

Texoma Area Plan

FFY 2027 - 2029

As Required by the Older Americans Act, As Amended in 2020: Section 306, Area Plans

**Pending Approval by HHSC
Office of Area Agencies on Aging May 2026**

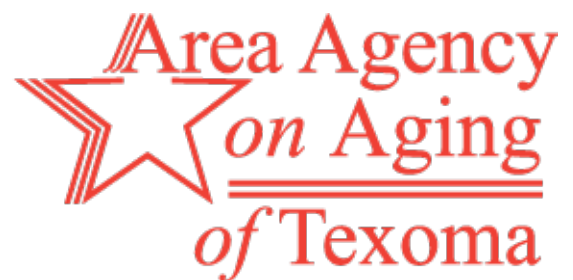


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Executive Summary

The Texoma Area Agency on Aging (AAA) prepares an Area Plan on Aging as required by the Texas Office of Area Agencies on Aging (OAAA) under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). The Area Plan provides strategic direction to the Texoma area senior services network and complies with instructions by HHSC.

This Area Plan addresses the following: key sociodemographic factors that will shape funding needs; priorities, unmet needs and best practices identified by the OAAA; in providing objectives in working with the aging network on cost-effective, high-quality services to Texoma's older adults, adults with disabilities and their caregivers.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) project that by 2030 one in five Americans will be aged 65 years and older. This means that all baby boomers (persons born during the 1946-1964 period) will be older than 65, expanding the projection of 1:5 at retirement age. Texas shows similar trends provided by the Texas Population Projection Program. Texans aged 65 and over is projected to increase from 14.4% in 2024 to 17.5% in 2050. The population aged 85 and older is projected to triple during this time frame, growing from 470,000 in 2024 to 1.5 million in 2050.

The 2020 Census states that the Texoma region's total population is 212,257 and is expected to increase to 246,322 by 2030. Based on the Texoma Vintage 2024 population estimate provided by Texas Demographic Center, by January of 2025 Texoma had already seen an 11.4% increase in population (237,048). Texoma migration projections also show that from 2026 to 2030 there will be an approximated 4.3% increase in 60+ population going from 66,062 to 68,911. The data continues to be significant, particularly for the 85 and over population as they are generally frailer and their demand for services will be longer. For the AAA, this could be more costly as funding and staff bandwidth has already been stretched further than in years past.

Texoma has many valued partnerships, both private and public sector that serve our population. These agencies partner to provide education, direct services and assist with events across the region. There are currently 10+ agencies that participate in the "Texoma Area AGING Education Committee" which has recently been combined with our "Local Elder Assistance Partners" LEAP group as the members were mostly common. Through these partnerships we are about to host two large educational events annually targeting aging individuals, service providers

and family caregivers. Through our work with outside partners Texoma AAA is better able to spread awareness to hard-to-reach seniors who may otherwise be isolated.

Services provided by the AAA are intended to prolong independent living and autonomy by preventing or delaying entry into a long-term care environment. Direct services provided by the AAA include Aging Administration, Information and Referral Assistance, and Data Management, Caregiver Information Services, Outreach and Public Information Services. Those services that are provided through AAA staff linking clients to in-home services are Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination. Texoma AAA staff that are certified Benefits Counselors provide Health Information, Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) Assistance and HICAP Outreach, Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Outreach and Assistance- which provides help to Medicare beneficiaries - Legal Assistance for 60 and over, and Legal Awareness which assists with HHSC benefits, information about scams and fraud and many other educational opportunities.

In home services provided by subrecipients and authorized by Texoma AAA staff include congregate and home-delivered meals, residential repair, homemaker services, chore maintenance, in-home respite and transportation funding. Texoma contracts with TAPS Public Transit for 60 and older riders and Meals on Wheels of Texoma for all nutritional needs.

Evidence Based programming is provided by AAA staff as well as partnerships with our local AgriLife extension agent and their volunteers. Texoma hopes to increase our partnerships for EBI and offer additional programming.

Texoma Ombudsman and Volunteer Ombudsman provide visitation and advocacy to 20 skilled nursing facilities and 16 assisted living facilities across the region.

Mission

To promote and protect the well-being of the older person in Texoma.

(Older Americans Act: §1321.53: Mission of the Area Agency)

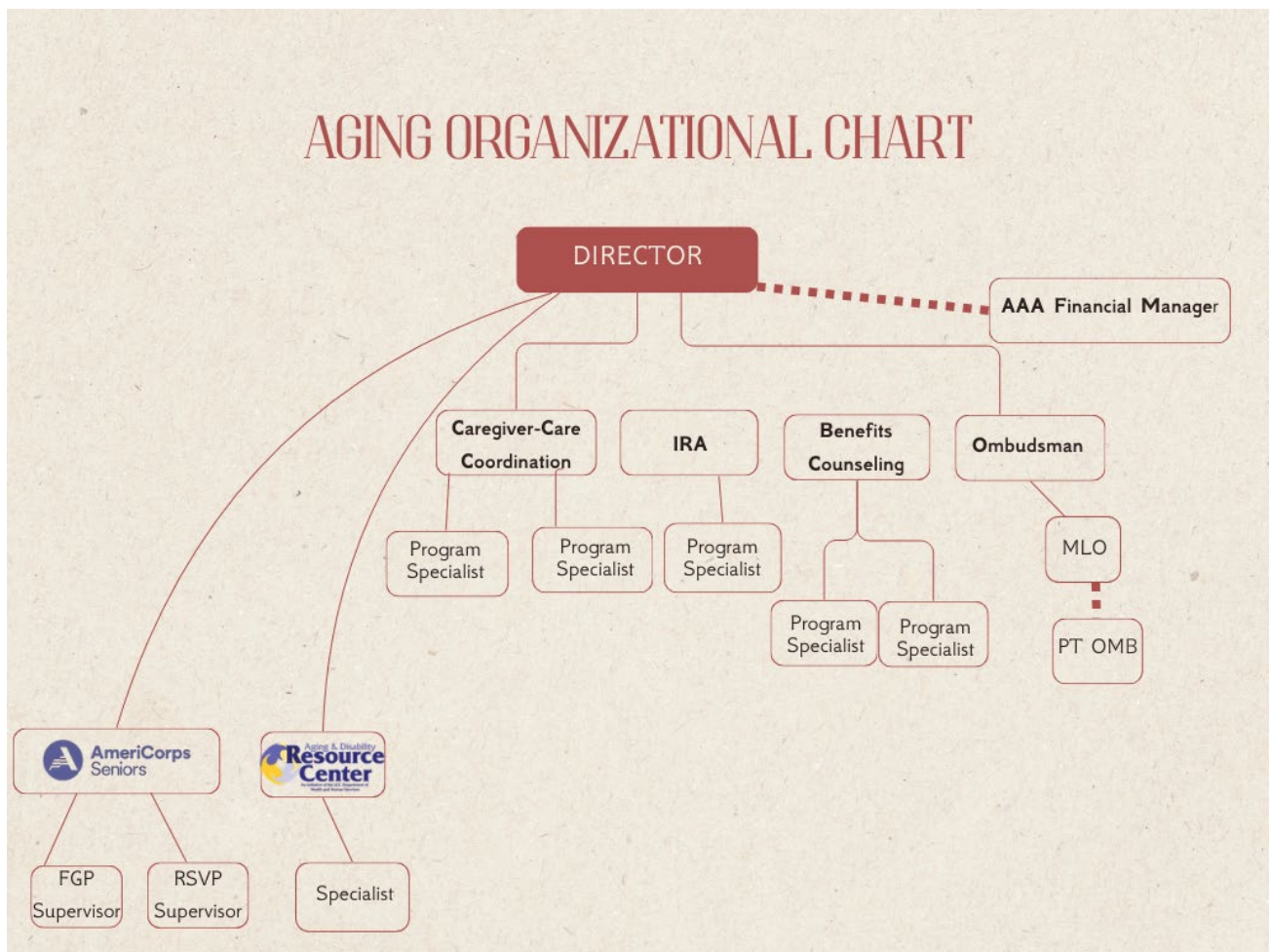
Vision

Assist individuals age 60 and over, their caregivers and persons with a disability to be independently operational, healthy individuals who are fully engaged in their community to the best of their ability and desire.

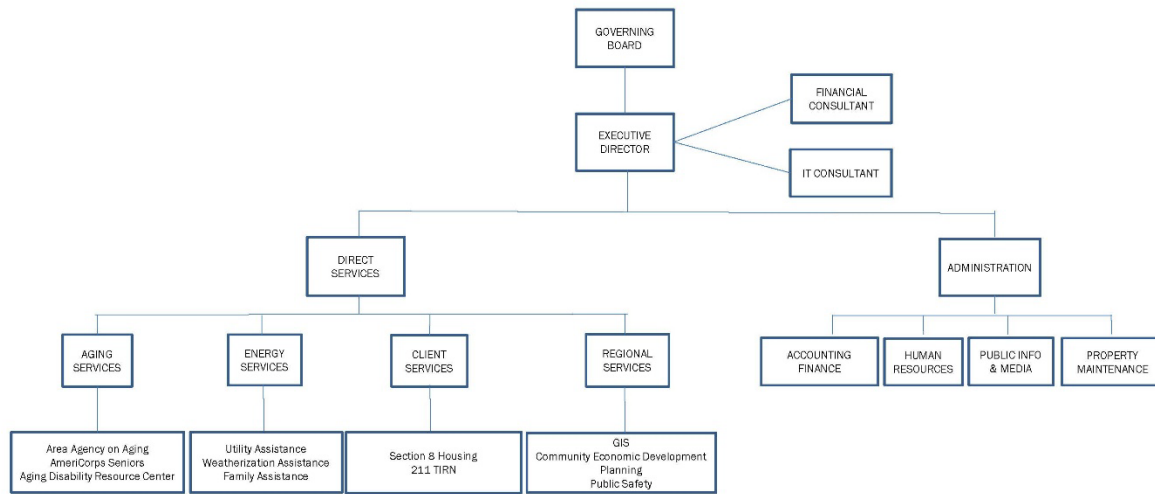
Organizational Profile

Reference: [45 CFR 1321.57](#), [45 CFR 1321.63](#), & [45 CFR 1321.65\(b\)\(2\)](#)

Texoma AAA maintains an organizational structure that effectively administers Older Americans Act Programs; job descriptions, staffing plans and organizational charts. Procedures are in place to ensure communication internally between the Executive Director, Agency on Aging Director, key staff, the governing board and externally with local, regional and state leaders and public officials.



TCOG ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Texoma AAA maintains a board/advisory council that holds regular meetings and keeps adequate records indicating active participation by all or most members in the full range of functions and a fair and equitable decision-making process. Texoma has established a process for advisory council appointments that provides for turnover among members yet maintains sufficient community to ensure familiarity with aging issues.

Legal References: 45 CFR 1321.57; OAA 2020 306(a)(6)(D)

Council Composition

The Advisory Council shall include, up to 16, individuals and representatives of community organizations who will help to enhance the leadership role of the Area Agency on Aging in developing community-based systems of service and shall be made up of;

1. More than 50% persons age 60 or over, including minority individuals who are participants or who are eligible to participate in aging programs;
2. Representatives of older persons;

3. Representatives of health care provider organizations, including providers of veterans' health care (if appropriate);
4. Representatives of service providers to older adults, including senior centers and meal providers (if appropriate);
5. Persons with leadership experience in the private and voluntary sectors;
6. Local elected officials; and
7. The general public.

**See table below for a categorical organization of current council members
*(some members represent multiple categories)**

Category	Number of Members
Older Individuals Residing in Rural Areas	3
Clients of Title III Services	1
Older Individuals	4
Local Elected Officials	1
General Public	3
Veterans' Health Care Providers, if applicable	1
Service Providers	4
Family Caregivers of Older Individuals who are Minority or who Reside in Rural Areas	1
Business Community Representatives	1
Representatives of Older Individuals	3
Representatives of Health Care Provider Organizations	3
People with Leadership Experience in the Private and Voluntary Sector	9

AAA Advisory Council Members

Name	Organization or Affiliation	County of Residence	Member Since	Current Office Term
Brandy Barnard Co-Chair	Representative of Healthcare Provider; hospice – H2H	Cooke, Fannin, Grayson	2022	2022-2028
Georgia Richardson	Older Adult Residing in a Rural Area	Grayson	2023	2023-2029
Zebulon Wixson	Veterans Caseworker w/ Congressman Pat	Fannin, Grayson	2025	2025-2031

Name	Organization or Affiliation	County of Residence	Member Since	Current Office Term
	Fallon			
Amber Johnson	Service Provider: Non-medical care	Fannin, Grayson, Cooke	2024	2024-2030
Dr Veronica Riera-Gilley	Representative of Health care Provider; Geriatric Pharmacist	Grayson	2024	2024-2030
Deena Lowry (Chair)	Service Provider- Sherman Senior Center Manager	Grayson	2021	2021-2027
Kim McClinton	Service Provider- Meals on Wheels	Cooke, Fannin, Grayson	2024	2024-2030
Barbara Kemp	Older Adult Residing in a Rural Area	Grayson	2023	2023-2029
Vicky Hestand or Shunnay Gilmore	Representative of Older Adults: Americorps Senior Program Supervisors	Cooke, Fannin, Grayson	2025	2025-2031
Jennifer Balew	Older Adult Residing in Rural Area	Cooke	2025	2025-2032
Misty Earles	Service Provider: Owner of Texoma Guardian Group	Cooke, Fannin, Grayson	2022	2022-2028
Shellie White	Service Provider: TAPS ED	Fannin, Grayson	2022	2022-2028
Christeen Wilson	Representative of healthcare Provider; Skilled Nursing	Fannin	2024	2024-2030
Fred Haiman	Service Provider: Attorney	Cooke, Fannin, Grayson	2024	2024-2030

Advisory Council meets every other month, beginning with a meeting in October.

Members will serve staggered three-year terms and may succeed themselves for a total of two full terms. Having served two full terms (6 years), members may again be considered for membership after a one-year break in service. Advisory Council

members shall be nominated by the TCOG/AAA staff and AAA Director and the existing Council members then vote on the memberships in the month of October.

Texoma Silver-Haired Legislature members can serve on the council but will be non-voting. If more than one chooses to serve, they are granted one "at-large" vote.

The Advisory Council advises Texoma AAA when developing and administering the Area Plan. The AAA will submit the area plan and amendments for review and comment to the advisory council prior to its transmission to HHSC for state approval.

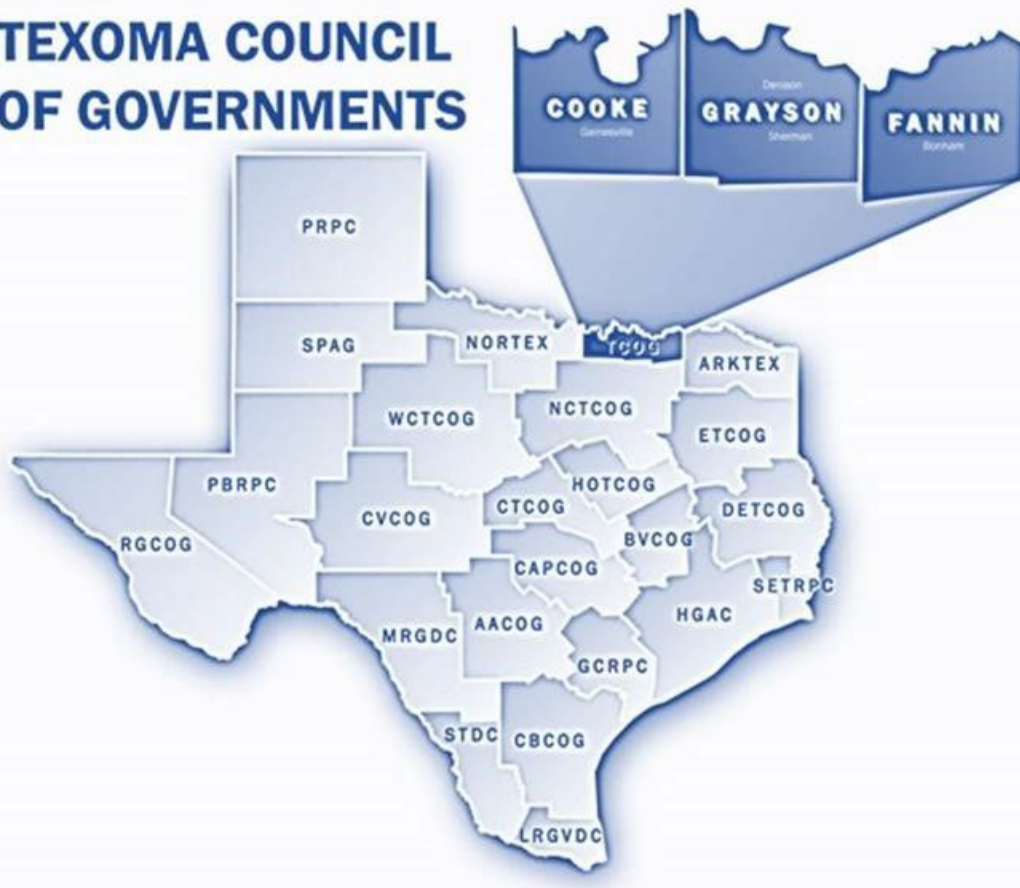
The Advisory Council participates in the developing and administering of our area plan. Due to their connection to community members and professionals, they are able to assist the AAA in ensuring the area plan is available to older individuals, family caregivers, service providers, and the general public.

The Advisory Council is invited to conduct or participate in any public hearings as well as represent the interests of older adults and family caregivers during the development process. Council members are encouraged to comment on community policies, programs and actions that affect our targeted population with the intent of assuring maximum coordination and responsiveness to older individuals and family caregivers.

Agency Description and PSA Profile

The Texoma Region is a tri-county area located in north central Texas, south of Lake Texoma and the Red River- bordering between Oklahoma and Texas. The service area is 2,774 square miles in Cooke, Grayson and Fannin Counties.

TEXOMA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



Grayson County is the largest of the three counties with an estimated population of 143,337; Cooke borders Grayson to the west with an estimated population of 43,046; Fannin County borders Grayson to the east with an estimated population of 37,326.

Sherman is the county seat for Grayson and the largest community numerically with an estimated 48,131, with Denison being the second largest city in Grayson with an estimated population of 26,387. Denison is also the closest city to the Red River bordering Oklahoma.

Bonham is the county seat and largest city in Fannin County with an estimated population of 10,924.

Gainesville is the county seat and largest city of Cooke County with an estimated population of 18,510.

(2026 Texas Demographics)

Socio-Demographic and Economic Factors

The Texoma region's total population is 223,709. The 60 and over population is 62,971 or 26.45%.

Of this population (60+): 29,205 are male (46%) and 33,766 are female (54%).

Non-Hispanic White makes up 82.3%, Non-Hispanic Black: 4.72%, Non-Hispanic Asian: 1.1%, and Hispanic 6.3%.

8,092 (55% of total Texoma veterans) are over the age of 65, putting our region significantly above the state average of 38.5%.

The median family average income in the Texoma region for households ages 60 and older is \$65,456 with Cooke County having the highest at \$70,496 and Fannin County being the lowest for average income at \$54,730. Across the region, 8.2% of individuals 60 and over were below 100% of poverty- Fannin County being statistically above the region and state average at 11.1% of their seniors being 100% of poverty and 32.2% being below 200% of poverty. It is important to also note that 25.2% of seniors in the Texoma region live alone with Fannin County leading at 26.5% living alone.

In terms of healthcare coverage, 4.7% of seniors in the region are uninsured completely with 22.2% having Medicare only. 3.8% have both Medicare and Medicaid coverage. It is also important to note that 32.4% of individuals over 60 in the Texoma region have a reported disability.

Education data across the region shows that 32.4% of those 60 and older have a high school diploma. 40.7% of adults 60 and over are still actively employed in the workforce- which is up from 28.7% in 2020.

The Sherman/Denison area is urban with outlying rural areas in Grayson County. Sherman/Denison is the center for major retail, industry, medical facilities, physicians and two higher education institutions. After the closing of Perrin Air Force Base in Denison during the 1970's many of the military personnel retired in the Texoma region and surrounding Lake Texoma.

Cooke County is a rural economy, centering on oil and gas production with associated industries. Its largest town, Gainesville, has some retail, limited medical facilities and one junior college.

Fannin County is rural and agricultural with the majority of the population commuting to other regions, including the Dallas Metroplex, for jobs and medical care. Though social service agencies are making strides to reach parts of this county, the larger percentage of the psychosocial needs remain in Fannin at this time.

Texoma area does offer many activities that could enhance the quality of life. However, it is important to note that with transportation being an increasing barrier and access being minimal- especially in the rural areas of our region- a senior could easily experience social isolation. Seniors without transportation are likely to be looking for transportation to essential basic needs such as medical appointments not for social gatherings and activity. Lack of quality broadband access to the more rural areas further complicate the necessity of connection.

Economic and Social Resources of the Texoma Region

The Texoma region is defined by a rich blend of natural assets, cultural amenities, educational institutions, and economic development resources that together shape the social and economic landscape for residents of all ages. For older adults, these resources play a vital role in supporting healthy aging, community engagement and overall quality of life.

One of the region's most significant assets is **Lake Texoma**, one of the largest reservoirs in the US- situated along the Red River between Texas and Oklahoma. The lake attracts approximately 6 million visitors per year and provides space for boating, sailing, fishing, water sports and wildlife viewing and education. This network of parks, marinas, resorts and campgrounds contribute substantially to the local economy and provides older adults with accessible opportunities for outdoor recreation, social interaction, and seasonal volunteer or employment opportunities. The Sherman/Denison area and the city of Gainesville serve as primary entry-points to the lake, and seasonal residents from northern states frequently relocate to the area during warmer months further enriching the local economy.

The Texoma region is also home to **Bois d'Arc Lake**- the first major reservoir constructed in Texas in more than 30 years. It is located in Fannin County. At its completion in 2023, the lake began delivering a reliable water supply to more than two million North Texans- including drinking water. While the primary purpose is water security, Bois d'Arc is quickly becoming more and more of a recreational destination. It is influencing housing growth, tourism, and infrastructure investments in Fannin County.

Texoma also has a growing arts and cultural environment that is enhancing community life and providing meaningful opportunities for older adults to remain social and creative.

In Grayson County, **Denison Arts and Cultural District** spans 30 blocks of galleries, studios, antique shops, venues and historic sites. Nearby, the **Sherman**

Cultural District provides community theater, art studios, public art programming and events that foster civic engagement and intergenerational interactions.

In Fannin County, the **Creative Arts Center of Bonham** serves as a major cultural hub offering art classes, workshops, quilting programs, exhibitions, open mic nights and community events. The center's open environment and daytime programming makes it especially accessible for older adults.

In Cooke County, **Gainesville Area Visual Arts (GAVA)** plays a role in promoting visual arts through exhibits, demonstrations, workshops, and a scholarship program.

There are three educational institutions that further enrich the region's social and economic landscape.

Grayson College, Austin College, and North Central Texas College- all of which provide continuing education, programming opportunities and events that support lifelong learning and personal development.

Texoma has a strong foundation of **regional economic development leadership**- at Texoma Council of Governments itself, as well as Bonham, Denison and Gainesville Economic Development Alliances. Their efforts strengthen the local economy, support job creation and increase the tax base that funds essential services.

As the Texoma region continues to grow and diversify its assets, the responsibility to manage these resources effectively becomes more and more important. The strength of our region depends on thoughtful planning, responsible governance, and ongoing collaborations across the board. Ensuring that services and activities remain accessible, sustainable and relevant to the needs of older Texomans, requires a foundation for accountability and oversight. The following section outlines stewardship practice, systems, and administrative structuring that guide Texoma AAA to fulfill its mission and safeguard the integrity of programs and services.

Stewardship & Oversight

Reference: [OAA of 1965, as amended through P.L. 116-131 \(3/25/2020\), & 45 CFR 1321.59](#)

AAA Administrative duties will be provided during the area plan period internally to Texoma AAA staff and TCOG staff and externally to anyone wanting to work with Texoma AAA to serve older adults and family caregivers within the service area.

Texoma AAA has its own Financial Manager separate from TCOG finance department. Our finance manager has over 20 years of experience in this line of work in the aging network. This has allowed us to benefit from current and past knowledge of federal and state requirements. TCOG administrative staff also serves as “checks and balances”. TCOG finance staff add another fiscal control through their experienced staff and by further enforcing fiscal policies and procedures.

Administrative functions will be provided as a direct service daily during FY27-29. Texoma AAA Director and Finance Manager’s primary duties are the AAA Administrative functions and ensure the day-to-day operations of the agency. AAA Director ensures there are ample activities promoting the development and implementations of a comprehensive and coordinated system to serve older adults across Texoma. Finance manager serves as sounding board to director, as well as the usual person completing needed reports and admin duties not related to programming.

Data Management is provided directly by Texoma AAA’s finance manager. These activities include data entry, reporting, service authorization and document verification for congregate meals and home delivered meals. Staff person does reporting monthly and ensures our data is accurate and complete in the state database- all of which supports the QPR and end-of-year reporting.

Policies state that Texoma AAA will meet programmatic and fiscal performance targets (units, participants, unit cost rates) as outlined in their approved budget, or as amended, within a five percent variance allowed. The AAA ensures accuracy through the Quarterly Performance Report and other required fiscal and programmatic reports. Both AAA Director and Finance Manager review all before submission. All will be submitted according to the schedule established by HHSC.

Key Topic Areas

Reference: [45 CFR 1321.65\(b\)\(5\)](#), [45 CFR 1321.65\(b\)\(2\)](#), & [45 CFR 1321.65\(c\)](#)

Core Program Area 1: Supportive Services

Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination will be a direct service provided in-person and/or over the phone in all three PSA counties for older adults and caregivers seeking any of the following services: Homemaker, Chore

Maintenance, Residential Repair, Respite In-Home and Health Maintenance.

Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination will be provided by Texoma AAA staff to assess the needs of clients and their caregivers as inquiries are received. Coordination services typically consist of an assessment of needs, planning, arranging, coordinating and following up on services to meet applicable needs of the client. The services ends when it is no longer needed, service has been received or exhausted, or when no longer wanted by the client.

Homemaker service is provided by subrecipients and authorized by Texoma care coordinators. This service is for a person 60 and older living anywhere in the PSA. Homemaker services provide trained staff to perform light housekeeping tasks and home management. Respite-In Home is also provided by subrecipients and authorized by care coordinators. Respite provides more hands-on ADL care for care recipients while their caregiver is able to take a much-needed break from caregiving. These services lengthen the time an older adult may be able to age in place independently by aiding in maintaining a safe and healthy environment. Services are authorized in 12-week periods. Clients are often referred to HHSC Community Attendant Services or VA Aid and Attendant (if applicable) for more long-term care assistance.

Texoma AAA utilizes contracted contractors for residential repair. These needs are often ramps, grab bars and other minor repairs to maintain the health and safety of an older adult in their home.

Texoma AAA utilizes TAPS-Public transit for on-demand transportation services to all three counties in the PSA. Passengers must be 60 years or over, ambulatory and have no other transportation options. They can be taken to medical appointments within the PSA or to a senior center. Transportation continues to be a point of contention in the community as it is often not reliable or timely.

Health Maintenance is provided to consumers who call in needing dental, vision or hearing assistance. Funding is set at \$2500 per client and is need and age based. AAA has contracts with local audiologist, optometrist and dental offices in the PSA to provide these services.

Core Program Area 2: Nutrition Services- Congregate Meals and Home Delivered Meals

Texoma AAA provides nutrition services through one subrecipient that serves all three counties in the PSA. Meals on Wheels of Texoma is a nonprofit charitable organization serving the Texoma region.

Congregate Meals: Congregate Meals will be provided at 10 senior center locations across the PSA. Congregate meal sites encourage socialization, activity and can serve as a starting point for managing concerns for individuals. Senior Center

managers and subrecipient staff at the locations monitor the health of clients and report concerns about their welfare. They also are maintaining regular contact with these individuals.

As individuals are added to the rosters at each site, they are authorized to receive meals for the duration of the fiscal year. Congregate meal numbers saw a decrease following the isolation of the COVID pandemic. Once meal sites were reopened, individuals were hesitant to return, and once they returned the prepackaged and sealed plastic containers were not appealing. We have since been able to return to a more "buffet" style meal service at our largest center, which has increased numbers. Though not as fruitful as prior to COVID, congregate participation is gradually increasing.

Home-Delivered Meals: Home Delivered Meals are provided to eligible individuals in all three counties of the PSA by our only subrecipient, Meals on Wheels of Texoma. These meals are a tool for keeping older adults independent in their homes longer, meeting a third of their daily nutritional need, and providing contact with others who are delivering the meal.

Texoma is able to serve any eligible client within our PSA at this time, regardless of location. Some cities within the PSA only have hot delivered meals one day a week but receive four frozen for the other days.

One possible limitation or barrier-may be in the coming years-is funding constraints. With the cost-of-living increase and the decrease in volunteerism that we are seeing, the number of meals we can fund may need to be reduced looking into 2027.

Nutrition Education: Nutrition Education is completed by Texoma AAA Care Coordinators during annual assessments, and is often worked into monthly wellness presentations at the region's senior centers. Care Coordinators provide information to all home-delivered meal clients to promote nutritional well-being and to delay the onset of adverse health conditions resulting from poor nutritional health.

Core Program Area 3: Evidenced Based Disease Prevention & Health Promotion Services

Texoma AAA provides Evidenced Based Interventions to all three counties in the service area. These programs promote fall prevention and healthy coping and tangible skills for caregivers through A Matter of Balance and Powerful Tools for Caregivers. Both of these programs meet the federal definition of an "evidence-based program".

Texoma AAA is continuing to evaluate the usage of additional programs and add to our EBI services to support a healthier older adult population.

Locations vary for our EBI's dependent on the community partner and where the need is. Care Coordinators, who perform EBI classes for the agency, have done classes at TCOG, senior centers, and low-income senior housing. All programming is in person which also provides help with socialization. This service is provided directly through the AAA, and through in-kind services with our local Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent.

Core Program Area 4: Family Caregiver Support Services

Texoma AAA continuously looks for ways to enhance services and supports for caregivers. Utilizing Caregiver Information Services, AAA provides meaningful information, depending on the care recipients needs, through email.

Texoma AAA directly provides Caregiver Support Groups monthly for individuals helping a loved one with dementia or Alzheimer's Disease. AAA director holds licensure required through state definitions to provide this service directly.

Texoma AAA utilizes outreach events and public information to push information out that may benefit caregivers or their loved ones.

AAA Director often provides in-services to local non-medical caregiver agencies to promote the education of professional caregivers and relevant AAA services.

Caregiver Support Coordination is offered when funding allows- with specific needs of Respite-In Home.

Core Program Area 5: Legal Assistance

Legal Assistance, 60 years and older and Legal Awareness will be provided as a direct service for FY27-29 to anyone 60 and older in the PSA. This service is provided by certified benefits counselors through one-on-one meetings in person or by phone- with the older individual and/or their family caregiver or authorized representative. These appointments are scheduled at our main office in Grayson County, or at our satellite office spaces in Fannin or Cooke County. BCs are also able to do home visits if needed. Appointments can range between 30minutes to several hours depending on the requested need. Benefits Counselors often have multiple appointments with an individual until their need has been resolved, often involving outside agencies (i.e.: SSA, VA, HHSC).

Many callers need assistance with health and long-term care services, information about public entitlements, individual rights, housing and consumer needs, protection and planning options. Topics also include avoiding scams and fraud, utility assistance programming, and HHSC LTCSS.

Core Program Area 6: Ombudsman Services

Ombudsman services will be provided directly by certified Managing Local Ombudsman (MLO), a part time certified ombudsman and by certified volunteer ombudsman who are supervised by the MLO. This service protects the health, safety, welfare and rights of residents of nursing facilities and assisted living facilities, including identifying, investigating, and resolving complaints that are made by, or on behalf of, the residents. This service will benefit residents of facilities in all counties of the PSA and will be on-going throughout the year as minimum requirements for facility visits are set by the state and ombudsman make additional visits as the need arises.

Greatest Economic Need in Texoma Region

Texoma AAA utilizes multi-disciplinary approaches to target older adults with greatest economic and social needs, low income, limited English, living in rural areas and at risk for institutional placement. All services are to be person centered and directed.

The greatest economic need is defined as income at or below the Federal poverty level and further by the area plans which include local factors including geography and expenses.

All three counties in the PSA have a higher 60 and older population and poverty percentage as compared to the state of Texas average of 11.6%.

AAA will give preference to those with incomes 150% or less of the poverty level for Care Coordination and Caregiver support programs when possible. All Medicare Beneficiaries are to be screened for MSP (Medicare Savings Programs) and LIS (Low-income subsidy). Texoma AAA will provide education to providers and outside agencies on LIS/MSP and provide updated income guidelines from year to year.

AAA staff will do educational outreach on all topics relevant to at risk populations. Texoma AAA hosts and staff participate in many events that partners sponsor to reach the less accessible consumers needing assistance. Frequently partnered: 211, Greater Texoma Health Clinic, Grayson Indigent Clinic, Adult Protective Services, Texoma ADRC, Walkers House for Veterans (Military Veteran Peer Network), local HHSC and SSA Offices, Meals on Wheels of Texoma, Lions Club, Skilled Nursing / LTC agencies, rural senior centers and faith-based organizations. All of these, and more, refer clients to the AAA for services.

Greatest Social Need (GSN) in Texoma Region

Texoma AAA targets those with the greatest social need. Greatest Social Need can

be defined as noneconomic factors that include physical and mental disabilities, language barriers, cultural, social or geographical isolation, interpersonal safety concerns, rural location and any other status that restricts the ability of an individual to perform normal/routine tasks or threatens the capacity of an individual to live independently- and other needs as defined by state and area plans on local and individualized factors.

AAA will give preference to individuals identified as having the GSN when applicable. Older adults with dementia living alone and family members who are the sole source of support for a dependent person both are common examples. Case managers will use the Consumer Needs Evaluation (CNE) to determine which clients have the most difficulty performing Activities of Daily Living (ADLS).

Collaboration Efforts with Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) in Texoma

Texoma frequently educates clients and their families about support services through HCBS and provides referrals when applicable. Texoma AAA staff ensure that they stay up to date on current programming and all eligibility requirements. Community Attendant Services (CAS), STAR + PLUS Waiver and STAR + PLUS Personal Assistance Services (PAS) are the most referred to programs under HCBS. The large majority of calls from caregivers and family members are needing this sort of service. In-home services remain the largest voiced need for assistance consistently with our consumers.

Texoma staff attempt to know who the local case managers are for these programs, and who to reach out to for questions or to expedite a referral. This is possible much of the time, but does not necessarily increase their productivity. Texoma AAA provides incontinence supplies to any individual in need, but often to those who are waiting to be approved for STAR + PLUS services. (Similarly with homemaker, personal assistance and respite services).

Serving Older Adults with Physical and Mental Health Conditions

All walk-ins, callers and referrals receive person centered assessment and care from agency staff regardless of their ability or voiced need.

Texoma AAA supports individuals with physical and/or mental conditions by providing assistance for navigating services and resources in a way that the person can understand. We often provide one-on-one in person assistance in the office or at their home (if needed and safe) to help with applying for assistance, navigating federal or state systems, social security and other resources.

All staff are trained in military cultural competency and dementia annually. Texoma AAA partners with our local mental health authority (LMHA), Texoma Community Center, frequently for individuals presenting with mental health conditions that are not caused by dementia or Alzheimer's. Staff collaborate with

these individuals by connecting them to their case worker, getting services started, or just by adding an element of care coordination between agencies to better serve the client.

Texoma AAA operates a small incontinence supply bank and DME closet- running from community donations only. Individuals with GEN-uninsured or underinsured- and GSN-physical impairment- can request mobility equipment i.e. walkers, wheelchair, cane from our supply bank.

Texoma AAA is housed in the same office suite as the Texoma Aging and Disability Resource Center, which makes “warm-handoffs” and appropriate initial referral for walk-ins much simpler.

All staff will provide all people with the same respect, consideration, outreach, education, information, referral, assistance and available services regardless of sensitive needs or unique circumstances.

Needs Assessment Activities

Reference: [45 CFR 1321.65\(b\)\(3\)](#) & [45 CFR 1321.65\(c\)](#)

In order to identify population trends and issues impacting older adults in Texoma, the AAA surveyed older adults, caregivers and care providers. These surveys were done in person (hard copy) at all senior centers in the PSA, sent by ombudsman to all licensed facilities in the PSA, sent via email to Advisory Council members, past vendors, and other providers in PSA. There was also a posted link to the 3 surveys on the TCOG Facebook page, and shared through email to all contacts.

Texoma AAA held “Town Hall” meetings in each county for both older adults and providers to meet face to face and discuss possible issues and under served needs for older adults. Hard copies of surveys were also distributed at these community gatherings.

SURVEY RESULTS JANUARY 2026

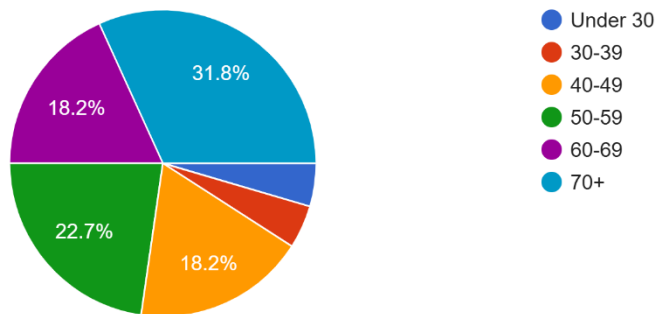
Consideration due to possible biases in the data: Most were completed at senior centers where individuals are not homebound and are active. This could skew data for certain areas. Caregiver data may be skewed as it appears there were professional caregivers who also took the survey. This makes location and weekly hours of care, and burnout levels possibly skewed.

Total number completed: 179. Providers= 23, Older Adults= 112, Caregivers= 44.

Caregiver Survey:

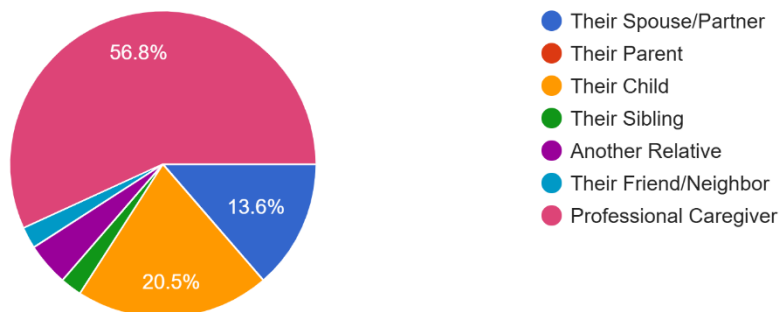
Caregivers were asked a series of questions to determine our PSA’s demographics, care recipient needs, their needs, and levels of support/burnout they are experiencing. Caregivers were able to specify what is causing recipient to require assistance with their care. Health of the caregiver (based on their opinion) was also rated.

Age Range
44 responses



50% of caregivers surveyed were over the age of 60, with 31.8% of that being over 70. 93.2% of those surveyed are female.

Your Relationship to Care Recipient
44 responses

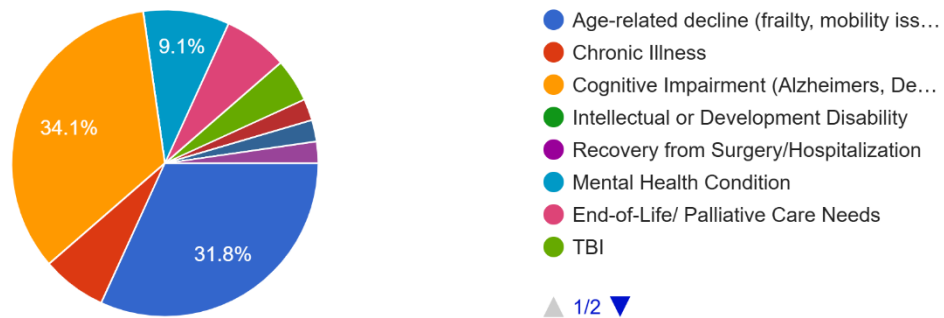


As previously referenced, a large percentage of those who participated in this survey identify as “Professional Caregiver”= 56.8%. If this portion of contributions are removed the data suggests that 48% of caregivers are a child, 32% are partner/spouse, 10% other relative, and 10% sibling or neighbor. This supports our attempts at targeting the “sandwich generation” who may still be caring for their own children while attempting care to an aging parent.

29.5% of those surveyed report they are providing more than 40 hours in care per week with 68.2% providing between 10-40 hours. Only one person surveyed reported less than 10 hrs weekly.

What is the main reason your loved one needs care?

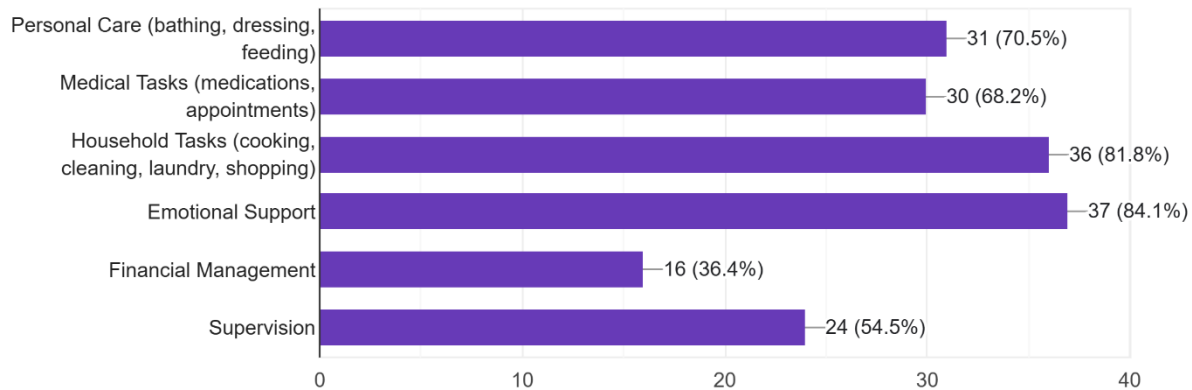
44 responses



The top reason individuals in the PSA report caring for a loved one is cognitive impairment related to Alzheimer’s and Dementia, with age-related decline (frailty and mobility concerns) as a close second.

What types of care do you provide? (select all that apply)

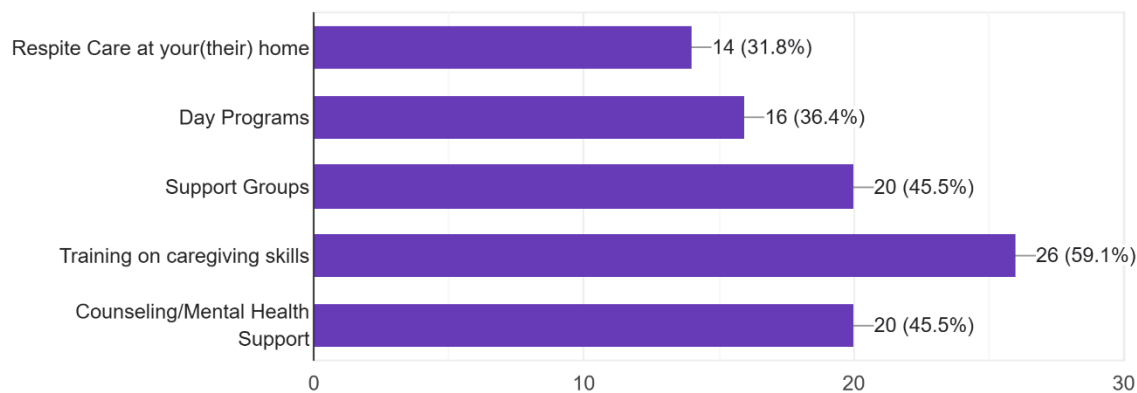
44 responses



This table shows caregivers are providing more than one type of care for their loved one with 174 selections with only 44 caregiver participants. Approximately 18% report feeling they rarely or never have support from family or friends when being a caregiver. 27.2% report feeling stressed or overwhelmed by their caregiving responsibilities often or always. 25% report feeling they cannot take care of themselves due to a lack of time.

Which resources would be most helpful to you? (select II that apply)

44 responses



This table shows results regarding needed resources. Providing **caregiver training** came in first w/ 59.1% followed by **support groups and mental health support** both at 20%. The Aging Texas Well Strategic Plan also identifies “mental Health” to be the top priority identified by informal caregivers. Texoma AAA does not currently provide caregiver training (as pertaining to physical skills for assisting with ADLs).

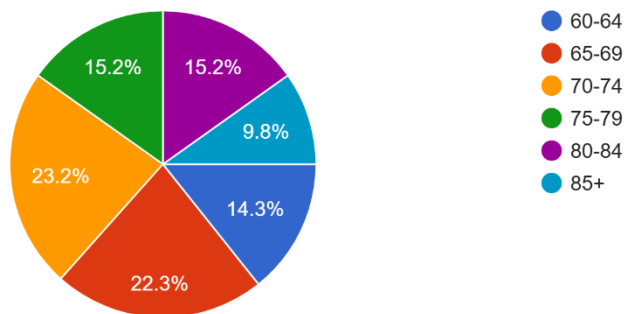
This is a service that can be added to better support our caregiver population. Texoma does currently and will continue to offer “Powerful Tools for Caregivers” across the PSA. This class focuses on ways caregivers can better care for themselves while caring for a friend/relative.

During the *Town Hall meetings*- there were a few caregivers present at the Fannin County location. They report that in their experiences as past caregivers they wish there could have been more mental health support during that time. They also confirm that training on how to properly care for their loved one would have been helpful, as often times the physical aspect was too much and no one was able to educate on better practices.

Not noted from this survey data, is the need for respite care and other financial supports for caregivers. A large majority of the calls received by IR&A are for caregiving needs- respite, support, counseling, preparing for the future. Texoma AAA does offer Respite-In Home as a service, but funding constraints do not often allow the agency to offer the service.

Older Adults Survey:

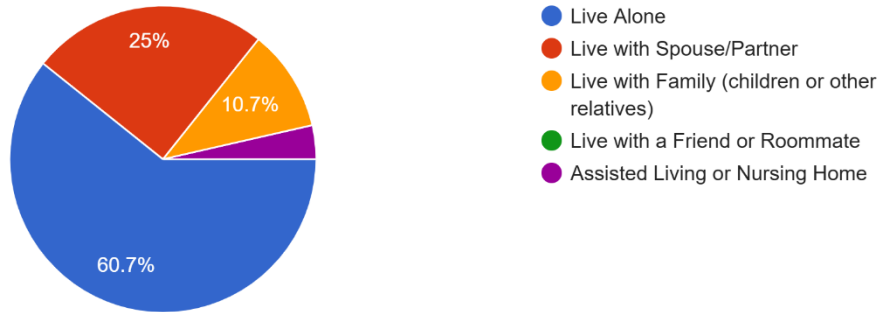
Age Range
112 responses



85% of those the 112 were female. 61% in Grayson County, 32% in Fannin County and 7% in Cooke County.

Living Situation

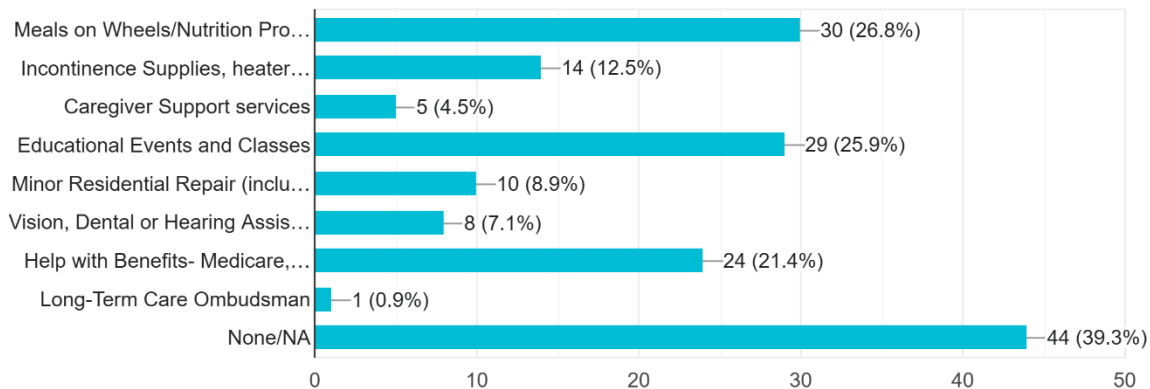
112 responses



Over 60% of those surveyed currently live alone. Survey asked if the person was aware of AAA services prior to this survey- 70% stated yes. This supports the past efforts to increase the amount of outreach and public information services conducted. Though 70% had heard of Texoma AAA there were approximately 40% who have not utilized AAA services.

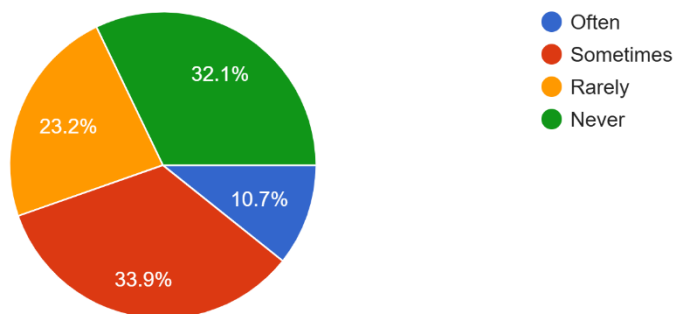
Which services from the Area Agency on Aging have you used?

112 responses



In the past month, how often have you felt anxious or depressed?

112 responses

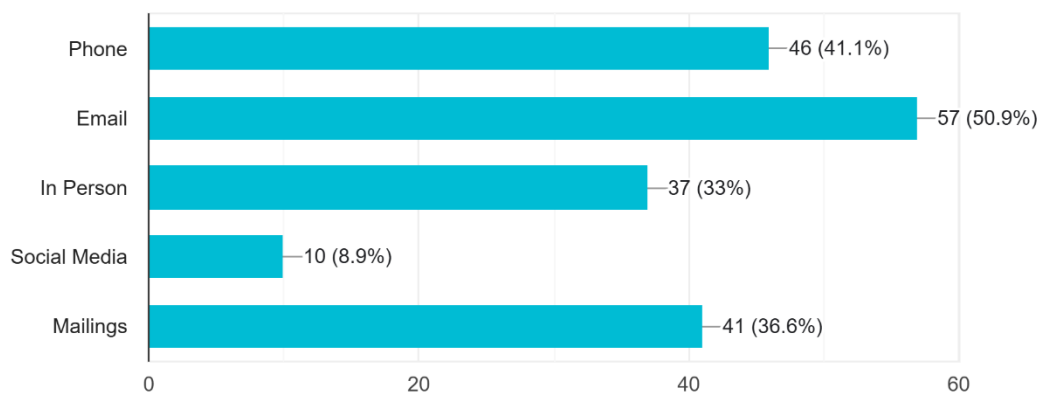


44.6% report feeling anxious or depressed sometimes or often. This data is pretty close across the board with 55.3% reporting that they rarely or never experience these symptoms.

We asked older adults what their preferred way to receive information is. Only 10 respondents state they prefer social media which is often questioned in our PSA by providers. This data also suggests that seniors in the PSA prefer email and phone to other methods- with mailings and in-person meetings at a close second. This will assist us in the promotion of future events and offerings.

What is your preferred way to receive information? (select all that apply)

112 responses



We asked survey participants if there were services, they wish the AAA would provide but currently does not. There were many written in responses.

The large majority of responses were related to **transportation** needs (16 of 42 comments). **Housekeeping and Lawn Work** were noted as another common need (6 of 42). Other needs with more than one person identifying are: more funding for dental care, medical assistance/advice, legal advice, income support, and mental health support.

“Town Hall” in person meetings also support these top two identified needs from the surveys. Discussions were had about the need for transportation, the need for it in rural areas with more availability, transportation outside of the region, and other needs that are not currently met by our only local transit, TAPS.

Homemaker and Chore Maintenance services were discussed at all of the Town Hall meetings. Older adults are reporting that they are able to complete their ADLs and are independent aside from not being able to complete household tasks such as cleaning and extensive meal prep- lawn care is also an issue. There are many active seniors in our region that can do everything but manage their lawn care and do not have the resources to privately pay someone to take care of ADLs.

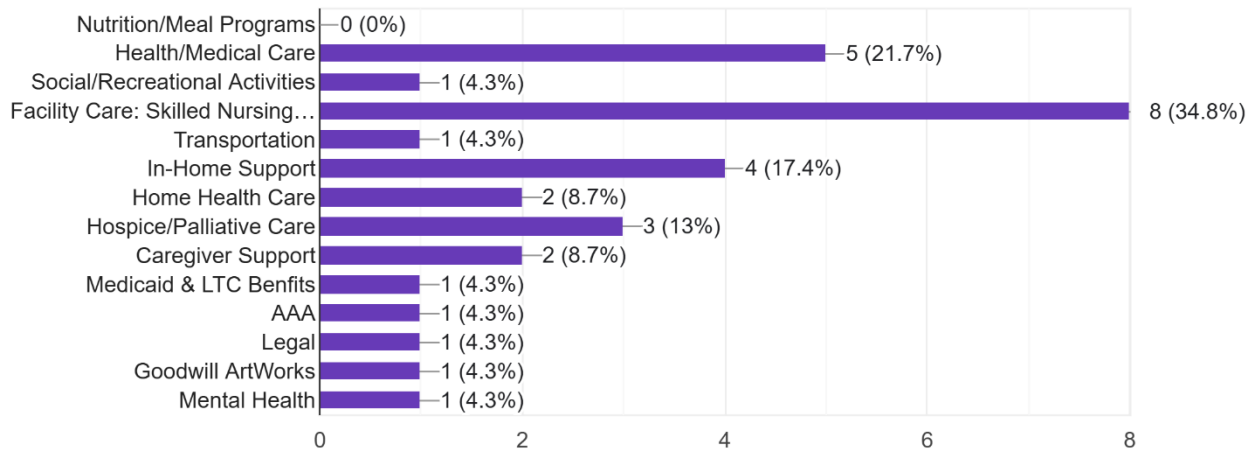
Texoma AAA can provide transportation funding, but the issue therein lies with the transportation provider in our area being allegedly unreliable, not accessible, and not going to locations of need.

Texoma AAA does provide homemaker services but has limited funding thus not able to provide to many consumers during the FY. Chore Maintenance is a service AAA is adding to FY 27-29 Area Plan.

AGING SERVICE PROVIDER SURVEY

What best describes the service(s) your organization currently provides for older adults?

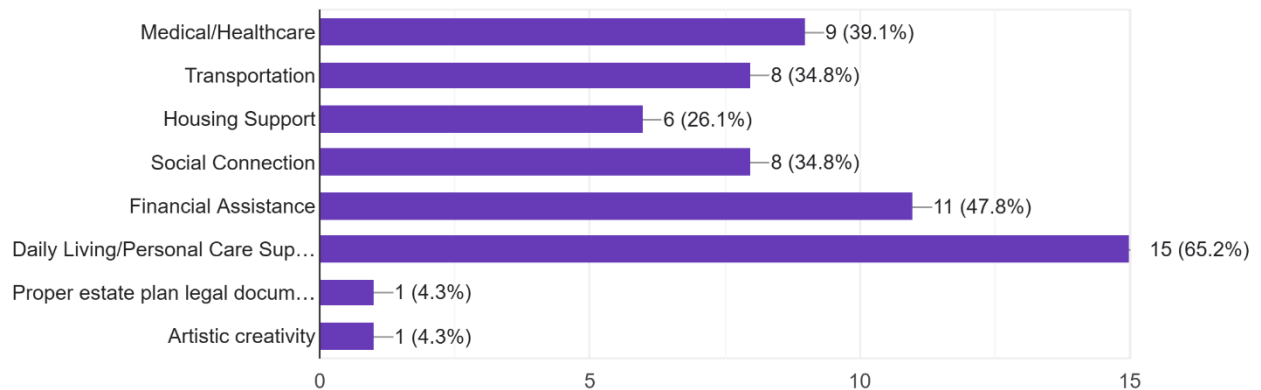
23 responses



The vast majority of aging providers that participated in the survey were healthcare related with 34.8% working in skilled nursing/assisted living facilities. 83% of those surveyed state they interact with older adult clients daily.

What common needs to you observe among older adults? (choose no more than TWO)

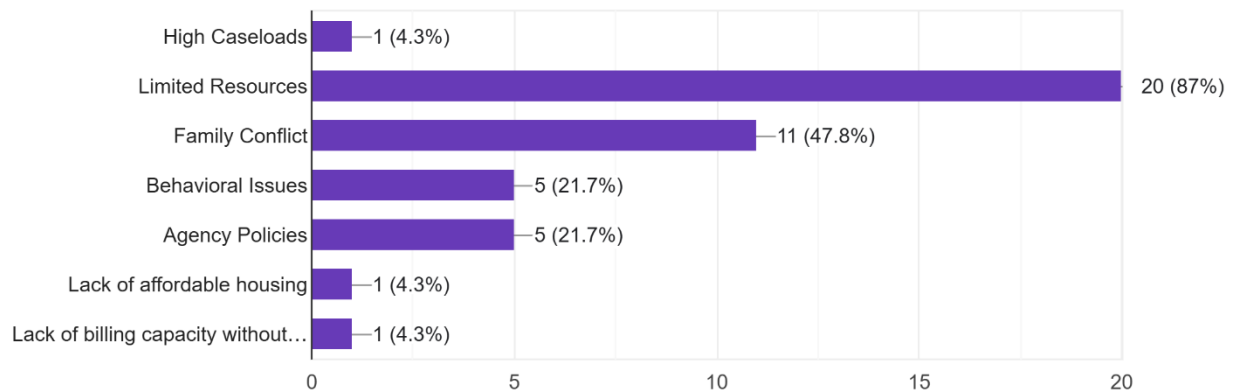
23 responses



Providers identify ADL and Personal Care support as the top need they observe when working with older adults, with financial assistance needs as the second. Income support and Respite or Personal Assistance are also top needs identified by caregivers and older adults themselves. These are services that the AAA would provide were we able to establish additional funds to cover.

What challenges do you encounter most often when working with older adults? (choose up to TWO)

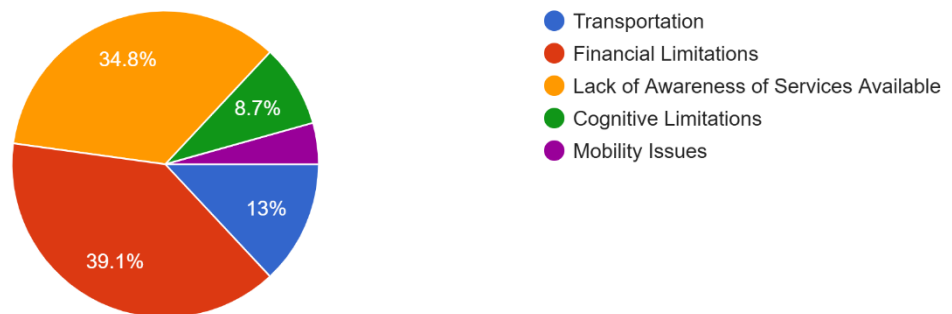
23 responses



Provider challenges rank highest at limited resources. Those surveyed report that the client having limited resources complicates their intervention or resources most at 87%. Family Conflict is also identified as a major challenge faced by providers.

What barrier do you see most when older adults try to access a service?

23 responses

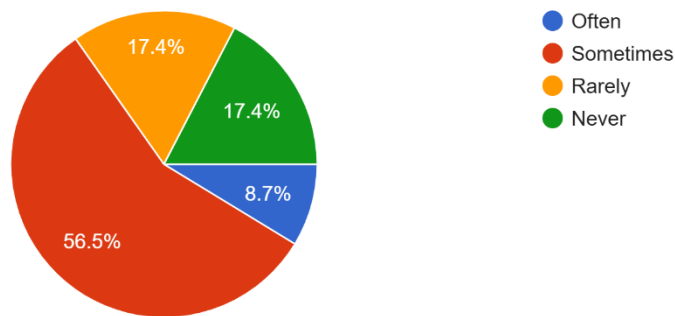


Providers note that they see financial limitations and lack of knowledge of resources as the top two most common barriers to accessing services. One of the identified priorities from the statewide aging plan identifies "collaboration and coordination"- which can be relative to feeling that their clients do not know about other services and resources. Income Support continues to be a common observed need across the provider surveys.

Approximately 75% of providers report feeling confident or expert level understanding of addressing cognitive decline/dementia. When asked what kinds of training would benefit them individually or their organization the top response is "Mental Health/Behavioral Support" followed by Dementia Care and Crisis Intervention. Texoma AAA can continue offering educational support regarding these topics, but can place more focus on provider organizations rather than solely to older adults themselves and senior centers.

How often do you experience burnout in your role?

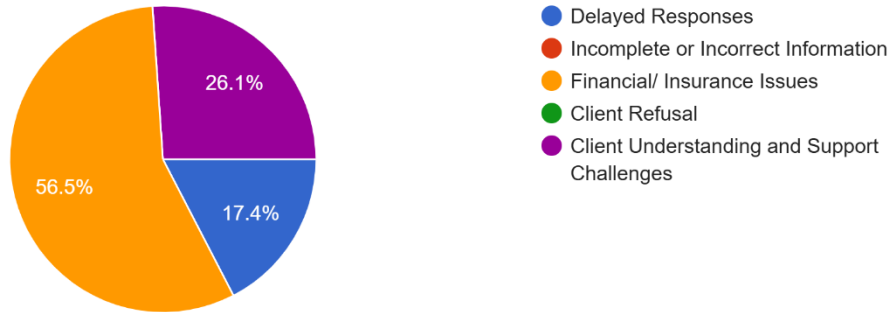
23 responses



Approximately 74% of providers report feeling burnt out "sometimes or often". When asked which organizational barrier most affect their work and/or contributes to their feelings of burn out- 70% report *Funding Constraints* and *Staffing Shortages*. This response mirrors nationwide data for the healthcare workforce-especially those in aging fields. Aging Texas Well Strategic Plan also notes that the top three administrative priorities identified by aging service providers state wide included funding and staffing.

What communication challenge occurs most when coordinating care?

23 responses



See above pie chart that 56.5% of challenges to coordinating care are related to financial/insurance issues and 26% relative to client understanding and support issues.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies, and Outcomes

Reference: [45 CFR 1321.65\(e\)](#)

Texoma AAA has developed individualized goals based on needs assessment findings both locally and as identified in the 2026-2028 Texas State Plan on Aging (SPoA).

SPoA Goal 1: *Support Older Adults to age in their community by accessing available resources, including HCBS.*

Objectives	Strategies	Projected Outcomes
<p>Ensure that all staff are familiar with Texas HCBS service programs that serve older adults in our region.</p>	<p>Locate and provide training to all staff that provides details to major programs, services, eligibility and referral procedure.</p> <p>Support Staff in learning process.</p> <p>Attempt to have HCBS region employee come speak with staff.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> Staff will have access to correct fact sheets of HHSC programs including STAR+PLUS, STAR+PLUS Waiver, and Community Attendant Services.</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> Staff will be able to identify possible consumers that could benefit from said HCBS. Staff will be encouraged to take any found online trainings.</p> <p><i>Long Term:</i> Staff will have confidence in identifying situations where a consumer could benefit from HHSC HCBS, and be able to explain the differences in said programs.</p>
<p>Increase awareness and usage of senior centers within the PSA.</p>	<p>Educate seniors on why spending time at a local senior center may be beneficial.</p> <p>Address need for transportation to and from centers from local provider</p> <p>AAA to provide educational and programmatic support to rural senior centers on a more regular basis.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> Make connections with all senior centers for updated contact information and scheduled.</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> AAA director or staff to provide an activity or educational program to each senior center (minimum of two per center) per fiscal year.</p> <p><i>Long-Term:</i> Senior Centers are able to report an increase in memberships, or activity participation. AAA will see an increase in those aware and utilizing AAA services. Seniors will be able to access social spaces more easily.</p>

Objectives	Strategies	Projected Outcomes
<p>Ensure AAA is offering services that are needed in our region while still meeting adequate proportion requirements</p> <p>AAA is knowledgeable about what is offered in our community from both a non-profit and private perspective.</p>	<p>Add Chore Maintenance to approved services.</p> <p>Conduct annual survey including requests for unmet needs.</p> <p>Participate in community informational and social events to stay connected to resources.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> Staff will be encouraged to attend more community events/meetings.</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> AAA will see calls for chore maintenance. Staff will feel more connected and confident in their knowledge.</p> <p><i>Long-Term:</i> AAA will be more deeply connected in the community as a whole and will be able to provide additional information to current clients and callers. AAA will be able to utilize survey data to identify services that are needed but not being provided.</p>
<p>Provide community education in efforts to increase visibility of HCBS programs, AAA services, Medicare Savings Programs, Low-Income Subsidy, Medicare, Senior Medicare Patrol and beyond.</p>	<p>Benefits counselors will provide informational sessions in the community (MSP, LIS, SMP)</p> <p>Director will continue utilizing Public Information and Outreach services to promote the AAA.</p> <p>AAA will host two educational conferences for the community at large-per fiscal year- on varying topics.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> BCII's will have scheduled out educational programs across region. Educational Conference dates will be scheduled and set.</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> AAA will see more IRA calls regarding these programs. Senior Medicare Patrol will continue to partner with Texoma AAA.</p> <p><i>Long-Term:</i> AAA will see an increase in educational conference participants, as well as educational talks given at community events. BCII's will see an increase in referrals for MSP/LIS applications.</p>

SPoA Goal 2: Increase Awareness about caregiving and the support available.

Objective	Strategies	Projected Outcomes
<p>Increase caregiver awareness of available support</p>	<p>Texoma Aging Education Day and Fall Conference</p> <p>Host “lunch and learn” with educational caregiver topics.</p> <p>Continue partnerships with non-medical care agencies for most up to date information</p> <p>Utilize GUIDE program when applicable</p> <p>Promote caregiver support groups, incontinence supply bank, and other AAA services at community events, social media, etc.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> Plan out monthly topics for education prior to CG Support Groups. Utilize caregiver survey feedback and open forums to determine needed information</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> At hosted events, caregiver specific resources will be available.</p> <p><i>Long Term:</i> When annual survey is conducted, there will be a decrease of reported burnout and educational need across the region. Participants will report events/information was helpful to them.</p>
<p>Provide monthly caregiver support groups and promote other groups in the community outside of AAA hosted.</p>	<p>AAA Director to run monthly support group offerings utilizing direct waiver form.</p> <p>Flyers and promotional information about support groups in the area will be distributed at events, social media and through IRA while speaking with callers. +</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> Promotion of support group will show increased participation.</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> Caregivers will have access to in-person support regardless of county in PSA.</p> <p><i>Long Term:</i> Support group is well attended each month. Surveys indicate that caregivers are aware of groups and education in the PSA.</p>

Objective	Strategies	Projected Outcomes
<p>Informal Caregivers and Professional Caregivers will feel more knowledgeable about providing care.</p>	<p>AAA Director to do in-servicing with private agency caregivers on needed topics.</p> <p>AAA Director to have education brought in for informal caregivers about hands on techniques requested during survey.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> Create educational relationships for informal caregivers with outside agencies</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> AAA to collaborate for quarterly educational activities for informal caregivers.</p> <p><i>Long Term:</i> Caregivers will feel supported through survey results. Educational Training will not be the top need on annual caregiver survey.</p>

SPoA Goal 3: Improve communication and collaboration among Texas state agencies, AAAs, providers, and community-based organizations.

Objective	Strategies	Projected Outcomes
<p>Actively participate in regional/state agency events, training and networking opportunities</p>	<p>Director or AAA staff will attend meetings and relay applicable information to all staff.</p> <p>Director and Finance Manager to participate in T4A meetings and all HHSC calls.</p> <p>Participate in new Criminal Justice Worker collaboration with TLSC and Disability Rights TX</p> <p>AAA Director or representative will remain active on local boards and advisory councils.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> AAA will stay “in the know” of opportunities for participation.</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> Monthly staff meetings will be utilized to share any information from outside events/meetings.</p> <p><i>Long Term:</i> Texoma AAA will operate with greater knowledge and understanding of the current events within the region and state.</p>

Objective	Strategies	Projected Outcomes
<p>Texoma AAA will encourage participation in events that are hosted by AAA, as well as participate in outside community-based events.</p>	<p>Texoma will host a spring conference and a fall conference. At each outside providers are given opportunity to speak, have vendor tables, provide information for resource bags and more.</p> <p>Texoma will host a monthly meeting with outside providers that serves as a planning committee for educational events. (LEAP)</p> <p>AAA will host a fan drive and heater drive- encouraging participation from local entities.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> AAA will maintain current relationships and utilize those to make new collaborations.</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> New agencies will begin attending planning meetings and participate in events.</p> <p><i>Long Term:</i> AAA will be seen as a collaborative organization and will be well known for inclusion and program development in our community.</p>
<p>Community based organizations will know who to refer to the AAA for resources.</p>	<p>Texoma will provide in-servicing to other agencies and groups about AAA services on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>Texoma will utilize Public Info to promote AAA services at AAA hosted and other events.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> AAA Director will identify organizations in our region with whom we are not currently connected</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> AAA will reach out to said organizations and provide information.</p> <p><i>Long Term:</i> AAA will make new version of Texoma Senior Sourcebook FY27-29 and distribute to entire community.</p>

SPoA Goal 4: Strengthen Aging Services Network Infrastructure.

Objectives	Strategies	Projected Outcomes
<p>Enhance communication and innovate practices to improve Texoma AAA quality of service and outcomes.</p>	<p>Improve processes, as applicable, to improve efficiency.</p> <p>Texoma AAA to have monthly department meetings for discussion- as well as a monthly meeting with outside partners.</p> <p>Discuss ways to improve workforce needs for AAA staff.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> Establish more efficient processes for communicating information and providing services.</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> Outside partners will feel more of a connection to our agency and be more confident in referring individuals for relevant things.</p> <p><i>Long Term:</i> Increase in overall performance for AAA and higher quality/satisfaction reports from surveys. (determined by 90% 5 of 5, and increase in number of clients served)</p>
<p>Strengthen relationships with outside HHSC local providers and other state agencies; TLSC, Disability Rights, APS, SSA etc.</p>	<p>Ensure staff have access to trainings from these organizations and about these organizations.</p> <p>Include organizations in educational events and meetings.</p> <p>Contact organizations to keep up with the turnover that occurs.</p> <p>Partner with these organizations for pilot programs, or other projects as applicable.</p>	<p><i>Short Term:</i> Contact individuals at these locations and discuss possibility for more collaborations.</p> <p><i>Intermediate:</i> Partners will more accurately refer individuals to the AAA. Representatives from these organizations will more frequently participate in our events and invite us to theirs.</p> <p><i>Long Term:</i> AAA will provide better more accurate information to consumers due to more frequent contact and updated information from outside providers.</p>

Long Range Planning

Reference: [OAA of 1965, as amended through P.L. 116-131 \(3/25/2020\)](#)
Page 63

Texoma Area Agency on Aging weighs importance to long-range planning to ensure continued availability, accessibility, and high-quality effectiveness of services rendered to older adults, and their caregivers, throughout the planning and service area.

This Area Plan covers fiscal years 2027-2029 but the referenced strategies below were informed by projected needs and service trends to be anticipated over the next five to ten years.

Regardless of changes to come, Texoma AAA will continue to utilize a person-centered approach and multidisciplinary community partnerships to target older individuals with greatest economic and social needs, lower income, limited English, living in rural areas and those at risk for institutionalization.

The Texoma region is expected to experience:

- Continued growth overall, including those aged 60 and above, with the most rapid increase among those aged 85+.
- Increase demand for home and community-based services to support aging in place.
- Higher needs for informal caregiver support due to the complex care and limited affordable professional care options. Individuals are living longer thus indicating the “sandwich generation” will continue to grow as individuals are trying to care for their own families while caring for an aging parent.
- Transportation and service access will continue to become a great issue across the region- especially in the more rural parts of the PSA.
- Due to increase in transportation demand and no current way to manage the population Texoma has, it is anticipated that food insecurity and health disparities related to transportation needs will increase. Cost of living increases will likely impact these challenges as well.

Texoma AAA will need to ensure equitable access to aging services for all eligible individuals, regardless of location, income, language, or functional ability thru:

-Strengthening of referral systems across the region by providing education to said agencies and organizations about AAA services.

-Find avenues for outreach expansion for rural, minority and underserved populations.

-Develop more efficient processes to reach older adults with limited staff bandwidth. Partner with other agencies to share information.

-Maintain nutrition services, as funding permits, to meet the growing demand and reduce food insecurity for homebound older adults.

Texoma AAA will support aging in place by expanding services that promote independence, safety and quality of life.

-Access to Homemaker, Respite, and Chore Maintenance services

-Provide Evidence Based Intervention classes for health promotion, caregiver stress and fall prevention.

-Coordination with local entities to share resources and consumers

-Coordinate with Medicaid/HBCS, healthcare agencies and local service providers.

Texoma AAA will focus on caregiver competency and confidence and reduce burn out and stress through education, respite, and support service.

-AAA will offer Caregiver Support Groups monthly with educational element

-Maintain relationships with caregiver agencies and other applicable resources.

-Explore ways to support caregivers' mental health challenges in a more effective way.

Transportation Improvement to Accessibility:

-Participate with local and regional transportation officials through survey and attending planning meetings to identify service gaps

-Advocate and encourage age and disability friendly planning.

-Support finding other demand-response transportation options.

Texoma will pursue diversified funding options to support service delivery

-Maximizing current Older Americans Act and state funding available

-Seek grant opportunities outside of the aging network- including veteran services.

-Seek additional partnerships for cost sharing.

Appendix A – Emergency Preparedness

Reference: [45 CFR 1321.103](#)

The Area Agency on Aging of Texoma (AAA) will maintain an active role in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery to ensure continuity of services for older adults, caregivers, and other vulnerable populations in the planning and service area.

In alignment with 45 CFR 1321.103, the AAA will support a coordinated community-based system that remains responsive during disasters and emergencies. Activities may include participant outreach and wellness checks, prioritization of high-risk individuals, continuity of home-delivered meals and other essential supportive services, emergency information dissemination, provider coordination, and referrals to disaster-related resources.

The AAA will collaborate with local emergency management offices, public health agencies, first responders, community-based organizations, and other partners to ensure the needs of older adults are incorporated into local emergency planning and response efforts. The AAA will participate in planning, communication, and recovery coordination activities and will collaborate with providers and community partners to identify service gaps, strengthen preparedness, and support post-disaster recovery for older adults and caregivers.

(See attached Texoma Council of Governments Emergency Preparedness Plan)

Appendix B – Public Comment Activities

Reference: [45 CFR 1321.65\(b\)\(4\)](#) and [45 CFR 1321.29](#)

Describe activities conducted in development of the plan that demonstrate compliance with the minimum time period (at least 30 calendar days) for public review and comment of the AAA’s draft AP. Include information that demonstrates compliance with input, review, and approval by the AAA’s Aging Advisory Council. Provide description or images of activities (e.g., flyers, posts, or announcements sharing the public comment period.)

TO BE ADDED FOLLOWING 30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

Appendix C – [Title]

Additional information/attachments to be added at the discretion of the AAA. Note: this is an optional attachment for the AAA to add individualized detail to their Area Plan. Additional attachments are optional at the discretion of the AAA.

Attachment 1: 2027-2029 Projected Distribution of Serviced by County

Separate Excel spreadsheet attachment (template provided) is to be completed based on projected distribution of service by assigned counties for the area plan cycle (2027-2029). Spreadsheet is required with the 2027-2029 Area Plan submission.

Purpose of Spreadsheet: Demonstrate projected distribution of services. ACL regulatory requirements include that an AP must identify how services will be distributed within the PSA to address populations identified as greatest economic and social need.

Implementation of Spreadsheet: The initial submission of the spreadsheet accompanies the AP and is based on projections at the time of AP submission. Subsequent to the 2027-2029 AP approval, updated spreadsheet versions of the projections made are to be submitted annually with the working budget.

Attachment 2: Verification of Intent & Assurances

Reference: [OAA of 1965, as amended through P.L. 116-131 \(3/25/2020\)](#)

Separate attachment (template provided) requires signature by one authorized representative of AAA.

By an authorized official signing the Verification of Intent and Assurances, the AAA is assuring the written activities included in the plan will be completed during the effective period with amendment submission as required.

Certification of such assurances include the following:

- Input through a 30-calendar day public comment period.
- Input from the AAA advisory council.
- Composition requirements of advisory council are met.
- Approval from the AAA's governing board.
- Active policies and procedures are in place to identify both organizational and individual conflicts of interest.
- Direct Service Waiver will be submitted as required.
- Annual budget process will include submission of number of individuals served, type and number of units provided, and corresponding expenditures.