

JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARING FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET



DAVA NEWNAM
DIVISION DIRECTOR

DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR AGING &
ADULTS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES
Department of Health and Social Services
February 25, 2020
Legislative Hall, Joint Finance Committee Hearing Room

Comments available online at <https://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/pubs.html>

Good Afternoon, Representative Johnson, Senator McDowell, members of the Joint Finance Committee, and members of the public. I am Dava Newnam, Director of the Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD). With me today is Deputy Director Melissa Smith.

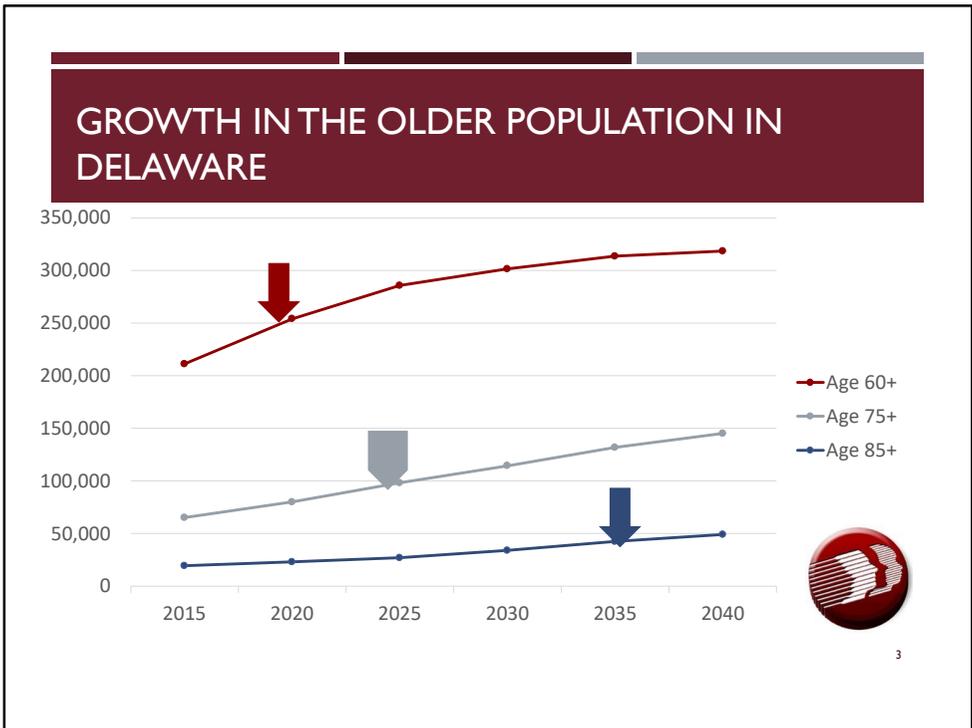
Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today and present our Fiscal Year 2021 budget request.



DSAAPD’s mission is to promote dignity, respect and inclusion for older adults and people with disabilities. The division provides services and supports including: information and assistance through the Aging & Disability Resource Center; case management and options counseling; community nursing; caregiver supports; Adult Protective Services; home and community-based services; and residential care in the Delaware Hospital for the Chronically Ill and Governor Bacon Health Center. DSAAPD’s two facilities currently have a census of 128 residents. Many residents require enhanced resources in order to live safely within our facilities due to complex medical diagnoses.

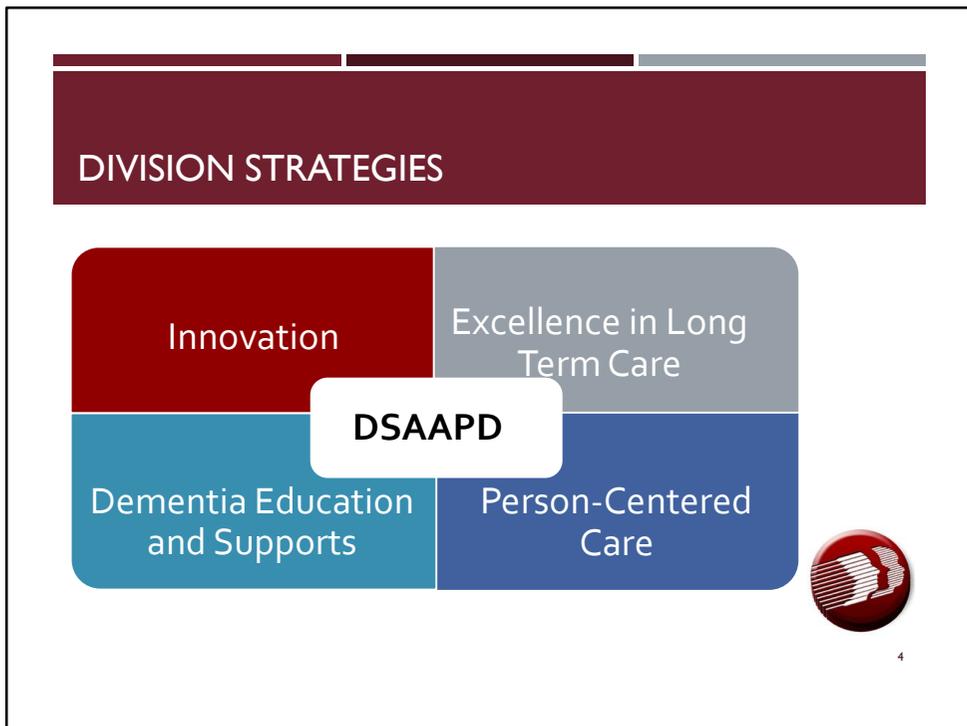
DSAAPD’s home and community-based services help older adults and people with disabilities maintain independence and live in their homes longer. DSAAPD recognizes the importance of supporting caregivers across the lifespan. I will go over the many exciting initiatives in this area later in my presentation.

DSAAPD currently serves about 20,100 people with home and community based services. These include the division’s core services of nutrition, home health, adult day, caregiver supports and legal assistance.



Delaware has seen unprecedented growth in its older population. Delaware’s age 60 and older population began to spike dramatically around 2005 and will continue to expand steadily for the next 20 years. The population of people over age 75 began to increase in about 2015. Delawareans over the age of 85, those most in need of critical care services, nearly doubled between 2005 and 2020, and will double again to approximately 47,000 by 2040. By 2030, Delaware is projected to have the 9th highest proportion of persons aged 65 and over among all states.

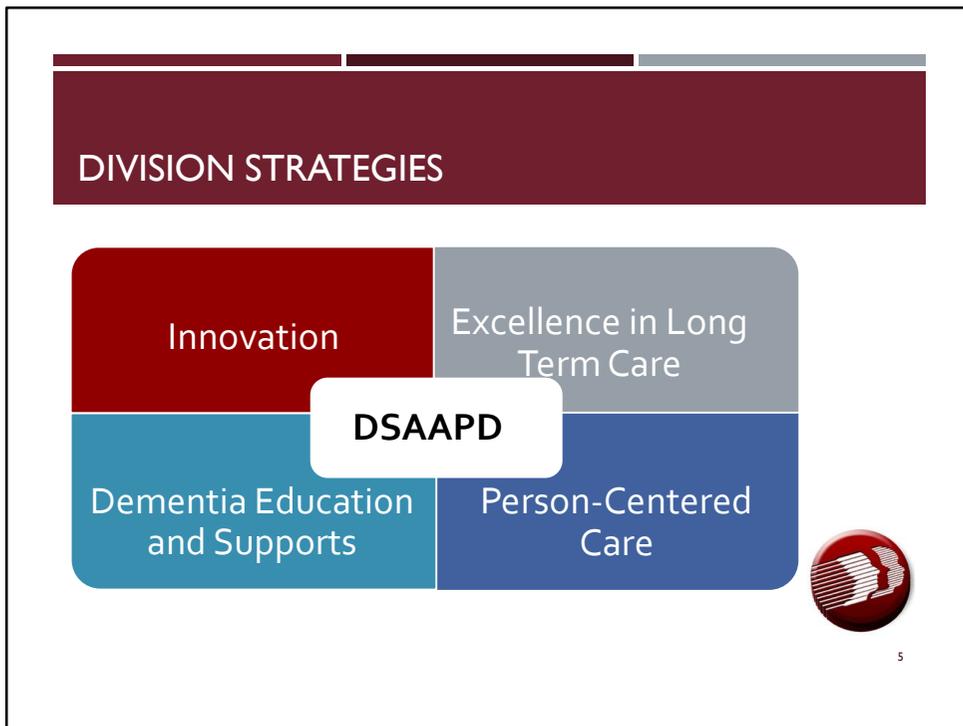
DSAAPD is addressing the population boom through streamlining and strengthening the division’s services and supports system.



Given the environment we just described, DSAAPD needs to reimagine its service delivery models in both the community and long term care settings. Although the rapid projected growth in these populations is evident more in Delaware than most other states, the dilemma of how to continue to provide adequate services when need outpaces resources is a national problem. The focus this year is on modernizing our community services model for providing services to people in their homes. Led by national experts in aging and disability service delivery, Advancing States, DSAAPD will be better equipped to address the aging population surge and do so in a more person-centered way.

We are also very proud of the improvements we have implemented in Adult Protective Services (APS). Under the purview of the Joint Legislative Oversight Sunset Committee, APS implemented improvements to training protocols, communication and outreach as well as anticipated legislative improvements to the APS enabling language. Earlier this month DSAAPD was released from hold over. We are excited about the changes we have made so far and the improvements we expect to continue to see in the future.

DSAAPD has recently implemented an innovative way to enhance the ability of people to remain or transition to the community and benefit from home and community based services. We reorganized our Care Transitions Unit to focus on expanded assistance to residents who wish to transition to a community setting or people at risk of institutionalization who wish to stay in the community.



This multi-disciplinary team includes specialized nurses, a housing coordinator, social work departments from both of our facilities and a seasoned administrator skilled in processes and resources for individuals to transition to community living.

A dedicated team of clinicians have made dramatic improvements in the way we support individuals with neurobehavioral needs in our facilities. A team of trained staff now offer specialized supports to individuals with neurobehavioral conditions. A critical aspect of this care is to rely on as many non-pharmacological supports as possible, and to reduce the use of psychotropic medications in all possible scenarios. We've seen the result of this work in decreased adverse events and a substantial decrease in the use of psychotropic medications. We are very proud of the innovative work going on in our long term care facilities and to announce that both Delaware Hospital for the Chronically Ill and Governor Bacon Health Centers are 5 STAR FACILITIES!!

I'll talk next about our person centered care and dementia strategies.

PERSON-CENTERED CARE

FOUNDATION OF PERSON-CENTERED PRACTICES
 Establish a foundation of person-centered care principles through training and technical assistance.

GROW AVAILABLE RESOURCES
 Identify resources, funding and supports to meet the needs of those whom DSAAPD serves.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND POLICY CHANGE
 Access technical assistance and best practices in re-defining the role of DSAAPD in building healthy communities that are inclusive and supportive of older adults and persons with physical disabilities.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING
 Identify and deliver job-specific training to build on and deliver person-centered care principles.

6

DSAAPD is moving toward an agency-wide culture of person-centered care, which focuses on the individual needs and preferences of the people we serve. DSAAPD was awarded funding to implement a system-wide change process to fundamentally shift to person-centered approaches. Throughout the last year, agency staff have received person-centered care training from national experts in order to establish a foundation of person-centered care principles. These experts have also facilitated focus groups with various segments of staff, residents and caregivers. This next year will bring training in the practical application of person-centered principles to every aspect of our Division. This work will drive infrastructure and policy change with a result that our residents and participants will be at the center of planning their own care.

DSAAPD is focused on supporting individuals with Alzheimer’s and related dementias and their caregivers. We have a multi-layered approach to provide both broad and targeted education on dementia, to better support caregivers and to increase the level of supports we offer. I will touch on some of these initiatives next.

CAREGIVER SUPPORTS AND DEMENTIA EDUCATION AND SUPPORT

SAVVY
Caregiver


Rosalynn Carter
INSTITUTE
FOR CAREGIVING

Reach
Resources For Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregiver Health



Delaware Center for
Alzheimer's and
Related Dementias

www.DECARD.org



7

DSAAPD is committed to supporting Delaware's caregivers through several exciting initiatives. The burden of caregiving takes an emotional and physical toll on people's health, and is costly to our country. Nationally, caregivers provided an estimated 18.5 billion hours of unpaid care. 85% of unpaid help is provided by family members. Caregivers often put the care recipients health above their own, failing to get themselves medical care. You might be surprised to hear that 40% of caregivers for loved ones diagnosed with dementia will die before their loved ones. This why DSAAPD is working to support caregivers more than ever before.

DSAAPD continues to support Savvy Caregiver classes offered at each of our statewide **Caregiver Resource Centers (CRC)**. This is a great free program for caregivers of people with dementia, especially for those newly diagnosed. It teaches about the progression of the disease and strategies to cope with behaviors and the (CRCs) do it in a support group setting.

Through the Rosalynn Carter Institute, DSAAPD has certified four nurses as coaches of **Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregiver Health (REACH)**, an evidence-based curriculum. (REACH) provides education, a focus on safety for the client, support for the caregiver, and skills building to help caregivers manage difficult client behaviors and decrease their own stress. (REACH) is an in-home, tailored, caregiver support intervention consisting of individual sessions. Delaware is the first state to train an all nurse team of caregiver coaches.

CAREGIVER SUPPORTS AND DEMENTIA EDUCATION AND SUPPORT



Delaware Center for
Alzheimer's and
Related Dementias

www.DECARD.org



8

In the last year, DSAAPD collaborated with the Alzheimer's Association, Delaware State University, and University of Delaware to create the **Delaware Center for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (DECARD)**. DECARD is a virtual hub of dementia information and resources. DECARD fosters collective ownership and innovation in the state while working toward improving and expanding Delaware's Alzheimer's and dementia-related infrastructure through data, quality assurance and research.

People diagnosed with dementia often face difficulties comfortably living, working, and engaging in their communities. Dementia Friendly America is an innovative national alliance of communities working towards meeting the needs of people with dementia and their caregivers by providing training and sector-specific tools to help people thrive in the community. Our division is working with partners from around the state, including Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long, to support people diagnosed with dementia and their caregivers through **Dementia Friendly Delaware**. In Delaware, training will be provided to a variety of different stakeholders. This training will help members of the community understand and support people with dementia and other cognitive impairments in a welcoming, caring way.

FY 2021 GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET

FY 2021 Governor's Recommended Budget (\$ in thousands)

	GF	ASF	NSF	Total
FTEs	673.3	0.0	27.75	700.8
Dollars (\$)	61,251.7	3,925.5	18,158.0	83,335.2



9

Budget Definitions:

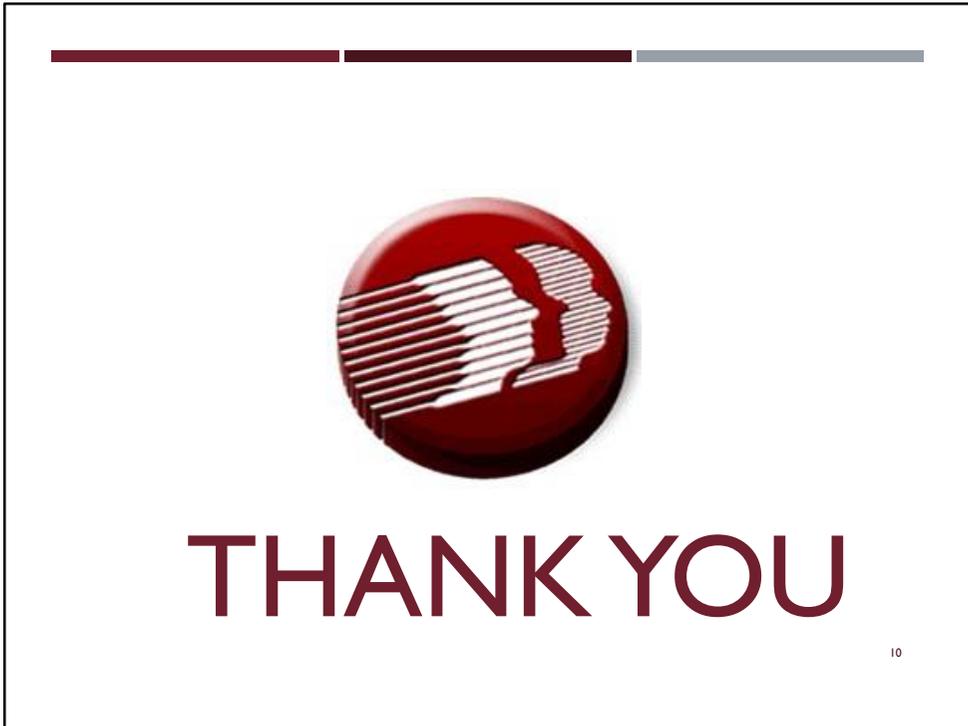
GF – General Funds
 ASF – Appropriated Special Funds
 NSF – Non-Appropriated Special Funds
 FTEs – Full Time Equivalent Positions

The slide above shows the budget included in the FY 2021 Governor's Recommended Budget which is:

- \$61,251.7 [Sixty-One Million, Two Hundred Fifty One Thousand, Seven Hundred Dollars] in General Funds;
- \$3,925.5 [Three Million, Nine Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars] in Appropriated Special Funds Spending Authority; and
- \$18,158.0 [Eighteen Million, One Hundred Fifty-Eight Thousand Dollars] in Non-Appropriated Special Funds

This funding request includes a request for \$1,755.0 [One million, seven hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars] to address growth in the aging population and serve hundreds more vulnerable citizens annually.

We are so grateful for the funding allocated to our population last year, allowing us to serve hundreds more individuals over the age of 60 compared to last year. The infusion of additional funding to address the growth in the population has allowed us to keep pace with the growing demands of our services. Your support has made a substantial difference in the lives of so many Delawareans.



Thank you for the opportunity to share with you the challenges and opportunities facing the Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities. I look forward to your questions.