

**Joe Lombardo**  
*Governor*



**Richard Whitley**  
*Director*

# State of Nevada

## Agency Updates

Aging and Disability Services Division Programs for Seniors

Cheyenne Pasquale

November 6, 2025

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**Department of Human Services**

*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*





# Agenda

1. ADSD Mission and Vision
2. ADSD Overview
3. ADSD Programs and Services for Older Adults
4. Home and Community Based Services – Medicaid Waivers and Waitlists
5. 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Session – Impacts to Older Adults
6. Budget Updates
7. Federal and State Impacts to Services
8. Questions



# Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) Mission and Vision

**Mission** – To empower individuals and their support systems by providing resources for disabilities and aging - connecting Nevadans to services and improving their quality of life.

**Vision** – Nevadans of all ages and abilities will have meaningful lives led with dignity and self-determination.

At ADSD, we empower Nevadans of all ages and abilities to live independently by connecting them with essential services and resources.



# ADSD Overview

ADSD is made up of programs led by people who are committed to serving older adults and individuals with disabilities across Nevada. Each program plays a vital role ensuring people feel supported through every stage of life and circumstance. ADSD serves:

- People of all ages with disabilities
- Older Adults
- Family Caregivers



# ADSD Programs and Services for Older Adults

- Adult Protective Services (APS)
- Developmental Services (DS)
- Long Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP)
- Office of Community Living (OCL)
- Office for Consumer Health Assistance (OCHA)
- Office of the Attorney for the Rights of Older Persons and Persons with a Physical Disability, an Intellectual Disability or a Related Condition



# Adult Protective Services (APS)

Adult Protective Services is committed to protecting and supporting vulnerable adults by investigating reports of abuse, neglect, self-neglect, exploitation, isolation, and abandonment. APS's mission is to prevent further maltreatment while safeguarding civil liberties. APS assists adults, age 18 to 59, in addition to persons 60 years and older. Through compassionate and thorough investigation, Adult Protective Services works to ensure the safety and well-being of every person served with protective interventions.

- **Contact Information:**

- Phone: Las Vegas/Clark County: (702) 486-6930
- Statewide/All other areas: (888) 729-0571



# Vulnerable Adult Fatality Review Committee

## Purpose

- To **review deaths** of vulnerable adults (age 18+) where abuse, neglect, exploitation, or self-neglect is suspected or confirmed.
- To **identify systemic issues** and gaps in services or responses that may have contributed to the fatality.
- To **recommend improvements** in policy, practice, and coordination among agencies.

## Role

- **Multidisciplinary collaboration:** Includes representatives from social services, law enforcement, healthcare, legal, and advocacy sectors.
- **Case analysis:** Reviews individual cases to understand contributing factors and missed intervention opportunities.
- **System improvement:** Develops actionable recommendations to prevent future deaths and improve outcomes for vulnerable adults.
- **Education & awareness:** Promotes best practices and training to strengthen protective systems statewide.
- How to make a referral: [Vulnerable Adult Fatality Review Committee \(VAFRC\)](#)



# Developmental Services (DS)

Developmental Services empowers individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families at every stage of life. DS offers a wide range of support through our regional centers, ensuring that people of all ages receive the services they need.

- DS provides family support with respite care, counseling, in-home training, and financial assistance. Employment and vocational training programs help individuals build skills and find meaningful work. Residential programs support individuals to gain independence while thriving in their own homes and communities. By coordinating these services, DS is dedicated to helping individuals and their families live fulfilling and independent lives.
- **Contact Information:**
  - Sierra Regional Center – Washoe County: (775) 687-2600
  - Desert Regional Center – Urban Clark County: (702) 486-7850
  - Rural Regional Center – Rural Nevada including rural Clark County: (775) 687-5162



# Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP)

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is dedicated to ensuring that residents of long-term care facilities receive the highest quality of care and support. LTCOP advocates for those living in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities.

- LTCOP address complaints, conduct investigations, and strive to resolve issues. The ombudsmen also conduct visits to care centers, where they speak with residents, provide information about available services, and offer guidance.
- Confidentiality is a cornerstone of LTCOP services. By providing ongoing support and advocacy, LTCOP plays a crucial role in enhancing the well-being of long-term care residents across the state.
- **Contact Information:** Helpline 1-888-282-1155



# Office for Consumer Health Assistance (OCHA)

The Office for Consumer Health Assistance empowers Nevada residents to navigate their health care rights and responsibilities with confidence. OCHA assists consumers and injured workers in understanding their health insurance plans and workers' compensation policies, offering essential information on eligibility requirements, appeal rights, quality of care complaints, and medical billing concerns.

- When concerns arise, OCHA advocates on behalf of consumers to ensure they understand their choices and obligations, and we provide them with the necessary tools to make informed decisions about healthcare insurance. Additionally, OCHA offers resources for the uninsured and underinsured to access healthcare and prescription medication assistance programs, making healthcare more accessible for everyone.
- **Contact information: (888) 333-1597**



# Office of Community Living (OCL)

The Office of Community Living is dedicated to empowering individuals to live independently within their communities. OCL offers a variety of supportive services and programs for older adults, people with physical disabilities, and family caregivers. By providing these essential home and community-based services, we help ensure that Nevadans have the support they need to enjoy a high quality of life while maintaining independence in their home and community.

- **Contact Information**

- Nevada 2-1-1
- Nevada Care Connection: [www.nevadacareconnection.org](http://www.nevadacareconnection.org)



## Attorney for the Rights of Older Persons and Persons with a Physical Disability, Intellectual Disability or Developmental Disability

The office was established in 1989 and is appointed by the Governor. The Rights Attorney provides technical assistance, education and training to the Division, and directs legislative and regulatory policy advocacy for individual rights.

- In 2017, the Legislature expanded the position to serve ADSD population.
- Rights Attorney serves as Hearing Officer for grievances by individuals residing in facilities or receiving care services for property loss or rights violations.
- The Rights Attorney serves as the State Legal Assistance Developer under 42 U.S.C. §3058j and oversees legal services for older adults (60+) under the Older Americans Act funding.
- **Contact Information:**
  - Shauna Brennan, JD
  - Advocacy Rights Attorney
  - Office: 702-486-5621
  - [sbrennan@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:sbrennan@adsd.nv.gov)



# Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid Waivers

- **Frail Elderly (FE) Waiver** - Serves individuals aged 65 or older that meet a nursing facility level of care and who are at risk of nursing home placement and have a waiver need.
- **Waiver for Persons with Physical Disabilities (PD)** - Serves individuals of all ages who have a documented physical disability and who meet a nursing facility level of care who are at risk of nursing facility placement and have a waiver need.
- **Structured Family Caregiving (SFCG) Waiver** - Serves individuals aged 21 or older who have a diagnosis of dementia or related condition that meet a nursing facility level of care and who are at risk of nursing home placement and have a waiver need.
- **Contact Information:** Statewide Intake 702-486-5764



# HCBS Medicaid Waivers – Waitlists

|   | Currently Served | Waitlist | Slots Funded SFY26/27 | Available Slots |
|---|------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Frail Elderly Waiver                          | 3,119            | 2,174    | 3,468                 | 349             |
| Waiver for Persons with Physical Disabilities | 1,283            | 499      | 1,569                 | 286             |
| Structured Family Caregiver Waiver            | 0                | 0        | 100                   | 100             |

As of 9/30/2025



# Food Security - Nutrition Services

- In State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024, ADSD received \$299,297.87 in state general funds (SGF) for Food Security Programs. With this funding, ADSD provided subawards to community partners for food pantry and Farmer's Market coupon services.
- In addition, ADSD provided subawards to community partners totaling \$10,700,569.26 for Nutrition Services which includes home delivered meals, meals in congregate settings, nutrition counseling, education and assessment. Funding for Nutrition Services comes from Older Americans Act Title III-C and state general funds.



# 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Session

## Bills Impacting Older Adults

**AB65** - Updates guardianship laws by revising investigative services, notice and service of process procedures; renames the State Guardianship Compliance Office, expands the powers of the State Guardianship Officer, and allows courts to appoint guardians for minors seeking special immigrant juvenile status.

**AB 161** - Requires hospice care programs to obtain informed consent, provide specific notices to patients or their representatives, and affirms patients' rights to certain standards of care.

**AB202** - Revises insurance laws to expand consumer protections for individuals with dental coverage.

**AB343** - Requires hospitals to publicly disclose pricing for goods and services and prohibits them from collecting medical debt incurred while out of compliance and enforce penalties for violations.

**AB368** - Allows patients or residents in certain health care or disability living facilities to request the use of electronic communication devices in their rooms.



# 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Session

## Bills Impacting Older Adults (Continued)

**AB442** - requires state grant-making entities to notify nonprofits when grant payments are delayed and allows the Office of Federal Assistance to support coordination on grant-related issues. It also updates the State Plan for Maximizing Federal Assistance.

**AB461** - requires ASD to develop and maintain a database and education program on long-term care planning, with pilot program and public awareness campaign; further requests Nevada Supreme Court's Guardianship Commission to study and make recommendations related to the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act.

**SB8** - revises terminology for ASD eligibility categories for services provided from: "related condition" to "developmental disability."

**SB60** - expands the types of crimes that carry enhanced penalties when committed against older or vulnerable persons and allows the Attorney General to pursue civil penalties against offenders.

**SB299** - requires senior living community referral agencies to register with the Division of Public and Behavioral Health and establishes requirements for obtaining and renewing that registration.

**SB494** - established Nevada Health Authority.



# Budget Updates

## Aging and Disability Services Division Fiscal Summary

| Program                         | Budget Account | SFY 2025 Budgeted   | SFY 2026 Budgeted   | SFY 2027 Budgeted   |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Senior Rx & Disability Rx       | 3156           | \$358,598           | \$323,772           | \$314,122           |
| Consumer Health Assistance      | 3204           | \$1,641,612         | \$2,338,426         | \$2,449,887         |
| Home & Community Based Services | 3266           | \$23,080,412        | \$30,291,070        | \$30,691,579        |
| FOCIS & MFP                     | 3271           | \$1,859,025         | \$3,323,944         | \$3,385,073         |
| Plan Adv & Comm Grants          | 3278           | \$30,131,232        | \$24,965,630        | \$20,551,736        |
| Adult Prot SVSC & LTC           | 3282           | \$14,196,292        | \$19,648,871        | \$19,970,293        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    |                | <b>\$71,267,171</b> | <b>\$80,891,713</b> | <b>\$77,362,690</b> |



# Federal and State Impacts to Services

As of 10/24/2025:

- ADSD administers programs and services funded by the Federal Older Americans Act (OAA), including transportation, nutrition services, caregiver support, and homemaker services. However, the OAA has not yet been reauthorized, and the federal budget for these programs is undetermined.
- Federal changes to Medicaid funding and eligibility will have a direct impact on older adults with low income.
- Recent changes to Medicare policy, including reductions in provider reimbursement rates and restrictions on telehealth, are resulting in increased provider shortage and limited access to critical healthcare services.
- Through Federal Coronavirus American Rescue Plan Act Fiscal Recovery Funds from the Governor's Finance Office (GFO), ADSD funded 11 capacity building projects to expand bed availability for adults age 65+ or individuals age 18+ with physical disabilities in licensed Residential Facilities for Groups (RFGs). This will result in 180 additional beds at project completion in March 2026.



# Questions?



# Contact Information

Cheyenne Pasquale  
Agency Manager, OCL  
[cpasquale@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:cpasquale@adsd.nv.gov)  
(702) 486-3558

<https://adsd.nv.gov/>



# Acronyms

- AB – Assembly Bill
- ABA - Applied Behavior Analysis
- ADSD – Aging and Disability Services Division
- APS – Adult Protective Services
- DHS – Department of Human Services
- DS – Disability Services
- FE – Frail Elderly
- GFO – Governor’s Finance Office
- HCBS – Home and Community Based Services
- LTCOP – Long Term Care Ombudsman
- LTSS – Long Term Support Services
- OAA – Older Americans Act
- OCHA – Office for Consumer Health Assistance
- OCL – Office of Community Living
- PD - Persons with Physical Disabilities
- SB – Senate Bill
- SFCG – Structured Family Caregiving
- SFY - State Fiscal Year
- SGF – State General Funds