

# *SONOMA COUNTY AREA AGENCY on AGING*

## **Annual Report 2007-2008**



"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 a productive one for the Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Advisory Council. Council members and AAA staff focused on increasing awareness of services to seniors, adults with disabilities and their caregivers, as well as providing legislative advocacy, and promoting elder abuse prevention.



*Bob Marshall (2nd from left) receives the Marge Ling Leadership Award (left to right) Bud Metzger, Jo Weber, Diane Kaljian, Hal Ling*

The Transportation and Mobility Committee expanded its efforts to increase the availability of transportation for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The AAA received two grants, one to expand its ability to work with public and private transportation providers and the other to develop a marketing plan for recruiting volunteer drivers countywide.

The Step Wise program, a senior falls prevention program, continued to expand by training 50 coaches and offering classes at new locations. In collaboration with the Earle Baum Center for the Blind, newly trained coaches on staff are now making the “A Matter of Balance” program available to their visually impaired clients.

We wish to gratefully acknowledge Advisory Council members Joann Keyston (12 years), Bob Marshall (10 years), and Raynetta James (4 years) for their service, as they step down from the Council. They have truly made a difference in the lives of Sonoma County seniors, individuals with disabilities, and their caregivers.

We appreciate 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, Chairman  
Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council*

## *Area Agency on Aging*

*The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) is a program of the Sonoma County Human Services Department. The AAA and its Advisory Council plan, coordinate, and allocate funding for services for persons 60 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 Sonoma County Board of Supervisors on the needs of the community.*

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

Caregiver Support ❖ Elder Abuse Prevention Project (EAPP) ❖ Linkages Program ❖ Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) ❖ Step Wise Program

### **Service Providers**

Catholic Charities ❖ Council on Aging ❖ Northcoast Opportunities ❖ Petaluma People Services Center ❖ Redwood Empire Food Bank ❖ Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital ❖ Sebastopol Area Senior Center ❖ Senior Advocacy Services ❖ West County Community Services

## Access to Transportation & Housing

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

Photo by Dean Brittingham, 2008



*Sebastopol Area Senior Center volunteer driver program provides rides to medical and social appointments*

- \* Sebastopol Area Senior Center provided 60 seniors in West County with rides to medical and social appointments through their new volunteer driver program funded by AAA.

- \* AAA received a Metropolitan Transportation Commission grant to expand its work with public and private transportation providers to plan for the needs of seniors and disabled individuals.

- \* AAA received a grant to develop a marketing plan for recruiting volunteer drivers countywide.

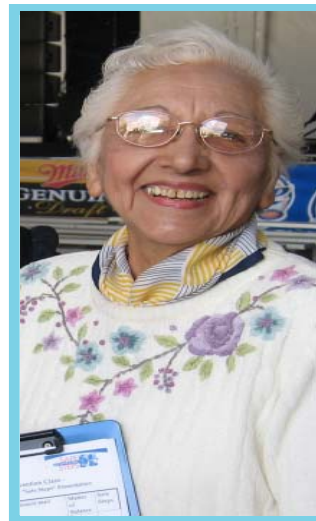
## Awareness of Services

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

- \* The Step Wise program staff presented information on falls prevention to seniors at affordable housing sites.

- \* AAA staff and Advisory Council members distributed more than 25,000 *Sonoma County Senior Resource Guides* in English and Spanish.

- \* Staff provided elder abuse prevention education to professionals and community groups quarterly.



*Lee Tipon, Advisory Council member, staffs a booth at the Sonoma County Fair*

## 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 legislators to support the Elder Justice Act and the expansion of the Assisted Living Waiver Pilot Project. Opposed funding decreases of Adult Protective Services, In-Home Supportive Services, and the Multi-Purpose Senior Services Program.
- \* Farmers' Market Nutrition Program provided low-income seniors with coupons to purchase fruits and vegetables at local farmers' markets.



*Representative Mike Thompson, Joann Keyston, Bud Metzger, Diane Kaljian, and Jim Redding*

## Partnerships

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



*Shryl Templin, Lorna Schreck, Pamela Moniz, Susan Alesi, and Raynetta James acknowledged by the Board of Supervisors for their work on the Senior Art Show and the Step Wise Program, both recipients of a California State Association of Counties Award*

- \* AAA staff and Advisory Council members coordinated the Older Americans Month Senior Art Show with senior centers and the Sonoma County Adult & Aging Division. Over 140 entries were received in 2008. The art show promotes creativity among seniors and was awarded an Honorable Mention from the California State Association of Counties.

- \* The Step Wise senior falls prevention program, was honored with a Merit Award from the California State Association of Counties. More than 250 seniors participated in the "A Matter of Balance" series to help them manage concerns about falling and increase activity levels.

## Sonoma County Demographics

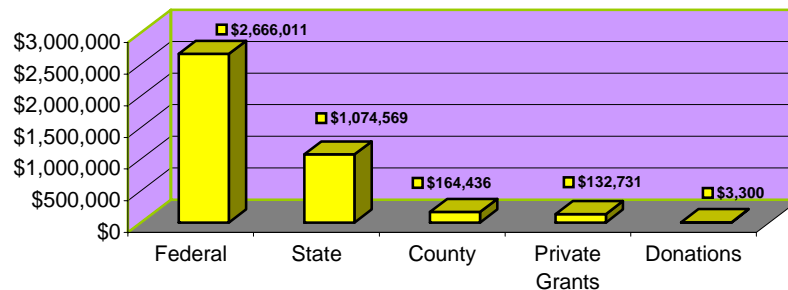
The California Department of Finance population projections for 2008 indicate that there will be 89,106 individuals 60 years of age and older in Sonoma County. This represents 18.3% of the county's total population of 487,575 and is higher than both the state and national average.

### 2008 Population Projections for Sonoma County\*

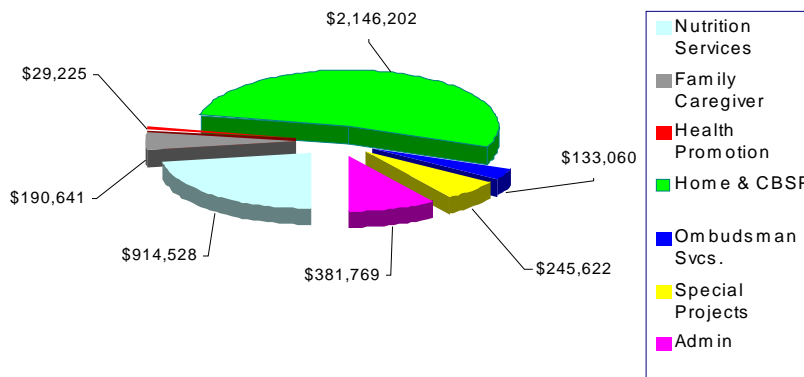
<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent of Seniors</u>
Total Seniors (60+)	89,106	100.0
Age 60 - 74	50,178	56.0
Age 75 - 84	29,060	33.0
Age 85+	9,686	11.0
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
White	76,444	86.0
Hispanic	6,993	8.0
Asian, Pacific Islander	3,111	3.2
African American	859	1.0
American Indian	698	.8
Multi-race	1,001	1.0

\*State of California, Department of Finance, Population Projections 2008; July 7, 2007

### AAA Budgeted Revenues: \$4,041,048



### AAA Budgeted Expenditures: \$4,041,048



CBSP: 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 distribute the majority of state and federal funding that it obtains. The AAA directly 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 Project* (EAPP)
- \* *Information and Assistance*
- \* *Step Wise*, (a falls 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 2007-2008, 5,592 clients received 5,108,843 hours of in-home care services.

*Adult Protective Services* (APS) received 2,060 reports of elder and dependent adult abuse during FY 2007-2008. Response to these reports includes investigation, follow-up case management, and coordination with law enforcement.

*Veterans Services* assisted and represented 2,479 veterans and their families during FY 2007-08. The Veterans Services staff is employed by the county to ensure that veterans and their families receive all benefits to which they are entitled.

*The Public Administrator/Public Guardian/Public Conservator* (PA/PG/PC) provided services to approximately 317 clients each month during FY 2007-2008. 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.

*IHSS Public Authority* maintains a registry of screened caregivers for referral to IHSS consumers, provides training opportunities for caregivers and consumers, and offers an Urgent Substitute Provider Program (USPP) to assist consumers with urgent needs. During FY 2007-08, the Public Authority made 1,015 consumer/caregiver matches, provided trainings to 343 caregivers/consumers, and filled 150 USPP assignments.

# Sonoma County Board of Supervisors

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, Chairman  
Henry Lasky, Vice Chairman  
Raynetta James, Secretary

Gabriella Ambrosi	Lou Funk	Jim Redding
Marce Becerra	Joann Keyston	Laurel Ritz
Debra Birkinshaw	Tom Maloney	Dick Schwartz
Rich Broaddus	Bob Marshall	Don Streeper
Margaret Dale	Gail Pardini-Plass	Katherine Taylor
Jane Eckels	Mary Raymond	Elizabeth Tipon
Judith Eisen		

## 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/Becky Weislow, Accounting Technician  
Judy Scholzen/Amos Eaton/Sue Haynes, Account Clerk  
Lisa Lambiase, Nutritionist

Who's Who in AAA