



Community Services for the Elderly (CSE)

Flexible funding for a wide range of services:

- Case management
- Personal care
- Home delivered meals
- Nutrition education and counseling
- Information and assistance
- Social adult day care
- Transportation
- Respite
- Telephone reassurance
- Friendly visiting
- Health promotion and wellness activities
- Senior center programs
- Personal emergency response systems
- Minor residential repairs

Waive Local Match for Additional Funds

We suggest that the 25% local match be waived for all **new** CSE funding. For years, county government and localities have provided additional funding for aging services but would be hard pressed to make additional contributions.

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Invest in Community Services for Older Adults and Their Caregivers

Several aging organizations have joined together to ask policymakers to enhance NY Connects (an information referral source for long term services and supports) and provide an **additional \$26 million for the Community Services for the Elderly program** to address the current waiting list and high priority services. In New York State, family and friends contribute 2.68 billion hours of nonmedical care to about 4 million frail low income New Yorkers, care valued at \$32 billion annually. But even with that informal care thousands of older New Yorkers, who are frail, low income and at risk of spending down to Medicaid, are on a waiting list for aging services that could help them remain independent.

Invest in Community Services for a Growing Aging Population

Intervening early, connecting seniors with their local Area Agency on Aging or other community-based agency, enables them to receive services that can postpone the need for more medically intensive and costly forms of care.

What is the Urgency?

Almost 7,000 older New Yorkers are on a waiting list for services from their local Area Agency on Aging. The Association on Aging in New York has determined that an additional \$26 million in state funding is needed to address the current waiting list.

Why CSE?

The Community Services for the Elderly (CSE) program is flexible, enabling local Area Agencies on Aging or other community-based agencies to assess the needs of individuals and address areas of greatest need within their communities. Some might have waiting lists for home delivered meals and social model adult day services, whereas others may need more funding for in-home personal care services and transportation for medical appointments. Yet other areas might have a need for all of the above.

Caregivers and Aging Services

The Aging Services Network supports seniors and their unpaid informal caregivers. Remove one or the other – caregivers or the network – and the “spend down” to Medicaid accelerates.

Future Need – Tip of the Iceberg

We’re providing a snapshot of the present situation (see chart below), but waiting lists are only part of the picture. The aging population continues to increase and so will the need for elder care services. Over half of the 85-plus cohort are frail and suffer from some form of dementia.

NY Connects

We support utilizing Balancing Incentive Payment (BIP) funds to enhance the existing NY Connects network. Seniors and their caregivers need information on long term services and supports to help them make decisions on options for care and services. NY Connects provides this information and has already been established in 54 counties in the State, and should be expanded to all areas.

Programs	# On Wait List	Cost to Address Waiting Lists
CSE services	6,960	\$26 million
NY Connects		\$10 million
Grand Total		\$36 million

The Aging Network, Care Coordination & Care Transitions

Care coordination is central to the mission of Area Agencies on Aging and community-based organizations, as is maximizing independence and quality of life for at-risk individuals. The Aging Network is critically important to improving transitions across care settings and preventing hospital readmissions. As the long term services and supports landscape transforms, the Aging Network can mobilize and capitalize on existing infrastructure to bridge the gap between medical and long-term services and support. An additional \$26 million through the Community Services for the Elderly (CSE) program would go a long way toward bridging that gap for more New Yorkers.

The local Area Aging Agency and community-based agencies assess the needs of the individuals using a COMPASS assessment tool (Comprehensive Assessment for Aging Network Community-Based Long Time Care Services) to determine an individual's current status with respect to housing, health, nutrition, psycho-social status, Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs) and Activities of Daily Living (ADLs). COMPASS takes into account the importance of care provided by caregivers in the "informal support status" section of the assessment. The assessment as well as case management take into account older adults and their caregivers current resources to prevent duplicative long term care services and supports.

Due to limited resources, there is a considerable gap between the number of older adults currently serviced and the number who are eligible for these supportive services. An additional \$26 million for CSE would help seniors throughout the state to receive services so they can remain at home and in the community.

CSE = Flexible Funding for a Wide Range of Services

The Community Services for the Elderly (CSE) program was designed to improve cooperation and coordination among providers of community services to assist frail people who need help in order to remain in their homes and participate in family and community life. The program offers flexible service options to meet the unique needs of senior citizens in communities throughout the state. These services help older New Yorkers avoid premature institutionalization in nursing homes. The package of services provided through CSE and the cost for these services varies based on the needs of the individual and the geographic areas of the state, but is far less than other forms of care. The chart below illustrates the diversity of services offered through Community Services for the Elderly.



Cost Effectiveness

The New York State Office for the Aging received a Nursing Home Diversion Modernization (NHDM) grant in 2008 and a Community Living Program (CLP) grant in 2009 from the U.S. Administration on Aging. The grants targeted New Yorkers at risk of nursing home placement and the "spend down" to Medicaid and used a consumer directed model of community based care to support seniors so they could maintain their independence and remain in their communities. The State University at Albany evaluated the outcomes of the grant and provided a cost analysis:

Nursing Home Diversion

- 81% of the 93 participants in the program did NOT enter a nursing home during the program period. (NHDM, 2011)
- 89% of 114 participants did NOT enter a nursing home during the program period. (CLP, 2012)

Cost analysis

- The actual monthly cost for all 93 NHDM participants was \$232,469. Nursing home care for a similar period was estimated at \$643,250. (NHDM, 2011)
- The actual monthly cost for all 114 CLP participants was \$253,764. The costs would be much higher--\$788,538 – if these 114 individuals were to spend-down to Medicaid and either enter a nursing home or receive Medicaid home care. (CLP, 2012)

Demographics

New York is fourth in the nation in the number of adults 60 and over. The 60-plus cohort (3.7 million people) increased 15% statewide between 2000 and 2010, and that percentage will only increase as the post-war boomer generation continues to age.