

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

Aging and Disability Resource Center Grant Program

Organization Name: South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Senior Services

Project Title: SC Access Plus

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

Total Award Amount: \$800,000

CMS Award: \$424,000

AoA Award: \$376,000

Project Contact: Sue Scally, (803) 898-2850

Project's Overall Design:

South Carolina proposes to pilot the Resource Center program by establishing centers in two counties – Aiken and Barnwell – located in the Lower Savannah AAA service area. Through these centers, consumers will receive information, assistance and counseling, assessment and short-term case management, eligibility screening, eligibility determination and the ability to apply for long term support services. Services, including Medicaid eligibility determination, will be co-located. Eligibility determination and application processes will be streamlined through an electronic data sharing methodology that will be developed in the pilot area. Building on an existing web-based information and assistance system, SC Access, the management information system will be designed to link the resource center case management system with existing databases including the Medicaid Waiver Case Management system and the Bureau of Senior Services Family Caregiver system. Consumers will be able to apply for services on-line. Project staff will work with the University of South Carolina Research Foundation to conduct a program evaluation.

Target Population:

- Year One – Persons 60 and older
- First Quarter of Year Two & Year Three – Persons 60 and older and Individuals with physical disabilities

Anticipated Outcomes:

- Resource Centers in at least two locations will be providing information, counseling, eligibility screening and coordination with eligibility determination by September, 2005 and will be fully functional by September, 2006

- A consumer tracking/case management system will be in operation by September, 2004
- On-line service application process will be in place by September, 2004
- Information management system operational tracking referrals, utilization and costs by September, 2005
- Performance goals to be measured include: program visibility; trust in the resource center's provision of objective, reliable and comprehensive information and assistance; ease of access to information, assistance and services; responsiveness of resource centers to consumer needs, preferences and unique circumstances; reduced intake, screening, and eligibility determination processes for consumers.

Involvement of Community Based Organizations and Other Stakeholders:

- Advisory Committees: The SC Real Choice Advisory Committee will serve as the statewide advisory committee. Local advisory committees will be established for the pilot counties with membership consisting of consumers, stakeholders, and key community leaders and will include representatives from hospitals, disabilities boards, SC DSS, Mental Health, Employment Security, HelpLine/2-1-1, Community Service Leaders Association, long-term care facilities, Medicaid Eligibility, workforce development/One Stop centers, and the local Council on Aging.
- Partners: Lower Savannah AAA, University of South Carolina, and Assist Guide (software development company)