

Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging

2015 Year in Review



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- COAAA experienced growth in case management, with the addition of 500 Ohio Home Care Waiver consumers. COAAA in partnership and under contract with CareSource became case managers for the Ohio Home Care Waiver in July, serving those under 60 with disabilities and adding a team of 18 staff members.

This growth means COAAA now coordinates care for nearly 8,000 individuals through various programs.



New location for COAAA. 3776 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio.

- COAAA found a solution to its space and training facility problems by finalizing plans to move to South High Street, the purchase of the new building to be completed by the end of 2015. The expected move will be in the first quarter of 2016.

- COAAA currently provides case management or waiver service coordination services for these programs: PASSPORT: 2,453 individuals in 8 counties; Aetna Better Health: 2,355 individuals in 5 My Care Demonstration Counties; Molina: 1,043 in 5 My Care Demonstration Counties; CareSource: 506 individuals in 8 counties for the Ohio Home Care Waiver; Franklin County Senior Options: 1,638 in 1 county

- COAAA will provide information and assistance to an estimated 7500 individuals calling about community services in 2015. Assessments for Medicaid services were given to 6300 individuals with an additional 2365 in-home assessments on behalf of the Franklin County Senior Options Levy Program.

- COAAA served 14,500 consumers through contracts with 38 local providers through the Older Americans Act and the State Block Grant, totaling \$5,649,964.

- COAAA certified 43 agencies, 2 assisted living facilities, 50 Choices providers and 6 non-agency Waiver nurses so they could begin providing Medicaid Services.

- COAAA monitored the performance of 360 agencies, 35 assisted living facilities, 139 Choices individual providers and 6 non-agency nurses for Medicaid Waiver programs and 3 county levy programs.



Case Manager Cheryl Moreland with PASSPORT Consumer Julia W.

- COAAA’s Volunteer Guardian Program serves 6 counties in partnership with County Probate Courts and assessed and matched 134 individuals with a guardian in 2015. On the request of the Franklin County Probate Court, assessments were made for nursing home residents that were wards of an attorney who was removed as guardian for 400 clients. In 2015, the VGP placed 47 with volunteers. Because of the fragile health of the population, there is always a need for new volunteers. 597 people have received the services of a volunteer guardian through the program over the years.

- COAAA, along with partners AAA7 and AAA8, was recognized by CMS and the Lewin Group as a top performer in the country in the CMS Community Care Transitions Program Demonstration. At Fairfield Medical Center, 1100 patients were seen by a Care Transitions Coach with 960 receiving home visits and coaching on ways to prevent being readmitted to the hospital.

- COAAA joined the Medical Neighborhood, a project guided by the Healthcare Collaborative of Greater Columbus. It will connect regional healthcare providers and social service agencies through referral software but also allows participants to explore best practices that will better connect healthcare and community services to benefit patients.

- COAAA’s director served on the OSU Kirwan Institute’s advisory group to study aging issues in Central Ohio funded by the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation and the Columbus Foundation. A panel discussion at the Metropolitan Club highlighted the findings and future concerns to the community.



Paul, a guardian in the Volunteer Guardian Program arranged an honor flight to D.C. for his individual Ned who is a veteran.



COAAA Director Cindy Farson serving on the Columbus Metropolitan Club Panel “Challenges of an Aging Population”.



I-Team panel demonstrating a case review for a complex case during the Franklin County I-Team’s successful event recognizing World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

- COAAA provided startup funds to Clintonville for the development of the second Village Concept Program in Central Ohio. German Village Connections continues to grow and thrive after receiving the first seed grant for a Village.

- COAAA participates on the Franklin County Interdisciplinary Team which brings Adult Protective Services, law enforcement, social services, the legal community and others together to look at difficult cases involving vulnerable older adults. COAAA also participates on I-Teams in Fairfield County and recently added Madison and Delaware.

- COAAA recognized World Elder Abuse Awareness Day with Wendy Hux of COAAA chairing the Franklin County I Teams successful event, which brought together all segments concerned with Elder Abuse to study cases and be updated on current progress in Ohio.

- COAAA testified and advocated for increased Adult Protective Services Funding in Senate Finance sub-committee and Full Committee, along with making local legislators aware of the need to update APS laws and practices in Ohio.

- COAAA provided funding for the popular Federal Senior Farmers Market Program in 5 counties, administered through LifeCare



COAAA Director Cindy Farson testifying for more APS funding before the Senate Committee.

Alliance. Fifty dollars in vouchers to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables were distributed to 4,857 people with no wait lists. The Franklin County Senior Levy contributes to keep a wait list from forming, and levy programs in Delaware and Union Counties fund their own Farmers Market Programs.



COAAA staff volunteering at the phones for the NBC 4 Alzheimer's special.

- COAAA's Medicare Outreach and Education Program was busy assisting 1826 consumers by providing local presentations, providing Part D prescription plan comparisons, submitting Low-Income Subsidy applications and Medicare Saving Program applications and helping COAAA case managers with questions from their clients.

the Trainer Courses and 2 DRIVE Trainer Update Courses reaching 115 trainers; 5 DRIVE Courses and 1 Refresher Course required for Transportation Providers, reaching 76 drivers. COAAA staff led 47 sessions of the Caregiver Toolbox course in 8 counties reaching 600 caregivers and 24 Caregiver Support Group sessions. 115 one hour Healthy, Well & Wise programs were given to community groups on various topics. There were 15 Matter of Balance Evidence Based Workshops, 20 Healthy U Chronic Disease Self-Management workshops, 5 Diabetes Self-Management workshops, and 58 Displays at local outreach events. COAAA sponsored and participated on the call-in panel of the Channel 4 Alzheimers special presentation on Wednesday, December 2nd.

- COAAA continues to focus on training and education for the community providing: 23 professional workshops with 82 continuing education units to 775 attendees Two DRIVE Train

- COAAA's Foundation, Aging Solutions hosted a successful fundraising event and was able to use funds from donations, a grant from Altrusa Club, a grant from the AARP Foundation and proceeds from the Columbus Foundation's Big Give to serve many COAAA clients with items to help them stay at home. COAAA case managers can request emergency utility or rent assistance, microwaves, cleaning products, food cards and many other custom items not covered by public programs.



Waiver Clinical Manager Sue Howson selling raffle tickets at the Aging Solutions Fundraiser, Giving Spirits.



Columbus Dispatch Editor Ben Marrison receiving the Outstanding Service to Seniors Award.

- COAAA hosted the 40th Annual Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame ceremony recognizing older adults from each county for their outstanding contributions to our communities. The Outstanding Service to Seniors Award was given to the Columbus Dispatch for their aggressive reporting on important senior issues including Guardianship Law, Home Care and Adult Protective Services.

2015 HOF Inductee Colleen M. McMurray addresses the crowd during her acceptance speech.



- COAAA sponsored the 5th annual Senior Living Festival with the Franklin County Office on Aging and the Senior Services Roundtable. Primary funding sponsors included Medical Mutual, Kroger Little Clinic and the Dispatch. Over 2000 people attended to have fun, visit vendors, consider pet adoption, see live entertainment on the Hollywood Casino Stage, visit the discounted buffet, see zoo demonstrations, receive free health screenings and a host of other things.



Attendees visiting the exhibitors at the Senior Living Festival



The Columbus Zoo presenting animals from around the world at the Senior Living Festival



Jeff Gordon performing a Tom Jones tribute at the Senior Living Festival.



THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
MICHAEL B. COLEMAN, MAYOR

The Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging is operated under the City of Columbus, Recreation and Parks Department