

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging (GACA) Update By Goal

[Click here for key of State Agencies](#)

Goal 1: Make it easier for older Arizonans to access an integrated array of state and aging services.

For older Arizonans to fully participate in all aspects of community living, they and their families need access to information, resources, and services through a variety of venues. To this end, public and private organizations can play a leadership role in making it easier for older Arizonans to find and use the services and resources they need, no matter where in Arizona they may live.

Objective 1.1: Provide information and promote understanding of options, benefits, and available services through a range of multi-media formats.

STRATEGIES		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
d.	Develop One-Stop Resource Centers across the state to make it easier to access information on a variety of aging-related topics, issues, and services. <i>(GACA is a key partner)</i>	DES, AHCCCS	Area Agencies of Aging (AAAs), GACA	7/1/2008-6/30/2010	09-10: AZ Links Partnerships were established for Pima County (2009), Pinal-Gila Counties (2009), Apache/Coconino/Navajo and Yavapai Counties (2010), Yuma/La Paz (2010). AZ Links partnerships, which function as Resource Centers, now serve eleven counties in Arizona. The AZLinks.gov website, www.azlinks.gov, was expanded to include online options counseling resources.

Goal 2: Increase awareness and understanding of aging issues and help prepare Arizona for an aging population.

The role of education cannot be underestimated in planning Arizona's future. Education permeates nearly every section of the Aging 2020 Plan. Through education, the fears, myths and misconceptions about aging can be changed so that older adults, businesses, providers and Arizona, as a whole, can be free from artificial barriers that prevent all from realizing the full potential of our changing population.

Objective 2.3: Educate businesses, providers, and other private entities about the value and needs of senior Arizonans.

STRATEGIES		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
------------	--	-------------	-------------	-----------------	--------------------------

a.	Partner with the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging to offer educational workshops and/or information to share with tourism industry constituents. (GACA is a key partner)	AOT	GACA	Task Completed	July 2007 During May, 2007 AOT held three "Grand Impressions Workshops" customer service training programs. AOT collaborated with representatives from AZ Office for Americans with Disabilities, Governor's Office and DES/Division on Aging & Adult Services to provide presentations featuring the latest trends, research, and information when working for and with older adults and persons with disabilities to a wide variety of attendees at these sessions.
f.	To coordinate conferences and seminars that bring together key players to explore, discuss, and create heightened awareness of age-related issues, form new partnerships, and expand the participants' knowledge of available resources.	GACA	All state agencies, Aging Network	Annual Events	2008 Governor's Conference on Aging; 2009 Senior Action Day, Collaborated with Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium & Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter to provide afternoon community sessions at 2010 Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium Conference; provided conference track speaker recommendations for ADOH 2010 Conference.
g.	Partner with Commerce, DES, Tourism, and others to promote the value of mature workers.	GACA	Commerce, DES, Community Colleges	On-going	Mature Worker Friendly Certified Employer (MWFCE) training conducted 2008, 2009, 2010. Plans for MWFCE re-certification (2008 and 2009 participants) in 2011.
Objective 2.4: Prepare the state workforce to better serve and address the needs of an aging population.					
STRATEGIES		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments

q.	Promote awareness and provide education on the varying phases of aging to address the phases. (GACA is a key partner)	DES	GACA	7/2005 - Ongoing	See DES response. Note: GACA supported the launch of the Arizona Caregiver Coalition; partnered with ACDHH to produce and distribute a fact sheet on hearing loss. The GACA Oral Health Sub-Committee produced a <i>Healthy Smiles Forever</i> Factsheet in 2010.
----	--	-----	------	------------------	---

Goal 3: Increase the ability of older adults to remain active, healthy and living independently in their communities.

Arizona has the most to gain in promoting healthy and active living for its residents, regardless of age. With greater longevity and increasing population growth, Arizona's economy can continue to prosper or be hindered due to ever-increasing health care costs due to poor health and chronic disease. Health promotion and disease prevention are just two strategies that can help us define Arizona's future.

Objective 3.2: Provide resources and services to promote healthy lifestyles, resulting in compressed morbidity and reduced mortality from preventable and chronic diseases.

STRATEGIES		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
a.	Facilitate coordination of health promotion and disease prevention programs statewide. (GACA is a key partner)	DES	GACA, DHS	2009-2010	Governor's Office on Aging helped launch Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition 2009-2010.
b.	Promote independence through the availability and accessibility of non-medical home and community based services. (GACA is a key partner)	DES	GACA, AAAs	2009-2010	GACA Senior Action Day 2009 advocated for continuation of HCBS; GACA submitted a letter of support to the Governor for Proposition 100, May 2010.
f.	Facilitate coordination of immunization efforts among older adults. (GACA is a key partner)	ADHS	TAPI, GACA	Outreach in Pinal County	GACA exploring ways to support ADHS, Maricopa County, U of A School of Pharmacy, Pharmacists' Association efforts to promote immunizations of all ages that benefits older adults - 2010.

Goal 4: increase the safety and well-being of older Arizonans.

Safety in our communities is important for ensuring both the health and financial well-being of older adults. With increasing numbers of older adults living in their homes and living alone, maintaining safe communities will need more attention and take new strategies.

Objective 4.1: Promote strategies to improve community safety for older adults.

STRATEGIES		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
-------------------	--	--------------------	--------------------	------------------------	---------------------------------

b.	Promote medical review programs that promote early intervention for those with compromised driving ability; find a method of ensuring that senior drivers have the physiological skills to continue operating a vehicle safely. (GACA is a key partner)	ADOT	GACA	12/1/2010	GACA Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee began researching older driver safety as part of transit focus and proposed older driver safety campaign as LPCC priority in 2011-2012.
----	--	------	------	-----------	--

Goal 5: Strengthen Arizona's economy by capitalizing on an integrated and well-trained informal, paraprofessional, and professional workforce.

With the first wave of Boomers attaining retirement age in 2006, both public and private sectors need to develop work environments and coordinate opportunities that maintain a strong, diverse paraprofessional and professional workforce with strategies that include support for workers and their family members with caregiving obligations.

Objective 5.1: Provide support for families in their efforts to care for their loved ones at home and in the community.

<u>STRATEGIES</u>		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
d.	Work with private foundations, Area Agencies on Aging and community colleges to develop culturally appropriate training programs for family caregivers.	GACA	DES, Alz Assn, AAAs	Start FY2008	Placed on hold due to lack of resources & staffing 2009

Objective 5.2: Create a stable and well-trained (in aging) workforce sufficient to meet the growing care needs in Arizona.

<u>STRATEGIES</u>		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
a.	Cooperate with State medical schools to support professional training programs that produce gerontological specialists and fill gaps in medical service availability. (GACA is a key partner)	AHCCCS	GACA	2005/Ongoing	GACA supported Governor's Task Force on retention and recruitment which Office on Aging staff coordinated and developed recommendations prior to 1/1/2009.
c.	Provide leadership to statewide workforce development efforts. (GACA is a key partner)	ADHS, DES	Commerce, GACA	Ongoing	GACA staff participate in Interagency Council on Long-Term Care and have partnered with DES, Commerce on mature workforce initiatives.
i.	Collaborate with experts in the field to develop and provide training opportunities for employees. (GACA is a key partner)	DES	GACA, Uof A		See DES report
j.	Provide on-going training to staff to effectively serve the family unit. (i.e., aging sensitivity training for kinship care service recipients). (GACA is a key partner)	DES	GACA, U of A		See DES report

k.	Work with policy makers, educators, health care providers and consumers to develop and advocate for policies, programs, and other mechanisms that increase the professional status, quality and numbers of direct care workers.	GACA	DES, DHS, AHCCCS, Citizens' Workgroup on LTC Workforce, Interagency Council on LTC	April 2004 - Ongoing	See DES report
----	---	-------------	--	----------------------	----------------

Objective 5.3: Promote a coordinated workforce development approach between public and private entities to benefit from the capabilities and experience of a mature workforce.

<u>STRATEGIES</u>		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
a.	Together with key stakeholders provide opportunities for businesses, public and private agencies, community colleges and mature workers to identify barriers that may prevent the hiring of mature workers and opportunities for persons interested in meaningful and productive employment.	GACA	DES, Commerce, Tourism	January 2005 - November 2005	Together with key stakeholders, provide opportunities for businesses, public and private agencies, community colleges, and mature workers to identify barriers that may prevent the hiring of mature workers and opportunities for persons interested in meaningful and productive employment.
b.	Increase employment opportunities with a living wage and training opportunities for older Arizonans. <i>(GACA is a key partner)</i>	DES	GACA, AAAs, Mohave County One-Stop	10/1/2005 - Ongoing	09-10: The Division of Aging and Adult Services continues to increase employment opportunities to older adults by participating in the GACA Mature Worker Program and update the Events page of azmatureworkers.com . The Division of Aging and Adult Services Mature Worker Program Coordinator also continues to sit on the Phoenix Workforce Connections Board.

Objective 5.4: Implement human resource policies that balance the needs of state employers with the changing needs of an aging workforce.

<u>STRATEGIES</u>		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
-------------------	--	-------------	-------------	-----------------	--------------------------

x.	Coordinate with the Department of Administration, as appropriate, and assist in developing retirement transition opportunities for aging state workers.	GACA	ADOA, ARS, DES	Ongoing	State of Arizona certified as Mature Worker Friendly Employer in 2010.
----	---	-------------	----------------	---------	--

Goal 6: Enhance the State's capacity to develop and maintain the necessary infrastructure to deliver services in a culturally appropriate, timely and cost effective manner.

Every aspect of living in Arizona may be affected by the future changes in our increasing and changing population. Housing, transportation, health care, education and other state-supported services will take shape based on the needs of our diverse population. The ability of the State to adapt to change, incorporate the use of new technology, form public-private partnerships to create and expand services to reach all corners of the state will be some of the challenges and opportunities that face Arizona as we grow.

Objective 6.3: Create working partnerships across state agencies and with private entities to improve the state's ability to develop the business & service infrastructure necessary to meet the needs of seniors.

STRATEGIES		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
i.	Ensure continued collaboration between State agencies and community partners by identifying and implementing programs and services that address evolving issues affecting older adults.	GACA	All state agencies, community partners	Ongoing	Aging 2020 continues to be coordinated through the Governor's Office on Aging

Objective 6.4: Establish policies, procedures, regulations, and statutes that reflect the changing nature of an aging population.

STRATEGIES		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
b.	Develop and promote policy initiatives that address new and developing issues related to aging that affect the quality of life for older Arizonans, their families and the communities where they live.	GACA	All state agencies and community partners	Ongoing	Council maintains Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee to coordinate advocacy agendas for aging issues; participates in the Interagency Council on Long Term Care, the Citizens' Workgroup on LTC.

Goal 8: Promote effective and responsive management for all aging services.

To adequately serve the growing numbers of older Arizonans, changing the way the State does business must be coupled with identifying and developing new funding mechanisms, innovations in service delivery systems and expanding collaborative efforts among state agencies.

Objective 8.3: Use cross-agency collaboration to reduce administrative costs and maximize results.

STRATEGIES		Lead Agency	Key Partner	Start/End Dates	Progress/Accomplishments
a.	Participate in the Interagency Council on Long Term Care, the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, the Citizen's Work Group on the Long Term Care Workforce, and other work groups to identify gaps in services and facilitate mutual improvement efforts. (GACA is a key partner)	DES	GACA	Ongoing	See DES report; GACA continued participation in 2009, 2010.

b.	Through the Aging 2020 process, promote cross-agency collaboration and leveraging to promote streamlining and improve system management.	GACA	15 state agencies	September 2005 - Ongoing	Confirmed as priority for new administration 2009 and coordination of meetings continued in 2010.
----	--	-------------	-------------------	--------------------------	---

Key:	<u>Participating State Agencies and Boards</u>
ABOR	Arizona Board of Regents
ADC	Arizona Department of Corrections
ADHS	Arizona Department of Health Services
ADOA	Arizona Department of Administration
ADOH	Arizona Department of Housing
ADOT	Arizona Department of Transportation
ADVS	Arizona Department of Veterans Services
ASVH	Arizona State Veteran Home
ASRS	Arizona State Retirement System
AG	Arizona Attorney Generals Office
AHCCCS	Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
AOT	Office of Tourism
ASP	Arizona State Parks
Commerce	Arizona Department of Commerce
DES	Department of Economic Security
DPS	Department of Public Safety
GACA	Governor's Advisory Council on Aging Governor's Office