

AGING STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT PROJECT

State Profile for

WYOMING

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

Background

- Wyoming's 60+ population was 93,669 in 2008 (17.6% of the state's total population), with 4.3% below the federal poverty level.¹
- The 60+ population is projected to be 164,011 in 2025 (31.0% of the state's total population).²
- About 21% of all households in 2007 had one or more persons age 65 years and older and 41% of persons age 65 years and older had a disability.³
- Of the 66,605 Medicaid beneficiaries in the state in 2003, 6.4% were aged, 11.2% were blind and disabled, 13.6% were Dual Eligible, and 4.5% were HCBS waiver beneficiaries.⁴
- Medicaid expenditures for institutional long-term care were 44.3% of total long-term-care expenditures, compared to 55.7% 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:** Wyoming Department of Health, Aging Division.
wdh.state.wy.us/aging/index.html
- **State Medicaid Agency:** Wyoming Department of Health, Office of Healthcare Financing.
wdh.state.wy.us/healthcarefin/index.html
- Wyoming does not have a consolidated agency for long-term-care programs. The following agencies handle long-term care: Wyoming Department of Health, Office of Healthcare Financing and the Department of Family Services.
- The director of Wyoming's SUA reports to the chief of staff for the Wyoming Department of Health, who reports to the Governor.
- The state has no Area Agencies on Aging.

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

- Wyoming has an ADRC that is not statewide.
- All ADRC sites have a physical (bricks and mortar) infrastructure; none of the ADRC sites operate under a virtual model.
- In addition to serving older adults, Wyoming's ADRC serves persons with physical disabilities.
- The two pilot ADRCs in Wyoming are grant funded; there is a bill before the legislature to authorize state funding but it has not been received for the current year.
- *Updated information indicates that the ADRC in Wyoming has lost funding and will cease operations.*

Assessment Process

Medicaid

- For Medicaid applicants, in determining functional eligibility for nursing home pre-admission, Wyoming requires an in-person assessment by someone other than

nursing home staff. The assessment is conducted by the Department of Health, Public Health Nurses.

Non-Medicaid

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

State Medicaid Plan

- Wyoming does not provide HCBS through the state Medicaid plan.
- **PACE:** Wyoming has no PACE sites.

Medicaid Waivers

- Wyoming has two waivers that provide HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. These are: the Assisted Living Facility Waiver and the Elderly and Physically Disabled Long Term Care Waiver.
- **Assisted Living Facility Waiver:** The public health nurses screen for functional eligibility using a tool known as LT101. The services that participants receive are provided on a daily rate and are based on the LT101 score. Participants are responsible for their own room and board charges. An individual must have less than 300% of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) to financially qualify for this program. This program offers consumer direction.
- **Elderly and Physically Disabled Long Term Care Waiver:** All waiver groups are income eligible up to 300% SSI Standard. Most consumer-directed options available under this waiver are provided to those individuals on the waiver with MRDD.
- 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

- Wyoming has one CMS-funded program and grant that provides HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. This is: Project OUT.

- **Project OUT:** In order to be eligible for Project OUT, an individual must be Medicaid eligible. The individuals who qualify for this program are at risk of nursing home placement or already reside in a nursing home facility and desire to return to the community. The services provided under this program are designed to help participants live independently in the community.
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered.

State-funded HCBS Programs

- Wyoming has one state-funded program that provides HCBS to older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities. This is Community-based In-home Services.
- **Community-based In-home Services:** This program targets older adults who are at risk for premature institutionalization. There is no income or asset limit to qualify for this program. The criteria to qualify for this program are based on ADLs and IADLs. Consumer-directed options are limited to provider choice and the choice of services.
- Refer to Table 2 for an overview of selected HCBS programs. Table 1 shows the types of services offered.

Locally Funded HCBS Programs

- Wyoming uses local funds for HCBS for older adults and/or adults with physical disabilities.
- Local funds are managed by Wyoming's Department of Health, Aging Division. The funds are given to contracted entities to provide services through a competitive grant process.

OAA-funded Programs and Grants

- Refer to Table 1 for services provided through Title III of the OAA.
- Wyoming uses cost-sharing mechanisms or sliding fee scales in the delivery of Title III services.

- Wyoming does not have other OAA-funded programs and 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

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

Consumer Direction

- Wyoming offers consumer-directed options. The HCBS programs in the state that offer consumer direction are the Assisted Living Waiver and the Elderly and Physically Disabled Long Term Care Waiver. However, most of these options are available through programs for those with developmental disabilities rather than through aging services. Wyoming has been making efforts to make consumer-directed options available for older adults and adults with physical disabilities.
- Models of consumer direction available in the state include: a Cash and Counseling grant, an option modeled after Cash and Counseling, and voucher options.
- Those permitted to provide services under consumer direction in Wyoming are: provider agencies, spouses, adult children of the consumer, other family, and friends.
- Those permitted to provide services under consumer direction must meet eligibility criteria. An estimated 50-60% of providers are family members or neighbors.
- The state uses fiscal intermediary services in connection with consumer direction.

Managed Care

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

Major Accomplishments and Initiatives

- The Wyoming legislature has been interested in older adult services and is in favor of moving forward with initiatives that promote greater independence.

- Wyoming has hopes for Project OUT. The program is expected to change the way services are provided as well as ensure the dignity of participants.
- Wyoming's concerns about providing services are related to the state of the federal budget.

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

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

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

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 Facility Waiver	19+	Yes	State agency: The Department of Health, Public Health Nurses Office	State agency: Department of Family Services	Case Management Provider Entity	Yes (20)	Yes
	Elderly and Physically Disabled Long Term Care Waiver	18+	Yes	State agency: The Department of Health, Public Health Nurses Office	State agency: Department of Family Services	Case Management Provider Entity	Yes (100)	Yes
CMS-funded Programs and Grants	Project OUT	Not specific to age	Yes	No functional assessment	No financial assessment	Case Management Provider Entity	No	No
State-funded Programs	Community-based In-home Services	60+	Information not reported	State agency: The Department of Health through contracted entities	Information not reported	Case Management Provider Entity	No	Yes