

Connecticut Commission on Aging – A Strategic Investment



Created in 1993
Moved to the Legislature in 2005
CT General Statutes §17b-420



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Annual Budget: \$444,172 (FY '09)
Personnel: 4 staff members

Saves the State Money:

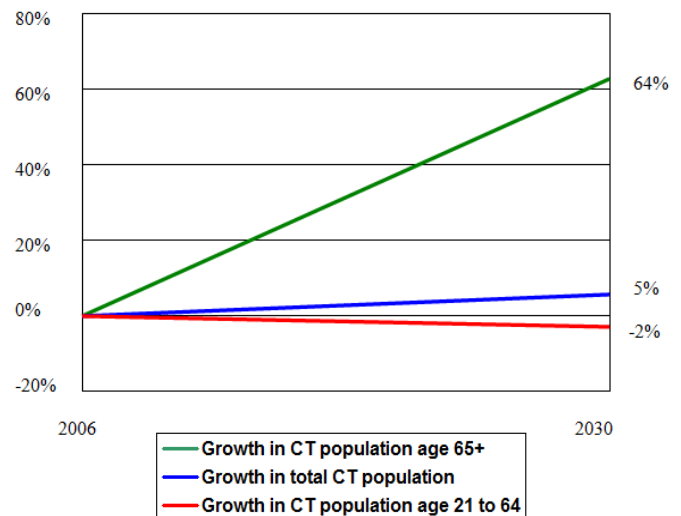
- This year alone, the CoA identified and pursued up to **\$11 million** in new, untapped federal funds related to Money Follows the Person. Without CoA oversight, the Executive Branch would have left this money in Washington.
- Furthermore, CoA recommendations for reforming the State's approach to long term care would have saved the state **\$600 million** in 2006, according to independent research authorized and contracted by the state legislature.

Maximizes Resources:

- CoA has designed a proposal to reorganize the Department of Social Services (the largest state agency) to improve the delivery of services, eliminate duplication, and save state money.
- CoA is pursuing a change in state law to allow federal money to fund additional affordable assisted living facilities in Connecticut. This will help older adults live in the community instead of nursing homes and will save state resources.
- Our results-oriented staff of 4 works collaboratively and with our volunteer (unpaid) board, policymakers, and community partners across the state to ensure **our RBA population result:** that all present and future older adults in CT live in the secure, productive and healthy environment of their choice. **Mindful of our fiscal responsibilities, there is no fat in our budget: ask us for details, then replicate our model!**

Plans for a Huge Demographic Shift as Baby Boomers Age:

- The CoA prepares the state for a vastly changed demographic – a dramatic increase in the sheer numbers of older adults and unprecedented longevity. This growing constituency has a profound effect on nearly every facet of society and most certainly the state budget.
- Medicaid long-term care expenditures alone represent approximately 14% of the state budget – and are growing. Without proper planning and changes, the state faces fiscal disaster. CoA presents a roadmap to deliver services more effectively while saving state money (up to \$600 million a year).



The state cannot afford to eliminate the CoA's proven effectiveness through staff reductions or consolidations!

The Connecticut Commission on Aging: a non-partisan, independent agency of the General Assembly which provides objective oversight within government and an independent and clear voice on aging-related issues. The CoA is composed of a resourceful team of 17 citizen voting (unpaid) members, 16 non-voting members (state legislators and representatives of state departments), 4 professional staff, and volunteers.