

Rick Scott  
Governor

Jeffrey S. Bragg  
Secretary

Department of  
**ELDER AFFAIRS**

**STATE OF FLORIDA**



**2016 FUNDING INCREASES AT A GLANCE**

Governor Scott increased funding by nearly \$20 million, including the following:

**\$1.5 million**

for the Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative (ADI) for respite care services and to remove individuals from the waitlist;

**\$1.9 million**

for Community Care for the Elderly (CCE) to help reduce the program’s waitlist;

**\$8.1 million**

for the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Long-term Care Program (SMMC LTC);

**\$701,850**

for Alzheimer’s initiatives; and

**\$2 million**

for hot meals across South Florida.

Since coming to office, Governor Scott has provided nearly \$173 million in increases to benefit Florida elders.

**DOEA Profile**

The Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) is the official State Unit on Aging. Since 1992, DOEA has served as the primary state agency for administering human services programs for elders and developing policy recommendations for long-term care.

**Mission**

To help Florida’s elders remain healthy, safe, and independent.

**Vision**

All Floridians aging with dignity, purpose, and independence.

**GOALS**



Ensure that any Floridian in need of long-term care services receives a timely and appropriate assessment of need by applying a fair, objective, and transparent priority scoring methodology.



Protect vulnerable Floridians and their families by establishing the Office of Public and Professional Guardians.



Promote compassion and awareness for Floridians affected by dementia by expanding the Dementia Care and Cure Initiative (DCCI) across Florida.



Complete all federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements effectively by maximizing the number of elders served.

**Seniors in Florida**

- With nearly 5.2 million residents age 60 and older and currently ranks first in the nation for the 65+ population.
- Florida’s senior population is expected to increase to 7.1 million by 2030.
- More than 1.6 million Floridians are age 75 and older, and 100 and older is the fastest growing age group by percentage.
- It is estimated that more than 510,000 individuals in Florida are living with Alzheimer’s disease.

**DOEA Services to Seniors: FY 2015-2016**

- More than 1.1 million elders were served through DOEA programs.
- More than 15 million meals were provided to elders through the Department’s programs. Of these, more than 8.7 million meals were delivered to individuals’ homes, and more than 6.6 million were provided at congregate meal sites.

## PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

Some of our program highlights include the following:

- Alzheimer's Disease Initiative (ADI)
- Dementia Care and Cure Initiative (DCCI)
- Elder Abuse Prevention Program
- Health and wellness programs
- *Elder Update* Newspaper
- Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program
- Meals on Wheels program
- Memory Disorder Clinics
- Nutrition programs
- Office of Public and Professional Guardians
- Respite for caregivers
- Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)
- Senior Legal Services
- Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders (SHINE) Program

For a full list of programs and services, visit [elderaffairs.org](http://elderaffairs.org).



 [elderaffairs.org](http://elderaffairs.org)

 [information@elderaffairs.org](mailto:information@elderaffairs.org)

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Phone: (850) 414-2000 | Elder Helpline: 1-800-963-5337

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Where can I find information about receiving long-term care services?

CARES staff completes face-to-face assessments and medical case file reviews of individuals to assist them and their caregivers in determining the individual's long-term care service needs. Individuals seeking Medicaid services through home and community-based waiver programs must first be determined medically eligible by CARES staff. For eligibility information, please contact the Elder Helpline to locate your local Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC).

### Can I file an abuse complaint with the Department of Elder Affairs?

To file an abuse, neglect, or exploitation complaint, contact the **Abuse Hotline at 1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873)**. For information on elder abuse awareness and prevention programs in your area, contact the **Elder Helpline at 1-800-96-ELDER (1-800-963-5337)** and ask for the abuse prevention coordinator in your area.

### I'm a low income senior, and I need help with a legal problem. Where can I get assistance?

The Senior Legal Helpline provides free legal assistance for eligible Floridians age 60 and older at 1-888-895-7873. Staff at the Elder Helpline (1-800-96-ELDER) can also make referrals to local legal aid programs that provide free legal representation to low income individuals with civil legal problems.

### I'm a low income senior on a tight budget and need to find work. Where can I get help?

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) trains low-income individuals age 55 and older in part-time community service assignments and assists them to develop skills and gain experience to facilitate their transition to unsubsidized employment. You may contact SCSEP's State Director at (850) 414-2000.

**For other questions call the Elder Helpline at 1-800-96-ELDER (1-800-963-5337) or visit [elderaffairs.org](http://elderaffairs.org)**

## Elder Update

*Elder Update* is the Department's bimonthly newspaper that features articles of interest to Florida seniors and their families and is distributed at no cost to approximately 50,000 seniors. Topics covered include important news and updates from the Department of Elder Affairs, messages from the Secretary and Governor Rick Scott, frequently asked questions pertaining to Medicare, stories about outstanding veterans and volunteers, and other important information about programs in Florida that help support Florida's 5.2 million seniors and their families. Once a year, a special edition is published in advance of hurricane season. The Department's *Disaster Preparedness Guide* provides important information about preparing for emergency events, such as hurricanes, safety tips during an emergency event, and how to prevent becoming a victim of fraud following an event. Subscribe today for free at [elderaffairs.org](http://elderaffairs.org).

