

**Administration on Aging
and
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

Aging and Disability Resource Center Grant Program

Organization Name: Louisiana Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs

Project Title: Louisiana Aging and Adult Disability Resource Center

Total Project Period: 9/30/2003 – 9/29/2006

Total Award Amount: \$799,998

Project Contact: Mary Tonore, (225) 342-0171

Project's Overall Design:

Louisiana will establish a pilot Aging and Adult Disability Resource Center at the Cajun Area Agency on Aging (CAAA) with eight satellite locations in the parishes (counties) in CAAA's planning and service area. This pilot will test the design of the Resource Center in both urban and rural locations. The Resource Center will be combined with an interactive consumer-focused website; nationwide toll-free telephone number; and a single comprehensive assessment, eligibility determination, and care planning process to empower individuals to make informed choices and to streamline access to long-term care support. Based on the lessons learned from the implementation of the pilot Resource Center, Louisiana will issue an RFP to establish Aging and Adult Disability Resource Centers across the state.

Target Population:

- Year One – Persons 60 and older
- Year Two & Three – Persons 60 and older and individuals with physical disabilities ages 21 and older

Anticipated Outcomes:

- Create awareness of Resource Center services and functions among consumers, families, major referral sources and service providers through a public awareness campaign.
- Create trust in the objectivity, reliability, cultural competence, and comprehensiveness of Resource Center information and assistance by separating care management functions from service provision and cross training and certifying Resource Center staff.
- Provide consumers with a convenient, accessible one-stop source of information, assistance, and access to services by providing a central location with satellite

offices; comprehensive in-home assessments; and “1-800” telephone and Internet access to Resource Center information and functions.

- Provide consumers with an opportunity to self-divert from institutional care and receive appropriate services in the least restrictive community setting of their choosing.
- Reduce the number of intake, screening, and eligibility determination processes consumers must experience to receive services.

Involvement of Stakeholders and Community Based Organizations:

- Advisory Committee: composed of stakeholders from the Cajun AAA area – one consumer appointed by the AAA, one consumer appointed by the Independent Living Center, Alzheimer’s Association, Families Helping Families, Affiliated Blind, Deaf Action Center, Muscular Dystrophy Association, AARP, Advocacy Center, Louisiana Interchurch Conference, rep from nursing home industry, rep from hospital discharge planners, rep from personal care attendant providers, rep from local housing authorities, Louisiana Assisted Living Association, Adult Day Health Care Association, Home Health Association, TRIAD, Louisiana Rehabilitation Services, three area legislators, and rep from state Olmstead planning group.
- Partners: primary responsibility for designing, implementing and evaluating Resource Center – Department of Health and Hospitals, Cajun AAA, Southwest Louisiana Independence Center, and Senior Health Insurance Information Program.