

# ANNUAL REPORT 1979

## Minnesota Board on Aging

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St. Paul, MN. 55101  
(612) 296-2770



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# ANNUAL REPORT 1979

## From the Chairwoman...

I believe that a special group of people form the Minnesota Board on Aging. They are skilled, perceptive, and, perhaps most importantly, dedicated to improving the lives of older people.

Minnesota's Board on Aging is

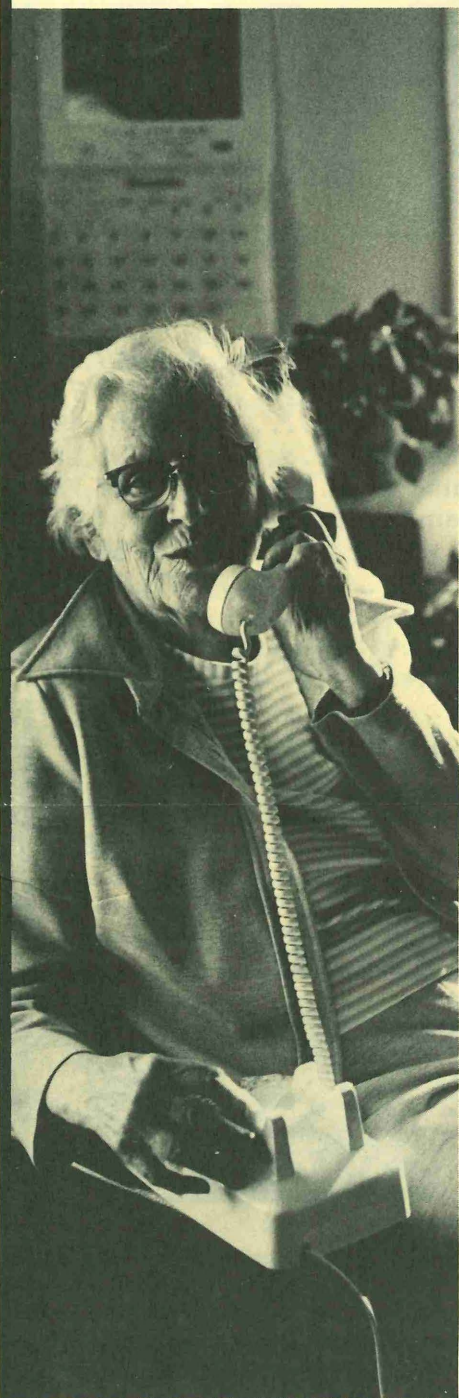
an important advocate for the elderly and a leader in the research, development, and administration of essential programs and services for older persons.

We hope that this report will give you a better understanding of the role the MBA plays in serving older people. The report also shows the variety of services for seniors already available.

*Katherine Sehlin*

Katherine Sehlin  
Chairwoman  
Minnesota Board on Aging

## 1979 Highlights



**OLDER PEOPLE** can get quick answers to questions about senior citizen benefits and MBA programs by calling 1-800-652-9747. The Board on Aging started its Aging Info-Line in 1979.

A month-by-month sampling of the Board on Aging's activities during 1979:

### January — Education

At its monthly meeting the Board on Aging approved the first of 10 grants made in 1979 to train persons working in the field of aging.

### February — Nutrition

Two new congregate dining sites for the elderly opened their doors this month, helping bring the total number of nutrition centers to 267 by the end of the year.

### March — In-home Care

The Board approved guidelines to be used in developing a state policy on in-home care.

### April — Nursing Homes

At its monthly meeting the Board voted to award grants to each Area Agency on Aging in the state to encourage the development of long-term care ombudsman programs.

### May — New Members

During May, Older Americans Month, 11 new members were appointed by the Governor to the Board on Aging. Two Board members were reappointed.

### June — Institute on Aging

Nearly 900 persons attended the Board on Aging's 21st Annual Institute on Aging at St. Cloud State University. "Interdependence - Aging Family Networks" was the conference's theme.

### July — Senior Centers

This month the Board on Aging applied for foundation money to help communities repair, renovate, expand or purchase senior citizen centers. In December MBA efforts met with success when the McKnight Foundation awarded the Board a three-year, \$450,000 grant.

### August — Outstanding Seniors

A six-month search for Minnesota's outstanding senior citizens ended at the State Fair when 141 seniors from 71 counties were honored during special ceremonies.

**BELOW:** At the 1979 State Fair members of the Board on Aging distributed information and discussed senior issues with older people from across the state. Pictured are MBA members Juanita Christensen, Minneapolis and Royal Bakke, Mendota.

### September — Housing

The Board on Aging launched a campaign to persuade HUD (the federal department of housing) to change rules that discriminate against elderly housing applicants with very low incomes.

### October — AGING INFO-line

A new MBA service — a toll-free hotline for senior citizens — started this month. By year's end close to 100 seniors had called the Board with problems and questions.

### November — Alternatives to Institutionalization

A preliminary report on the practicality of eight different living arrangements for senior citizens was presented to the Board. Included in the analysis were adult daycare, family respite care, and communal living arrangements.

### December — Grant-making

At its monthly meeting the Board on Aging approved \$10 million in grants to help Area Agencies on Aging and nutrition projects for the elderly continue serving approximately 120,000 older people.





## History

In the early 1950s a legislative study commission recommended that the Governor create a permanent council to advise him and other state officials about how to meet older Minnesotans' needs. The Council — the Governor's Citizens Council on Aging — was formed in 1956.

Today the Council, now the Minnesota Board on Aging, has

an annual budget of over \$12 million. With both state and federal funds the board develops and coordinates a wide variety of programs for Minnesota's 616,000 older people. All programs are designed to help older persons live independent and dignified lives in their homes or places of residence with an emphasis on the reduction of isolation and the prevention of untimely or unnecessary institutionalization.

## Legislation

Senior citizen advocacy groups expanded their numbers in 1979 and continued to meet with the Minnesota Board on Aging's legislative committee to coordinate efforts and discuss legislative priorities.

All the hard work aided passage of a number of legislative measures important to older Minnesotans. In 1979 the state legislature voted to:

- Authorize reverse mortgaging, allowing homeowners to borrow money in monthly installments on the value of their homes.
- Increase tax relief in the areas

of inheritance, property and state income tax.

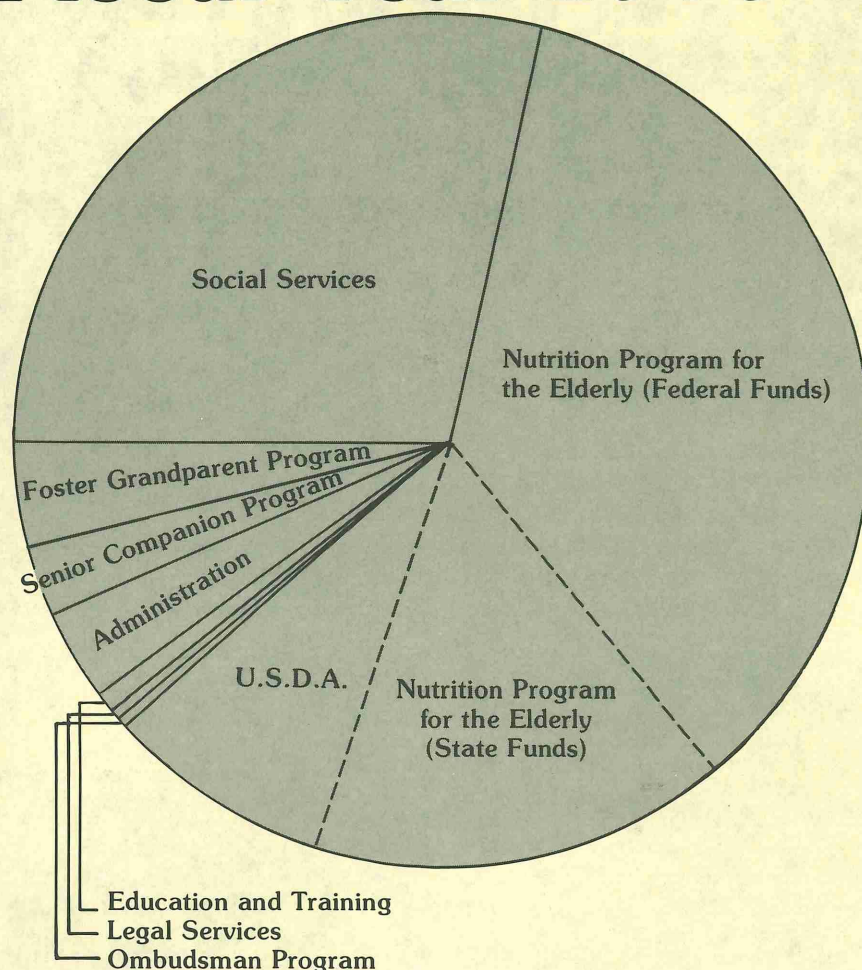
- Ease eligibility requirements for the state Medicaid program, including disregarding the value of an applicant's home and car.
- Appropriate an additional \$2.4 million to increase and improve the services of Minnesota's Nutrition Program for the Elderly.

During the spring legislative session, the Board prepared a bi-weekly legislative update for organizations concerned about senior citizen legislative issues.



LEFT: Legislation supported by the MBA and passed by the state legislature in 1979 changed eligibility guidelines for Minnesota's Medical Assistance Program, allowing state/federal payment of medical bills without regard to the value of an individual's car or homestead. RIGHT: 1979 was a year of controversy over bus fares for metropolitan seniors.

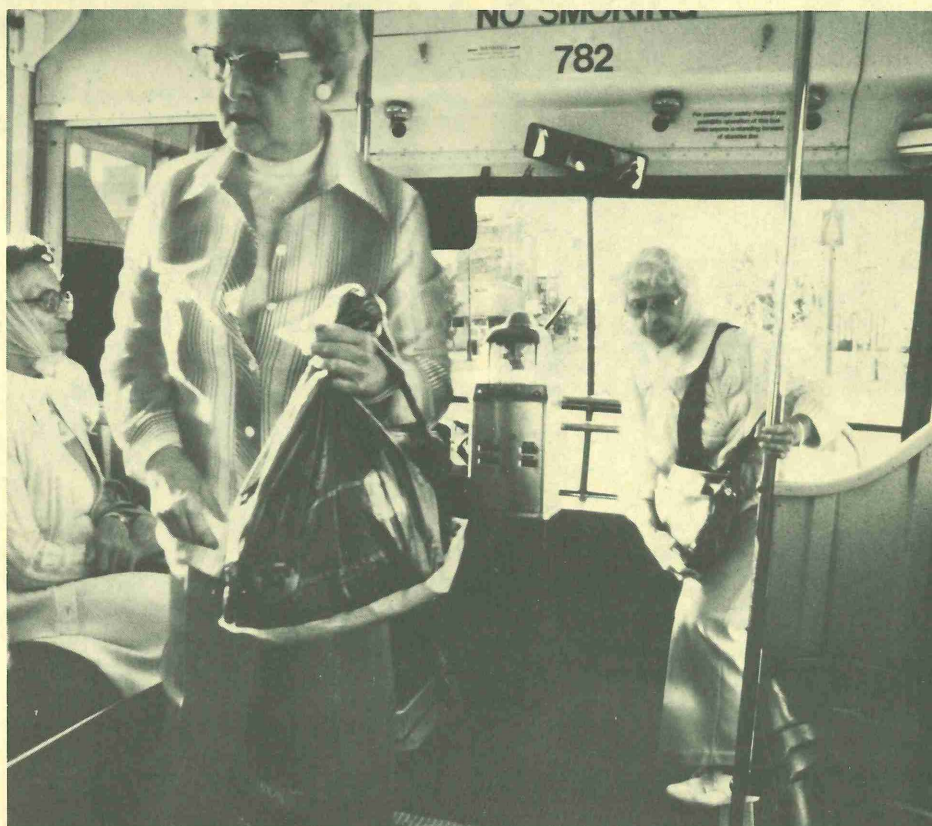
## Fiscal Year 1979\*\*\*



Social Services (Title IIIB)*	\$ 3,497,719
MBA Administration*	312,755
Education and Training (Title IV)*	107,492
Nutrition Program for the Elderly (Title IIIC)*	4,503,115
U.S. Department of Agriculture Commodities	1,047,183
Long Term Care Ombudsman Program*	34,977
Advocacy Assistance Program*	50,000
State Nutrition Program**	1,915,000
Foster Grandparent Program**	462,800
Senior Companion Program**	290,000
State Administration**	200,000
	<b>\$12,421,041</b>

\*\*\* = from October, 1978 - September 30, 1979  
 \*\* = state funds from July, 1979 - June, 1980  
 \* = federal funds

## Transportation



Improving transportation for older people was a priority of the Minnesota Board on Aging in 1979.

The Board formed a close working relationship with the Min-

nesota Department of Transportation to coordinate a number of transportation programs for the elderly and the handicapped, and review applications for transportation projects.

In addition, the Board participated in an inter-agency transportation task force to study ways of coordinating specialized transportation systems in the state and pinpoint sources of funds for new transportation projects.





EIGHT "alternative" living arrangements for older persons were studied by MBA researchers in 1979 to determine their practicality and potential for expansion.

## Research

# Alternatives to Institutionalization

Eight living arrangements for frail older persons were closely examined by the MBA in 1979 as possible alternatives to nursing home institutionalization. The eight: adult daycare, adult foster care, board and care, board and lodging, congregate housing, family respite care, sheltered housing, and group or communal living.

A Gerontological Society Research Fellow, Dorothy Gagnier, studied the living arrangements for the Board to determine their current use and potential for expansion.

Project findings will be available in the spring of 1980.

## Dental Care

August, 1979, marked the end of a two-year experimental dental program for older Minnesotans conducted by the Minnesota Board on Aging. The program tested the need for and feasibility of establishing a statewide dental program for senior citizens.

Program participants, 1776 low-income older persons in central Minnesota, were able to get 80 percent of their dental costs paid, up to a maximum of \$500. During the two year experiment, 67 percent of the participants received dental care at an average cost of \$382.

Services most frequently used were diagnostic (exams, cleanings, x-rays), preventive, restorative (fillings, crowns), and removable prosthodontics (partial and full dentures).

A final report will be available in the spring of 1980.

## Home Delivered Meals

An MBA survey of home-delivered meals in Minnesota revealed 186 programs operating in the state in 1979. The meals, three-fourths of which were prepared by hospital and nursing home kitchens, were most often brought to older persons' doors by volunteers.

The MBA study did not determine whether more home-delivered meals programs were needed in the state, but discovered that nearly 40 percent of metropolitan area programs have waiting lists.



HOME-DELIVERED meals programs operate throughout the state. The MBA counted 186 in a 1979 survey.

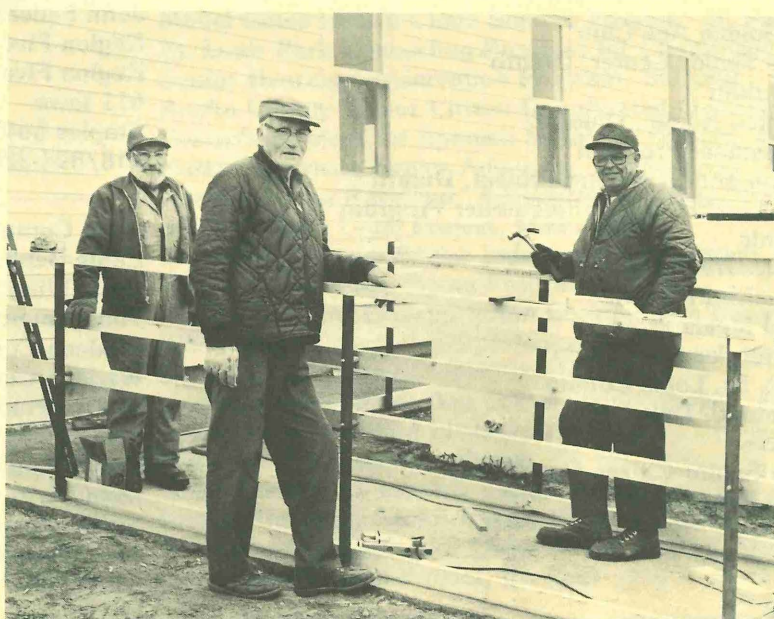
## Accessibility

In an effort to make the Board on Aging's programs accessible to the handicapped, more than 300 senior centers and congregate dining sites for the elderly were surveyed in 1979. The Board's building specialist checked whether buildings met federal accessibility guidelines and spelled out how to make necessary structural changes.

Communities planning new senior centers or nutrition sites were also informed which of the locations they were considering would be the easiest to make accessible.

Full compliance with federal accessibility regulations is anticipated by the end of 1980.

BELOW: Federal money from the Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging and the MBA helped build this 60-foot access ramp at the Jacobson, MN. Community Center. Now handicapped persons join in regularly scheduled senior citizen events.



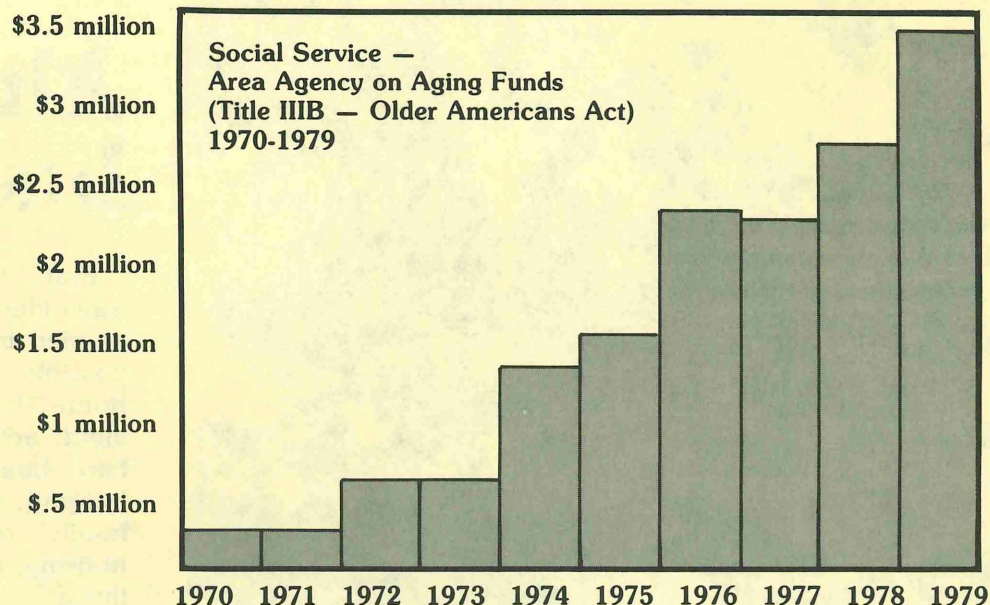


# Area Agencies on Aging

Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), funded by the Minnesota Board on Aging, have general responsibility for improving services to older persons within given regions of the state.

In 1979 the MBA granted AAAs nearly \$3.5 million to help fund service projects for older persons as well as plan, advocate, coordinate, and evaluate aging programs. The Board on Aging also transferred an additional responsibility to most AAAs during the year, the direct administration of Minnesota's Nutrition Program for the Elderly.

By year's end 12 Area Agencies 94 others. (Since 1967 when funds on Aging were operating in the state. They had started 61 new senior citizens first became service programs in 1979 and available, the Board on Aging and awarded continuation funding to Area Agencies on Aging have



started a total of 327 programs.) Federal (Title IIIB) funds available from Area Agencies on Aging generally offset 90 percent of service project expenses the first

year, 75 percent the second year, and 50 percent the third year. Funding levels vary after three years.

## Social Service Projects, 1979

### Region I

Mike Moore, Director  
Northwest AAA  
Northwest Regional Development Commission  
425 Woodland Avenue  
Crookston 56716  
218/281-1396

Badger Senior Citizens Center\*  
Fairview Manor Senior Citizens Center, Red Lake Falls\*  
Roseau Good Neighbor Transit Service\*  
Kittson County Senior Citizens Transportation Program  
Senior Services Project, Moorhead  
Valley Chore Services, Crookston

### Region II

Marcia Nottingham, Director  
Headwaters AAA  
Headwaters Regional Development Commission  
Box 584  
Bemidji 56601  
218/751-3108

Clearbrook Senior Citizens Center  
Nevis Senior Citizens Center\*  
Beltrami Senior Transportation Project  
Lake of the Woods Senior Citizen Transportation Program  
Lake of the Woods Senior Citizen Health Assessment Program  
Beltrami County Homemaker — Health Aide Service Program  
Hubbard County Chore Services\*  
Senior Services Project, Moorhead  
Beltrami Housing and Energy Project

### Region III

Steven Krasner, Director  
Arrowhead AAA  
Arrowhead Regional Development Commission  
200 Arrowhead Place  
Duluth 55802  
218/722-5545

Fond du Lac Center, Cloquet\*  
Institute of Afro-American Awareness Senior Center, Duluth\*  
Koochiching County Senior Citizens Center\*  
McGrath Senior Center\*  
Nashwauk Senior Citizen Golden Age Club\*  
North Shore Homesteaders Senior Center, Duluth\*  
West End Senior Center, Duluth\*  
Daycare Program for Disabled Adults, Duluth\*  
Duluth Senior Health Assessment Program\*  
Floodwood Health Education and Screening Project, Duluth  
Koochiching County Home Health Aide/Homemaker Program\*  
Koochiching Foot Care Clinic  
Lifeline-Northeast Adult Daycare Project  
Senior Citizen Coalition Health Program  
Arrowhead Home Delivered Meals Project\*  
Grand Portage Transportation for the Elderly\*  
Senior Citizens Law Project, St. Louis County  
In-Home Services to the Elderly, Duluth  
Itasca County Chore Services  
Koochiching-Itasca County Senior Citizen Coordinator  
Lake County Chore Service Expansion

\* = new project in 1979

NEARLY 40 senior clubs received grants from Area Agencies on Aging in 1979 to expand and improve their programs or acquire, alter, or renovate their buildings.



### Region IV

Laurel Sorlie, Director  
West Central AAA  
West Central Regional Development Commission  
Administration Building  
Fergus Falls Community College  
Fergus Falls 56537  
218/739-3356

Battle Lake Senior Citizens Center\*  
Breckenridge Senior Citizens Center\*  
Detroit Lakes Senior Citizens\*  
Donnelly Senior Center\*  
Hawley Senior Citizens\*  
Henning Senior Citizens Center\*  
Kensington Community Center\*  
New York Mills Senior Citizens Center\*  
Pelican Rapids Senior Citizens Center\*  
YMCA Senior Citizens Program, Fergus Falls\*  
Wilkin County Senior Coordinator  
Healthy Living For Seniors, Ottertail County  
Douglas-Grant County Preventive Health Services for the Aging  
Douglas-Grant County Home Health Aide-Homemaker Program  
Traverse County Homemaker/Health Assessment  
White Earth Reservation Transportation Program  
Clay County Home Maintenance Project  
Senior Services Project, Moorhead  
Lakeland Mental Health Counseling Service

### Region V

John Fellerer, Director  
Region Five AAA  
Region Five Regional Development Commission  
611 Iowa  
Staples 56479  
218/894-3233

Bena Community Center\*  
Eagle Bend Senior Citizens Center\*  
Crow Wing County Home Health Aide-Homemaker Project  
Todd County Geriatric Home Health Program  
Wadena County Chore-Home Maintenance Services for Older People  
Wadena County Health Assessment  
Transportation Program for Senior Citizens for Crow Wing County  
Crow Wing County Home Delivered Meals  
Crow Wing County Coordinator on Aging\*  
Long-Term Care Ombudsman Project\*  
Senior Services Project, Moorhead  
The Information Phone for Seniors\*  
Leech Lake Legal Services

In 1979,  
and award



## Region VI-E

Kathleen McCormick, Director  
Six East AAA  
Six East Regional Development Commission  
311 West Sixth Street  
Willmar 56201  
612/235-8504

Litchfield Nutrition Center\*  
Hutchinson Area Senior Activity Center  
Adult Daycare, Willmar  
McLeod County Homemaker and Chore Service Program\*

## Region VI-W

Julie Joplin, Director  
Upper Minnesota Valley AAA  
Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission  
323 West Schlieman  
Appleton 56208  
612/289-1981

Canby Multi-purpose Senior Center\*  
Big Stone County Elderly Transportation Program  
Swift County Coordinator on Aging

## Regions VII E & W

Roger J. Ames, Director  
Region Seven AAA  
East Central Regional Development Commission  
18 North Vine Street  
Mora 55051  
612/679-4065

Donna Walberg, Program Manager  
Region Seven AAA  
Central Minnesota Regional Development Commission  
2700 First Street North  
St. Cloud 56301  
612/253-7870

Chisago County Multi-purpose Senior Center\*  
Hinckley Senior Citizens Center\*  
Whitney Senior Center, St. Cloud  
Chisago County Older Americans Transportation Program  
Mille Lacs County Senior Citizen Transportation Program  
Coordinator of Aging Services, Sherburne County  
Stearns County Senior Services\*  
Albany Home Delivered Meals  
Chisago County Home Delivered Meals  
Sandstone Home Delivered Meals  
Homemaker Project, Chisago County\*  
Pine County Health Care Project  
St. Cloud Legal Services Title III Project\*  
Senior Services Specialist-Protective Services, Stearns County\*

## Region VIII

Fred DeJong, Director  
Southwestern AAA  
Southwest Regional Development Commission  
2711 Broadway  
Slayton 56172  
507/836-8549

Brewster Senior Citizens Center\*  
Chandler Senior Citizens, Inc.\*  
Lake Benton Community Center  
Tracy Multi-purpose Senior Center\*  
Home Health Care, Murray County  
North Homemaker Project, Lyon, Lincoln and Murray Counties  
Lyon-Redwood Senior Citizens Transportation  
Volunteer Transportation Program for Murray and Pipestone Counties\*  
Redwood County Coordinator Program  
Worthington Adult Services Program

**Area Agencies on Aging started 61 new service programs  
and received continuation funding to 94 other programs.**

## Region IX

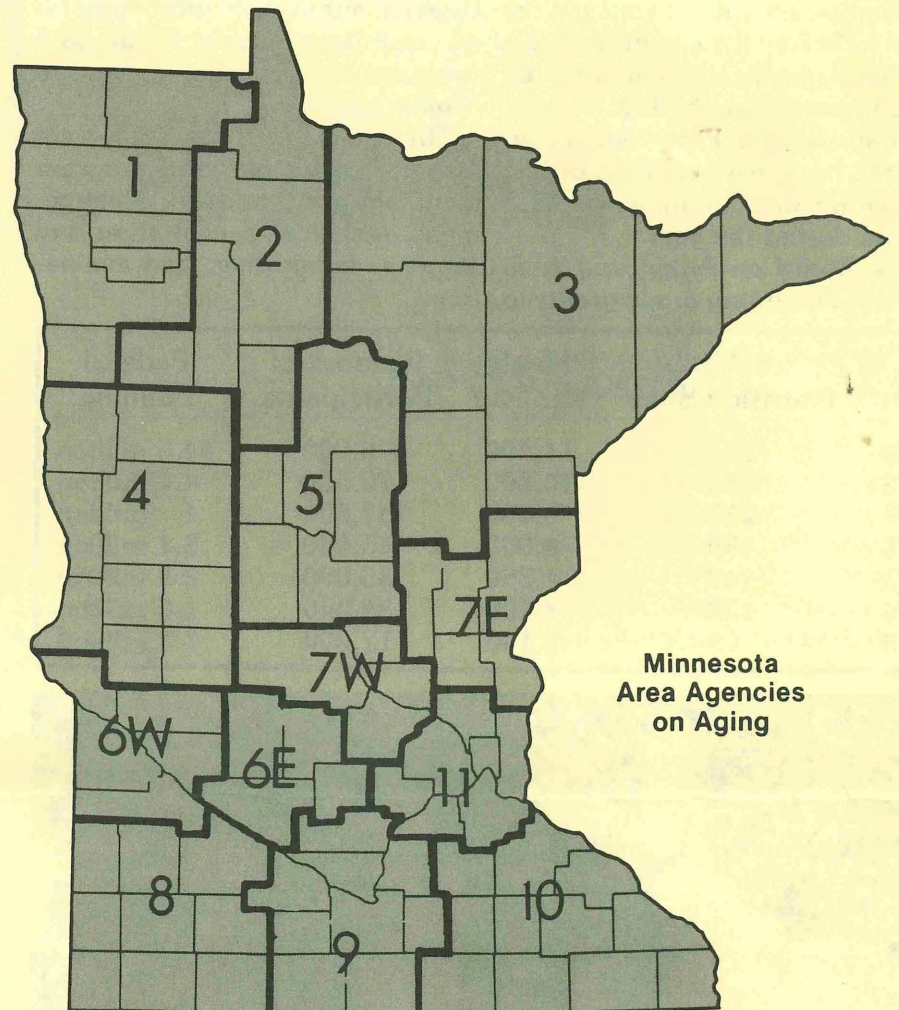
Connie Noterman, Director  
Region Nine AAA  
Region Nine Regional Development Commission  
120 South Broad  
Mankato 56001  
507/387-5643

Faribault and Watonwan County Senior Transportation Program  
Nicollet-LeSueur-Waseca Senior Citizen Transportation Program  
Health Information and Screening Clinic, New Ulm  
Sibley County Health Information and Screening Clinics for Senior Citizens  
Senior Citizen Organizational Advocacy Project\*  
Legal Advocacy for Older Americans\*  
Home Care Program Expansion, Blue Earth County\*  
Springfield Senior Citizens Center\*  
Hanska Area Senior Citizens Center\*  
New Ulm Senior Citizens Activities Center\*

## Region X

Patricia Lind, Director  
Southeastern AAA  
Southeastern Regional Development Commission  
301 Marquette Bank Building  
South Broadway at Second Street SE  
Rochester 55901  
507/285-2585 or 2550

Dodge County Home Health Aide/Homemaker Program  
Freeborn County Home Health Aide/Homemaker Program  
Mazeppa Senior Citizens Homemakers Program  
Eyota Senior Citizens\*  
Winona Older Adults Center\*  
Faribault Elderly Transportation Program  
Goodhue-Wabasha Volunteer Driver Transportation Program  
SEMCA- Owatonna Transportation Program  
Zumbrota-Plainview-Elgin Home Delivered Meals Program  
Individual Advocacy Project, Freeborn County  
Legal Services for the Elderly of Region 10  
Mower County Seniors, Inc. Advocacy Project  
Winona Senior Citizens Advocacy Program  
Center for L.I.F.E.



## Region XI

Jane Whiteside, Director  
Region XI AAA  
Metropolitan Council  
300 Metro Square  
St. Paul 55101  
612/291-6305 or 6496

Lake Owasso Senior Center Supportive Services, Roseville\*  
Northeast Neighborhood House, Minneapolis  
Community Youth Service Project, Minneapolis\*  
Dakota County In-Home Service  
Homecare, Scott County  
Home Services Association, Ramsey, Dakota, and Washington Counties\*  
North STEP Project, Minneapolis\*  
Richfield Home Service Program  
St. Mary's Friends Home Health Program, Minneapolis\*  
Southside Homemaker-Chore Project, Minneapolis\*  
United Seniors Chore/Home Maintenance Project, Minneapolis  
The Active People Over Sixty Program, St. Paul  
Model Cities Health Clinic Seniors Program, St. Paul\*  
St. Louis Park Counseling Program for Chemically Dependent  
Senior Hearing Conservation Program, St. Paul  
Anoka County Senior Citizen Coordinated Outreach Program  
Centro's Services for Spanish Speaking Seniors, Minneapolis  
Native American Senior Advocacy, Minneapolis  
Nursing Home Residents' Advocates, Minneapolis  
Senior Citizen Legal Project, Minneapolis  
Summit-University Senior Independence Program, St. Paul  
Washington County Aging Program  
Ramsey County Transportation Coordination Program  
Washington County Transporter  
Carver County Care Center  
Human Development Day Center, Minneapolis  
Wilder Adult Daycare Program, St. Paul  
Minneapolis Counseling Project  
Older Persons Counseling Center, Coon Rapids  
Native American Senior Citizen Program, Minneapolis\*  
Westonka Counseling for Older Adults Project, Mound  
Home Modification Project, St. Paul



# Nutrition Program for the Elderly

In 1979 more than 75,000 older persons participated in Minnesota's Nutrition Program for the Elderly.

The program offers older persons, particularly those with very restricted incomes, low-cost, nutritionally sound meals served in strategically located centers such as schools, churches, and senior citizen centers. In addition to promoting better health through improved nutrition, the program attempts to reduce the isolation of older age.

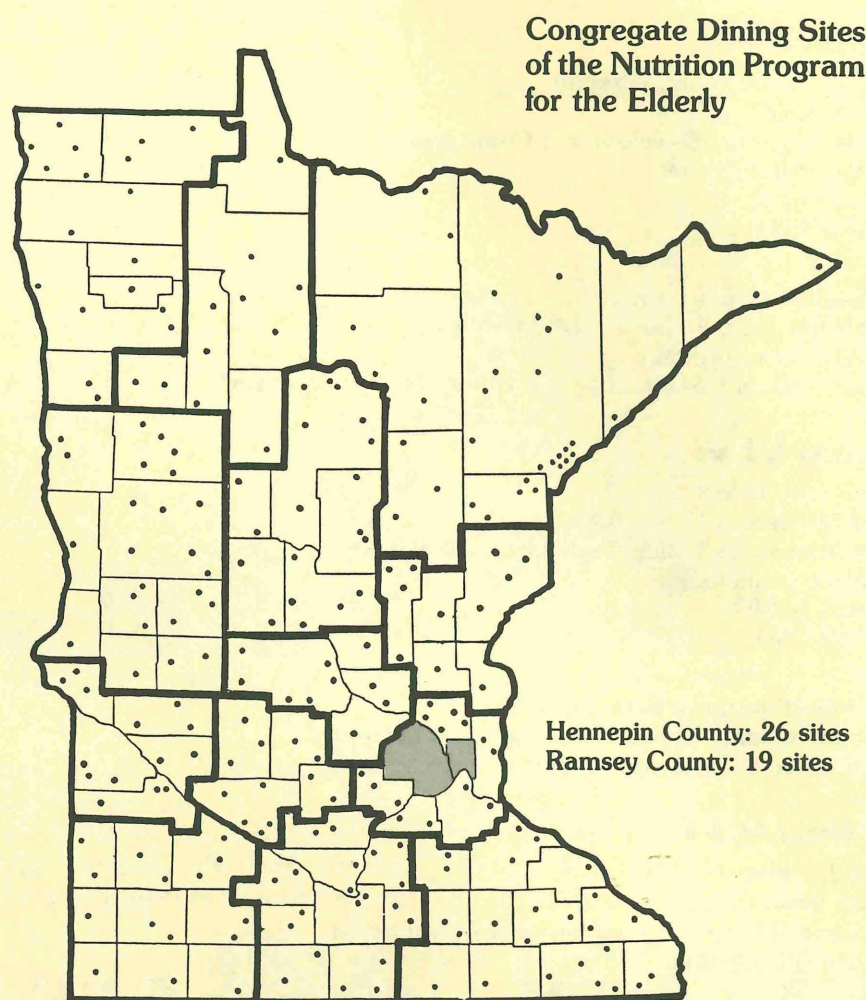
In 1979, 11 new nutrition sites were started in Minnesota, bringing the total number of sites in the state to 267 by the end of the year. Services increased to more than 11,200 meals each day, usually five days a week. Participants contributed to meal costs according to their means, donating over \$1.5 million during the year.

The Board on Aging and Area Agencies on Aging made grants to

eighteen sponsoring agencies to provide the services of the nutrition program — congregate meals, a limited number of home delivered meals, and eight supportive services: transportation, nutrition education, recreation, outreach, shopping assistance, health and welfare counseling, personal escort services, and information and referral.

In 1979 the Board administered over \$8.9 million for the nutrition program. Of this, most was federal money but an impressive \$1.9 million was contributed by the state. In addition, the U.S. Department of Agriculture provided cash reimbursement of 38.5 cents for every meal served to eligible persons.

The Board and its staff were responsible for nutrition program planning, grant-making, management, technical consultation and support, monitoring, and evaluation.



Year	Number of Nutrition Sites	Meals Per Day	Number of Participants	Federal Funding
1979	267	11,200	75,000	\$4.5 million
1978	256	10,000	70,500	4.4 million
1977	239	8,000	57,500	4 million
1976	199	6,000	45,000	3.1 million
1975	147	4,350	35,000	2.3 million
1974	122	3,800	30,000	1.8 million
1973	43	2,100	12,000	1.8 million



## Senior Companions & Foster Grandparents

To supplement the federal Senior Companion Program in Minnesota, the Board on Aging in 1979 awarded \$290,000 in state funds to the Minnesota Association of Retarded Citizens.

Senior companions provide friendship, understanding, and individual attention to other older persons in need of close, meaningful relationships and help many maintain independent living in their own homes or adjust to life in institutions. MBA funds enabled 105 older people to serve as Senior Companions to more than 525 older clients in 1979.

A second effort, the Foster Grandparent Program, helps older people give both time and love to mentally retarded and emotionally disturbed young people as well as children with special needs. In return Foster Grandparents, as

well as Senior Companions, receive a \$40 weekly stipend, a daily meal, transportation allowance, two weeks paid vacation, and an annual physical examination. Most importantly they rediscover the satisfaction that comes from being needed and creatively participating in community service.

In Minnesota the federal Foster Grandparent Program was supplemented in 1979 with \$462,800. The Board on Aging awarded most of the money to the Minnesota Association of Retarded Citizens to provide stipends for 158 foster grandparents. Catholic Charities, St. Cloud, received a \$23,000 grant for an additional eight foster grandparents.

In 1979 the Minnesota Board on Aging awarded \$60,000 to the state's Area Agencies on Aging to support the local level training of persons who work with the elderly. Training covered such subjects as rural advocacy, preventive health care for the elderly, senior center programming and management, supplemental health insurance, physical and psychosocial aspects of aging, older persons' legal rights, nutrition and aging, and communicating with the frail and handicapped elderly.

PERSONS WHO WORK with the elderly stretched their minds and, in some cases, their muscles at conferences and training sessions supported by MBA training grants in 1979.

In addition, the Board on Aging sponsored statewide conferences and training programs such as the MBA Annual Institute on Aging; a conference on geriatric dentistry in cooperation with Continuing Dental Education, University of Minnesota; training for Elderhostel faculty members; and a conference on positive approaches to wellness for seniors. The Board also provided stipends for seniors attending an Hispanic Elderly Leadership Training Program.

The Minnesota Educators Aging Network, a formal liaison between the MBA and colleges and universities which offer courses or programs in aging, was developed in 1979. An MBA Training Committee was also started to help the Board continue to develop and implement new training initiatives.



FOSTER GRANDPARENTS care for children with special needs. In 1979 MBA funds paid stipends for 166 grandparents.



## Legal Advocacy

In 1979, the Board on Aging's legal advocacy project continued to encourage advocacy efforts on behalf of older persons who have legal problems.

During the year the number of Minnesota counties served by special senior citizen legal projects nearly doubled, increasing from 25 to 48. Counties beginning services were: Benton, Blue Earth, Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Kittson, LeSeuer, Marshall, Mower, Nicollet, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau, Sherburne, Sibley, Stearns, Steele, Wadena, Waseca, and Wright.

Two-day training sessions were held in Rochester, St. Cloud, Redwood Falls, and Cambridge to teach non-lawyer advocates to unravel the red tape that senior citizens often encounter with public benefit programs. In addition, six video tapes were developed to train "lay" legal advocates. Subjects included Medicare and Medicaid, Consumer Remedies, Interviewing, Solving Your Own Consumer Problems, Guardianship and Alternatives, and Social Security and SSI.

Reworking Minnesota's guardianship laws was a major effort in 1979. The MBA's legal advocacy project researched and analyzed present guardianship laws and proposed models for new laws in conjunction with the Minnesota Department of Public Welfare's Protective Services Task Force.



IN 1979 the Minnesota Board on Aging helped train older persons and others to serve as "non-lawyer advocates" for seniors with legal problems.

## Long Term Care Advocacy

As a way to increase community response to the problems of health care facility residents, the MBA continues to develop a statewide network of Long Term Care Ombudsman services. In 1979, three local ombudsman/advocacy programs formally participated in the network with plans for more in several areas.

The Board's Long Term Care Ombudsman Program is part of a national effort required by 1978 amendments to the federal Older Americans Act.

In 1979 the Board on Aging emphasized training for local ombudsman programs and Area Agencies on Aging, producing both a slide show and handbook about the nursing home residents' bill of rights and a brochure describing the state ombudsman/advocacy network.

An agreement was negotiated between the MBA Long Term Care Ombudsman Program and the Minnesota Office of Health Facility Complaints to increase cooperation and coordination between the two organizations. Monthly coordinating meetings of advocates, ombudsman, and citizen organizations involved in nursing home issues were also held.

A 1979 MBA report on the Office of Health Facility Complaints led to statewide publicity about nursing home conditions, and a toll-free MBA telephone line allowed people across the state to contact the Board on Aging's Ombudsman with their concerns.

## Public Information

With the Board on Aging's introduction of an AGING INFO-line in 1979, senior citizens across the state found it just a little easier to learn about available services and the work of the Board. The MBA's toll-free number is 1-800-652-9747 (296-7467 in the metro area). By year's end close to 100 older people had called the Board with problems and questions.

1979 also saw the formation of a new MBA committee on cable television. The committee was created to promote senior citizen use of cable TV on channels reserved for public, governmental, and educational use.

The Board on Aging continued to publish its bi-monthly newsletter, the *Senior Spotlight*, which reports news of interest to older persons and professionals in the field of aging. Circulation: 12,000.

Special publications such as "Guide to Minnesota Educational Resources in the Field of Aging" and "Minnesota Long Term Care Ombudsman Program" were also issued.

The members and staff of the Board on Aging filled dozens of speaking engagements and appeared on a number of radio and TV broadcasts during the year. They also worked closely with the media in the production of several newspaper series and television documentaries on aging.



COMBATTING stereotypes of old age and informing older people about available programs and services are two goals of the Board on Aging's public information program.



# People Who Help — Committees and Staff

## Technical Review Committee

**\*\*Sharon Anderson**  
Minneapolis

**Carol Bartels**  
Ironton

**Clifford Carlson**  
Minneapolis

**Juanita Christensen**  
Minneapolis

**Ethel Clauson**  
International Falls

**Hilda Cordes**  
Miltona

**Harvey Dankers**  
Goodhue

**Edwin Deutsch**  
Luverne

**Lloyd Madison**  
Waseca

**Howard Pattison**  
Staples

**Tom Roberts**  
Bemidji

**Katherine Sehlin**  
Edina

**Marion Smith**  
Hibbing

**Otto Stenberg**  
Thief River Falls

## Title VII Nutrition Committee

**Susan Abbott**  
Crookston

**Romeyn Clarke**  
St. Paul

**Mary Darling**  
St. Paul

**Gertrude Daskam**  
Palisade

**Stevi Fenelon**  
St. Paul

**Orlin Pratt**  
Ulen

**Susan Meyers**  
St. Paul

**Jeanne Held**  
Minneapolis

**Robert Olson**  
St. Paul

**Dr. E. Raymond Peterson**  
St. Paul

**Grace L. Stumpf**  
Winona

**Maureen Whalin**  
Cambridge

**Thomas Williams**  
St. Paul

**\*\*Rev. Robert J. Zeimes**  
St. Paul

## State Advisory Committee

**Hilda Cordes**  
Miltona

**Harvey Dankers**  
Goodhue

**Edwin Deutsch**  
Luverne

**Lloyd Madison**  
Waseca

**Howard Pattison**  
Staples

**Tom Roberts**  
Bemidji

**Marion Smith**  
Hibbing

**Otto Stenberg**  
Thief River Falls

**\*\*Chairperson**

**\*Member, Legislative  
Committee**

**†Member, Public  
Information Committee**

**°Board secretary  
Vice-chairperson**

**□ □ Deceased**

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**Ronald Abato**  
Service Development  
Specialist

**Jerald Farrington**  
Regional Coordinator

**Ted Gredvig, Director**  
AAA Operations

**Roger Hughes**  
Grants Analyst

**James Knobel, Director**  
Financial Management

**Jim Lanenberg**  
Building Specialist

**Beth Molberg**  
Communications Director

**Rich Nelson**  
Deputy Secretary

**Pam Parker**  
Long Term Care Advocate

**Karin Sandstrom, Director**  
Aging Service Development

**James Sims**  
Planner

**Sheridan Skeen**  
Regional Coordinator

**Jim Tift, Director**  
Education and Training

**Art Weffen**  
Regional Coordinator

**Janet Yellowitz, Director**  
Pilot Dental Care Program

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**Debbie Broostin**  
**Pat Conners**  
**Lois Cosgrove**  
**Edna Dahn**  
**Buffy Lindell**  
**Eileen Meloy**

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