

# *SONOMA COUNTY AREA AGENCY on AGING*

## **Annual Report 2006-2007**



*"Empower, Support, Protect"*

**Human Services Department**  
COUNTY OF SONOMA

Adult & Aging Division  
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# Mission

The Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging provides leadership, services and advocacy to promote the dignity, independence and quality of life for seniors, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers.

## *A Message from the Chair*

The past year has been an active and challenging one for the Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council. Council members and AAA staff continued to increase awareness of services to seniors, adults with disabilities and their caregivers, and to provide legislative advocacy and outreach to prevent elder abuse.



*Hal Ling and Alice Diefenbach as she receives the Marge Ling Leadership Award from Bud Metzger, Advisory Council Chair*

The Planning and Funding Committee spent a great deal of effort reviewing funding proposals and making recommendations for contracted services for seniors, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers. The Legislative Committee supported the Elder Justice Act and the augmentation of the Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) and Adult Protective Services (APS) by meeting with Representative Lynn Woolsey, Assemblymember Jared Huffman, and Senator Patricia Wiggins to discuss the importance of increasing funding for APS and MSSP.

A new Transportation and Mobility Committee was formed to address the growing need for senior transportation services. The committee established goals and objectives, and provided input to the preparation and review of the transportation funding Request for Proposals. A new volunteer driver program in west county was the result of these efforts.

The Senior Safety Task Force continues to expand as it addresses the need to help seniors stay safe and independent by preventing falls.

We are grateful for the support we have received from our community and particularly wish to acknowledge the members of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors for their direction and leadership.

*Warren L. Metzger, Chairperson  
Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council*

## Area Agency on Aging

*The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) is a section of the Sonoma County Human Services Department. The AAA and its Advisory Council plan, coordinate, and allocate funding for services for persons sixty years of age and older in Sonoma County. The AAA Advisory Council serves as an advocate for seniors, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers, and advises the Board of Supervisors on the needs of the community.*

### **Direct Services - Area Agency on Aging**

Caregiver Support ❖ Elder Abuse Prevention Council (EAPC) ❖ Information and Assistance ❖ Linkages Program ❖ Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP)

### **Service Providers**

Alexander Valley Regional Medical Center ❖ Catholic Charities ❖ City of Healdsburg Senior Center ❖ City of Rohnert Park Senior Center ❖ Cloverdale Senior Center ❖ Council on Aging ❖ Northcoast Opportunities ❖ Petaluma People Services Center ❖ Redwood Empire Food Bank ❖ Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital ❖ Sebastopol Area Senior Center ❖ Senior Advocacy Services ❖ Southwest Community Health Center ❖ Vintage House Senior Center ❖ West County Community Services ❖ Windsor Senior Center

## Access to Transportation & Housing

*Advocate improving access to transportation and housing resources for seniors and adults with disabilities.*

- ◆ Provided training to 21 Advisory Council members on model transportation programs for seniors and adults with disabilities.
- ◆ The Advisory Council identified transportation as a funding priority for the 2007-2011 Request for Proposal process, allocating \$30,000 for a volunteer driver program.



*Henry Lasky, Advisory Council member, Clay Kempf, Executive Director, Seniors Council of Santa Cruz and San Benito, Inc. at Advisory Council Training*

- ◆ Received funding to assist discharged hospital patients to be placed in appropriate settings, e.g., home, skilled nursing, etc.

## Awareness of Services

*Improve awareness of health and social services for seniors, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers through community education and outreach.*

- ◆ The Elder Abuse Prevention Council presented to financial institutions, educating them about the new mandated reporting regulations.
- ◆ AAA staff collaborated with the City of Santa Rosa to address the needs of seniors, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers, by attending meetings with the mayor.
- ◆ AAA staff and Advisory Council members distributed more than 25,000 Sonoma County Senior Resource Guides in English and Spanish.



*Debra Birkinshaw and Tom Maloney, Advisory Council members, at Petaluma Expo*

## Home & Community-Based Services

*Provide leadership to increase access to an effective system of home and community-based services for seniors and adults with disabilities.*

- ◆ Advocated with the legislature to support the Elder Justice Act and augmentation of funds for Multi-Purpose Senior Services Program and Adult Protective Services.
- ◆ Administered the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, providing low-income seniors with coupons to purchase fruits and vegetables at local farmers markets.



*Lou Funk, Henry Lasky, Bob Marshall, Katherine Taylor, Joann Keyston, Bud Metzger, Alice Diefenbach, Advisory Council members, Assemblymember Jared Huffman, and Richard Ruge, Legislative Committee member*

## Partnerships

*Participate in collaborative partnerships to address the unmet needs of older adults and adults with disabilities.*



*John Johnson, "A Matter of Balance" master trainer, leading seniors in exercises.*

- ◆ Coordinated the Older Americans Month Senior Art Show with senior centers and the Adult & Aging Division. Over 120 entries were received. The art show promotes creativity among seniors.
- ◆ With funding from the Sonoma Health Alliance (Kaiser Permanente, Sonoma County Department of Health Services, St. Joseph Health System, and Sutter Medical Center of Santa Rosa), Safe Steps presentations and "A Matter of Balance" classes were given, reaching over 200 seniors.

## Sonoma County Demographics

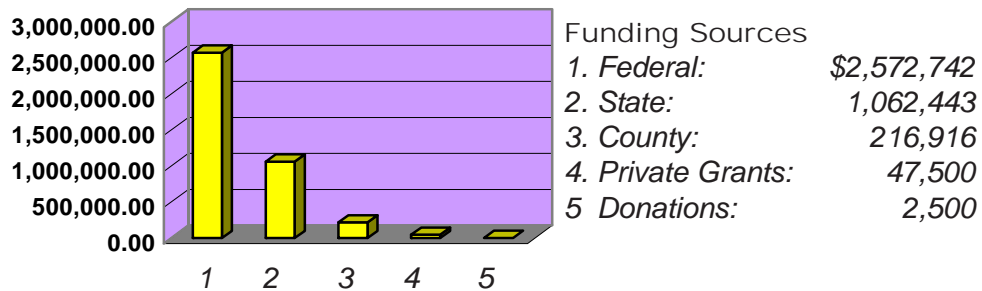
The California Department of Finance population projections for 2007 indicate that there will be 96,307 individuals sixty years of age and older in Sonoma County. This represents 19.3% of the county's total population of 498,868 and is higher than both the state and national average.

### 2007 Population Projections for Sonoma County\*

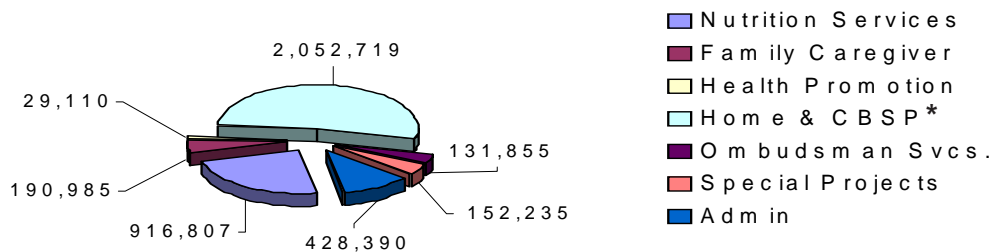
<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent of Seniors</u>
Total Seniors (60+)	96,307	100.0
Age 60 - 74	59,526	62.0
Age 75 - 84	23,284	24.0
Age 85+	13,497	14.0
Ethnicity		
White	83,380	86.6
Hispanic	5,550	5.8
Asian, Pacific Islander	4,248	4.4
African American	1,242	1.3
American Indian	817	.8
Multi-race	1,070	1.1

\*State of California, Department of Finance, Population Projections 2005, November 2005

### Budgeted AAA Revenues for Sonoma County: \$3,902,101



### Budgeted Expenditures: \$3,902,101



\* community-based services programs

# The Adult and Aging Division

The Human Services Department, Adult and Aging Division, provides assistance to older adults and adults over 18 with disabilities. Services are provided by Sonoma County employees and through contracts with community-based organizations.

The *Area Agency on Aging* (AAA) is a program of the Adult and Aging Division and contracts with community agencies to receive the majority of state and federal funding that it obtains. The AAA administers the following services and programs:

- \* *Linkages Program*, (case management services)
- \* *Multipurpose Senior Services Program* (MSSP), (case management services)
- \* *Caregiver Support Services*, (respite care)
- \* *Elder Abuse Prevention Council* (EAPC)
- \* *Information and Assistance*
- \* *StepWise*, (a fall prevention program).

## **Additional Services of the Adult & Aging Division**

*In-Home Supportive Services* (IHSS) provides in-home care services to eligible elderly and younger adults with disabilities who need assistance to live in their own homes rather than institutions. During FY 2006-2007, 5,104 clients received 4,719,304 hours of in-home care service.

*Adult Protective Services* (APS) received 1,800 reports of elder and dependent adult abuse during FY 2006-2007. Response to these reports includes investigation, follow-up case management and coordination with law enforcement.

*Veterans Services* assisted and represented 2,205 veterans, family members and survivors during FY 2006-07. The Veterans Services staff are employed by the county to ensure that members of the veteran community receive all benefits to which they are entitled.

*The Public Administrator/Public Guardian/Public Conservator* (PA/PG/PC) provided services to approximately 323 clients each month during FY 2006-2007. The Public Guardian (PG) and Public Conservator (PC) assist people who are unable to care for themselves and their finances. The Public Administrator (PA) oversees estates for people who die without a will.

# Governing Board

Valerie Brown, 1st District  
Mike Kerns, 2nd District  
Tim Smith, 3rd District  
Paul L. Kelley, 4th District  
Mike Reilly, 5th District

# Advisory Council

Bud Metzger, Chairperson  
Alice Diefenbach, Vice Chairperson  
Henry Lasky, Secretary

Gabriella Ambrosi	Raynetta James	Laurel Ritz
Marce Becerra	Joann Keyston	Marv Stubbs
Debra Birkinshaw	Tom Maloney	Katherine Taylor
Rich Broaddus	Bob Marshall	Elizabeth Tipon
Margaret Dale	Bob Prevot	Van Tipton
Jane Eckels	Mary Raymond	
Lou Funk	Darcy Reynolds	

# Administrative Staff

Jo Weber, Human Services Department Director  
Diane Kaljian, Human Services Division Director  
Gary Fontenot, Human Services Section Manager  
Janice Kay, AAA Fiscal Officer  
Julie Cox, AAA Program Development Manager  
Susan Alesi, AAA Program Planner/Analyst  
Ginny Doyle, AAA Program Planner/Analyst  
Joanne De Alejandro, Secretary  
Camilla Farrell, Accounting Technician  
Judy Scholzen, Account Clerk  
Jeness Keller/Lisa Lambiase, Nutritionist