



BACKGROUND

HISTORY

Council on Aging of West Florida is a local, independent 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that serves seniors and their families. The organization was founded in 1972 as the Escambia County Council on Aging and began its programs and services with the Meals on Wheels program. Today, Council on Aging of West Florida helps seniors in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties live healthy, safe and independent lives in their own familiar surroundings by providing community based in-home programs and services such as Meals on Wheels and Alzheimer's Respite Care. In addition, the organization administers other programs that provide active seniors with opportunities to serve in the community that benefit school children, other organizations and their peers.

MISSION

The mission of Council on Aging of West Florida is "Leading the community in advocacy and services for the aging and those involved in their lives." The organization strives to live out this mission every day and is committed to providing the growing senior population, their caregivers and their community with the quality care they deserve by focusing on its core values -- Advocacy, Compassion, Excellence, Integrity, Respect and Vision

SERVICE AREA

Council on Aging of West Florida serves Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. The organization is headquartered in Pensacola and operates a satellite office in Milton.

NUMBER SERVED

Council on Aging of West Florida currently serves over 3,500 seniors and touches the lives of hundreds more. Though the organization is most known for enabling seniors to live healthy, safe and independent lives in their own familiar surroundings, the organization's diverse programs also benefit family members, caregivers, school children and other organizations in the community.

FUNDING

Council on Aging of West Florida is funded in part by grants and/or contracts with the Northwest Florida Area Agency on Aging, Inc., the State of Florida Department of Elder Affairs, State of Florida Department of Children and Families, United Way of Escambia County and the Corporation for National and Community Services. The organization also receives financial support from the City of Pensacola, Escambia County and area businesses, organizations and individuals. Total funding can be broken down as 47% federal funding, 40% state funding, 10% local private support, 2% United Way funding, and 1% city/county funding.

PRIMARY PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Adult Day Health Care and Alzheimer's Respite Care

Adult Day Health Care not only means quality care and social interaction for adults with physical and cognitive impairments, it means respite for caregivers. This service is provided at the council's 2,500 sq. ft. adult day health care center. The center is licensed by the State of Florida and is the only facility of its kind in the area.

Case Management

The Social Services department advocates for seniors and serves as their link to community resources. Case managers assess the unique needs of each client and continually monitor their situation to provide them with the support they need.

Congregate Meals

The congregate meal program provides hot, nutritious balanced lunches at numerous locations throughout Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties.

Foster Grandparent Program

The Foster Grandparent Program offers lower income seniors the chance to share their wisdom while earning a small tax-free stipend and other benefits. Foster Grandparents work with children in schools, Pre-K Centers and childcare centers to help them develop the skills, confidence and strength to succeed in life.

Meals-on-Wheels

Over 400 balanced meals are delivered daily to homes throughout Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. These meals contain 1/3 of the recommended daily allowance (RDA) for adults.

Recreation Services

The Rise & Stride mall walking program, offered in partnership with Sacred Heart Hospital's Senior Spirit and Cordova Mall, provides year round healthy indoor exercise Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Camp Adventure is an annual three day getaway at Beckwith Camp & Lodge in Fairhope, Alabama. The camp provides a full schedule of daytime and evening activities including fishing, hiking, arts and crafts and games. All activities are wheelchair accessible and are supervised by qualified staff and volunteers.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

The Retired & Senior Volunteer Program serves both seniors and the community. The program recruits volunteers, then matches their interests and experience with community needs. RSVP volunteers are placed in safety and learning programs, cultural and historical facilities, area hospitals and non-profit organizations. RSVP Volunteers share their skills and time to strengthen the impact of over 60 organizations.

Rural Services and Senior Centers

Council on Aging of West Florida operates senior centers in Cantonment and Century. Both of these centers serve as hubs of activities in these areas. In addition to serving as congregate meals sites, these centers offer the opportunity to join in arts and crafts projects, play games and socialize.

Senior Companion Program

The Senior Companion Program offers lower income seniors the chance to share their time while earning a small tax-free stipend and other benefits. Senior Companions help their less mobile peers live independently by providing friendship and assistance. Without the help of Senior Companions, many older adults would not be able to continue living at home and would need more expensive, less personal care.

Senior Solutions

Providing private pay services is one way that Council on Aging of West Florida can serve a broader, evolving and diverse senior population, and their caregivers – all with needs. This program offers Home Delivered Meals and Adult Day Health Care services to meet the short or long term needs of those who might not qualify for government funded programs. Customized service is available at affordable rates without age or other assessment criteria.

BUDGET

Council on Aging of West Florida's operating budget for 2008 is \$4,847,091. In addition, the organization utilizes over 1,000 volunteers, whose combined volunteer service exceeds 120,000 hours annually.



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Leading the community in advocacy and services for the aging and those involved in their lives for over 35 years.