those with Alzheimer's disease and related conditions by providing them with respite services. Two types of respite programs are available: Respite, which targets those who have a 24-hour live-in caregiver, and Care Delaware, in which the caregiver does not have to live with the care recipient. Both programs supplement caregiver respite services provided under Title III B of OAA. Although the state does not define the programs as providing consumer-directed options, caregivers can control how and when they need services. They can pick respite providers from a list of eligible agencies. Respite services can be regularly scheduled or on an as-needed basis. Although there are no income or asset limitations, cost sharing or donations are accepted.
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered.

Locally Funded HCBS Programs

- Delaware does not use local funds to provide HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.

OAA-funded Programs and Grants

- Refer to Table 1 for services provided through Title III of the OAA.
- Delaware uses cost-sharing mechanisms or sliding fee scales in the delivery of Title III services.
- Delaware does not have other OAA-funded programs or grants that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.

Social Service Block Grants (SSBG) and Community Service Block Grants (CSBG) for HCBS

- Delaware uses SSBG to provide HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.
- Delaware does not use CSBG to provide HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.

Consumer Direction

- Delaware offers consumer-directed options. The HCBS programs in the state that offer consumer direction are Money Follows the Person and the Personal Attendant Program.
- Those permitted to provide services under consumer direction in Delaware are: family members (including spouses), provider agencies, and friends.
- Delaware has two fiscal intermediaries in the state.

Managed Care

- Delaware does not have HCBS programs run by managed care health plans.

Major Accomplishments and Initiatives

- A major accomplishment in Delaware is the Money Follows the Person initiative. Prior to this program, the SUA had a similar program called Nursing Home Transition, which also served as a passport to independence by transitioning residents out of institutional settings into the community.
- Delaware is also attempting to coordinate services by establishing an SPE or an ADRC.
- An important policy change in Delaware has been to allow family members to provide services under the Personal Attendant Services program.
- Another major accomplishment in Delaware is the Acquired Brain Injury Waiver. This program is considered out of scope for this project, however.

Table 1: Types of Home- and Community-based Services Provided Under Delaware’s Programs for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities

Types of Services	Program Type / Funding Source ^F							
	Medicaid Waivers		CMS-funded Programs and Grants	State-funded Programs			State Medicaid Plan	OAA Title III
	Assisted Living Waiver	Elderly and Disabled Waiver		Alzheimer’s Day Treatment	Personal Attendant Program and Personal Emergency Response Program	Respite		
Adult Day Care / Adult Day Health		X		X				X
Assisted Living	X							
Caregiver Services / Respite / Education		X	X	X		X		
Case Management / Care Coordination		X	X					X
Chore / Homemaking								X
Companion Services / Socialization Activities				X				
Employment								
Equipment / Supplies / Modifications / Assistive Technology		X			X		X	
Health Promotion Activities								
Home Health / Personal Care		X	X		X		X	X
Information / Assistance / Referral			X					X
Legal Assistance / Financial Advice								X
Medical / Dental / Medication Care								
Mental and Behavioral Health Services								
Nursing							X	
Nutrition / Meals				X				X
Personal Supports for Community Living / Transitioning			X					
Rehabilitation / Therapy							X	
Residential Services								
Transportation							X	
Other/Unspecified HCBS								

Table 2: Selected HCBS Programs for Older Adults and Adults with Physical Disabilities in Delaware

Program Type / Funding Source	Program Name	Ages Served	Nursing Home Level of Care Required	Entity Responsible for Functional Assessment	Entity Responsible for Financial Assessment	Entity Responsible for Case Management	Waiting List (Number)	Consumer Direction Option
Medicaid Waivers	Assisted Living Waiver	18+	Yes	State agency: Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities	State agency: Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance	State agency: Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities	No	No
	Elderly and Disabled Waiver	18+	Yes	State agency: Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities	State agency: Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance	State agency: Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities	No	No
CMS-funded Programs and Grants	Money Follows the Person	18+	Yes	State agency: Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance	State agency: Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance	State agency: Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities; Medicaid provider	No	Yes
State-funded Programs	Alzheimer's Day Treatment	18+	No	Adult day care providers	No financial assessment	No case management	No	Information not reported
	Personal Attendant Program and Personal Emergency Response Program	18+	No	State agency: Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities	Providers	State agency: Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities	Yes (35 for personal attendant services)	Yes
	Respite	18+	No	Respite provider	No financial assessment	State agency: Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities	Yes	No