



Older Americans Act - Brief Overview

Presented for the Older Vermonters Act Working Group

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Older Americans Act

- Passed in 1965, along with Medicare and Medicaid
- Calls for creation of a comprehensive and coordinated system of services and supports for older Americans
- Services targeted to those 60+ in “greatest economic and social need”
- Act contains 7 Titles:

Title I: Declaration of Objectives

Title II: Administration on Aging

Title III: Grants for State and Community Programs on Aging

Title IV: Activities for Health, Independence, and Longevity

Title V: Community Service Senior Opportunities Act

Title VI: Grants for Native Americans

Title VII: Vulnerable Elder Rights Protection Activities

Title I: Declaration of Objectives

Older Americans have the right to:

- Adequate income
- Physical and mental health
- Affordable, accessible housing
- Comprehensive community-based long-term care options
- Employment opportunity without discrimination
- Retirement in health, honor and dignity
- Meaningful opportunity for civic, educational and recreational activities
- Efficient community services, including transportation and social supports
- Benefits from proven research knowledge for health and happiness
- Self-determination, full participation in planning services for their benefit
- Protection against abuse, neglect and exploitation

Title III: Grants for States and Community Programs

- Role of the State Unit on Aging (SUA)
- Role of the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)
- Services authorized by Title III:
 - Supportive Services
 - Nutrition Services
 - Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Programs
 - Family Caregiver Support Services

Title V: Community Service Senior Opportunities Act

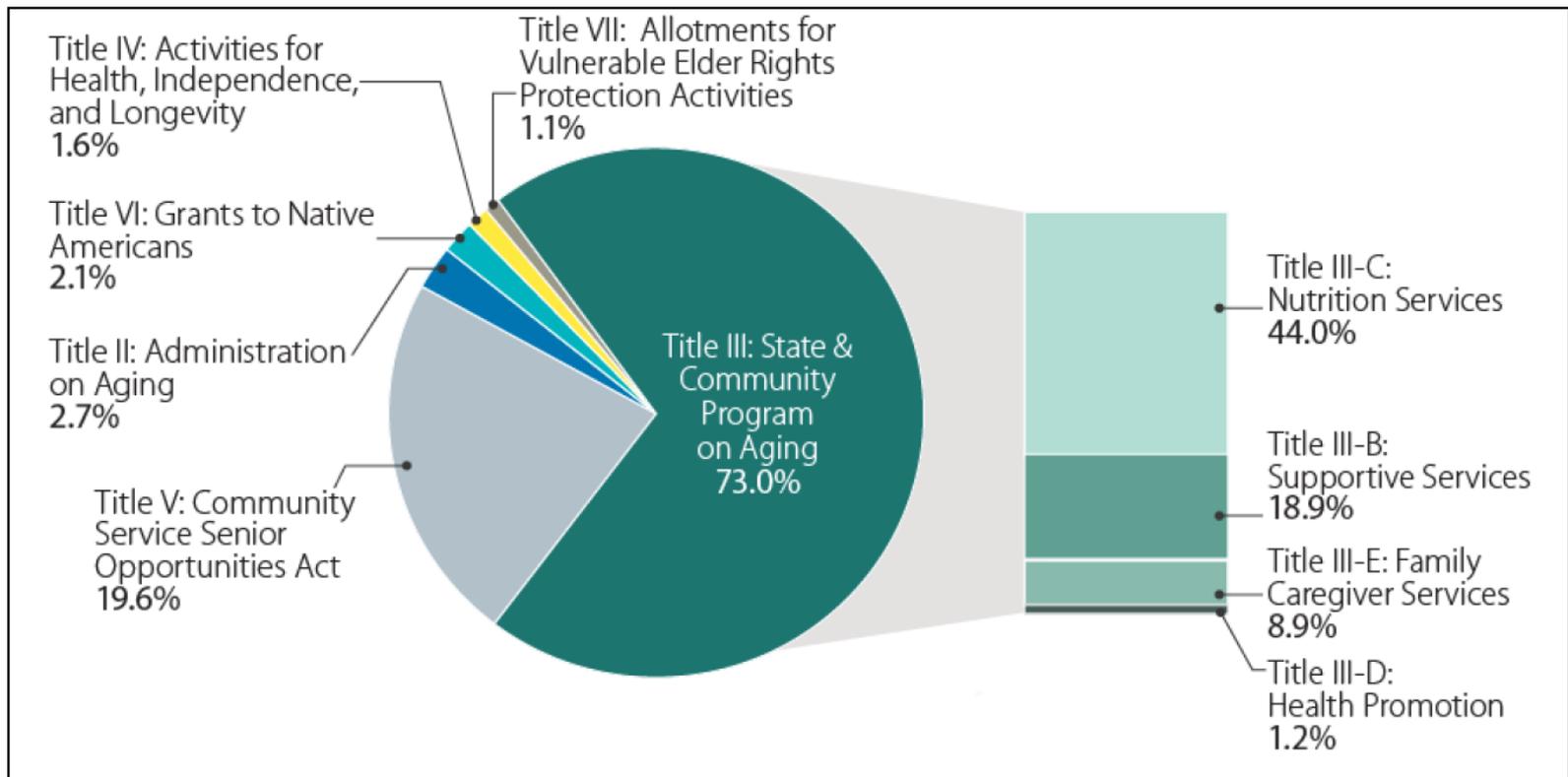
- Funds Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), supporting low-income older workers with training and supported employment

Title VII: Elder Rights & Protections

- Role of the Legal Assistance Developer
- Long-term Care Ombudsman Program
- Prevention of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation

OAA Funding

Figure 2. Older Americans Act, FY2018 Discretionary Appropriations
(funding as a percentage of total OAA funding, \$2.038 billion)



OAA Snapshot in Vermont

In 2018:

- Approx. 57,000 older Vermonters were served by OAA Title III programs through the Area Agencies on Aging and community providers.
- Over 7,000 received case management (Choices for Care, Moderate Needs, self-neglect, veteran directed, etc.)
- 18,000 older Vermonters received nutritious meals (in community or home-delivered).
- 15,000 attended senior centers.
- Over 3,000 family caregivers received information, support and respite.

Partnership & Collaboration is Key!



+ many partner agencies in federal, state & local government



And many more!!!

State Plan on Aging 2019-2022

- A blueprint to guide our work for the next four years. To be launched this October.
- 3 Main Goal Areas:
 - Healthy Aging for All
 - Core OAA Programs for Those in Greatest Need
 - Elder Justice & Protections

Act 172

“An act relating to creating an Older Vermonters Act working group”

Develop recommendations for an Older Vermonters Act that align with:

- Older Americans Act (OAA)
- Vermont State Plan on Aging (SPA)
- Choices for Care Program (CFC)

Recommendations should address both:

- The value of older Vermonters to our communities
- The service and support needs they may have

Group must report recommendations to the legislature by 12/1/19.