

# Florida Department of Elder Affairs



## State Agency Mission

To promote the well-being, safety, and independence of Florida's seniors, their families, and caregivers.

## Populations Served

- ✓ **Older Adults**
- ✓ Adults with Physical Disabilities
- ✓ Adults with Developmental Disabilities
- ✓ Individuals with Traumatic and/or Acquired Brain Injuries
- ✓ Individuals with Behavioral Health Conditions
- ✓ Individuals with Substance Use Disorders

## Organizational Structure

The Secretary is appointed by the Governor, confirmed by the legislature, and oversees a staff of 404 FTE.

## Local Network

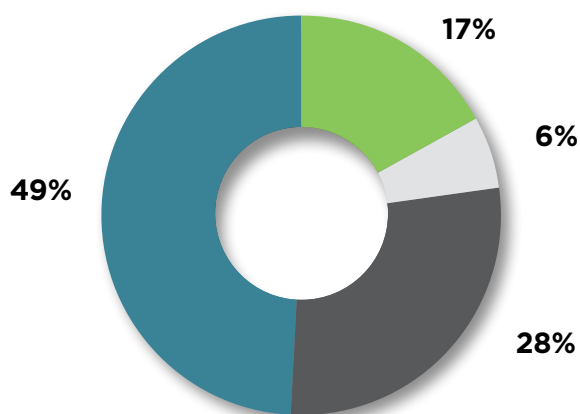
- 11** Area Agencies on Aging
- 2** Tribal Organizations

## Top Five Agency Policy Priorities

1. Supporting Caregivers
2. Mitigating Social Isolation
3. Alzheimer's and Related Dementias
4. Workforce Shortage
5. Delivering Services Remotely during COVID

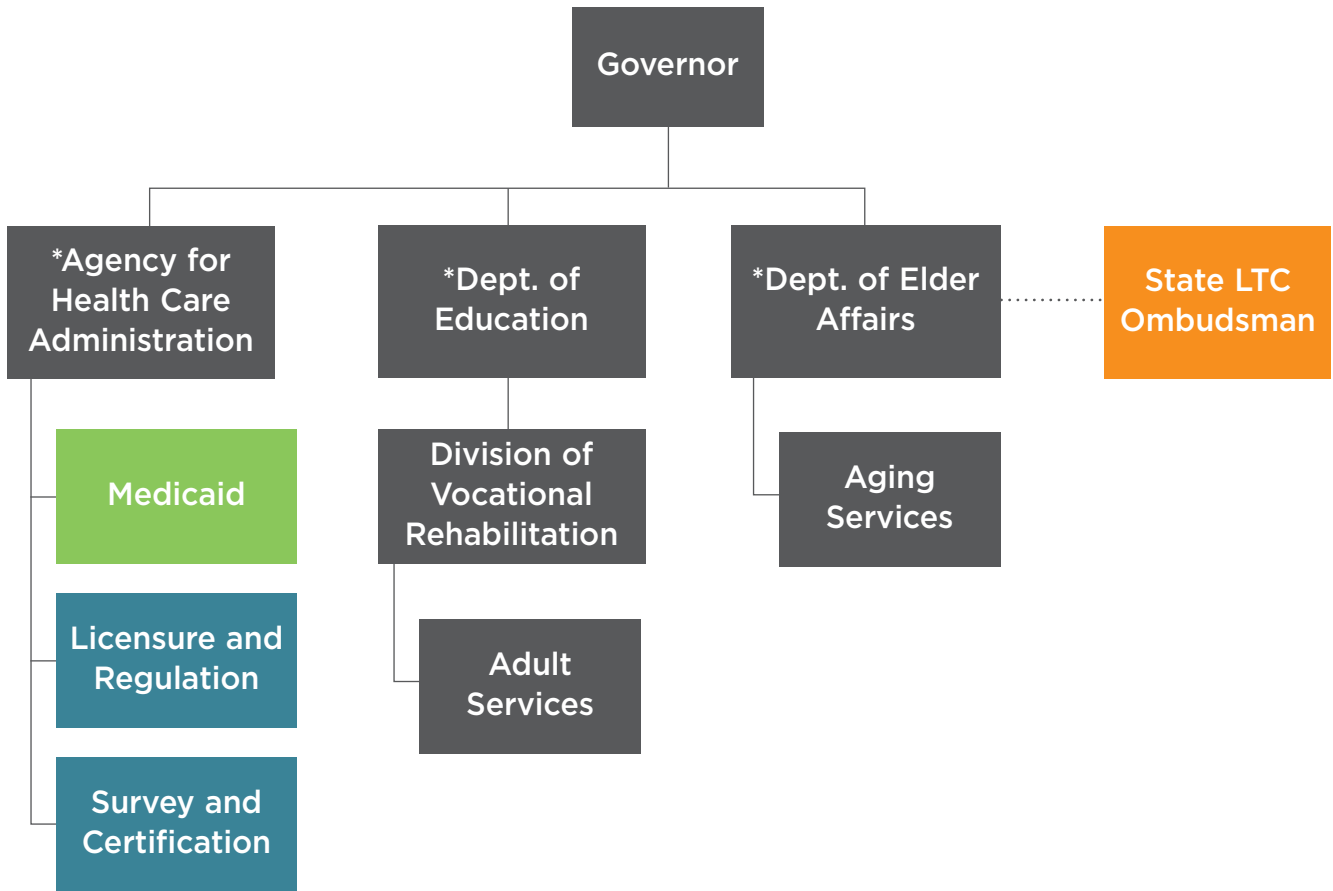
## Agency Funding Sources

Total FY2020 Budget \$369,629,818



■ State Appropriation ■ OAA ■ Medicaid ■ Other

## Florida Department of Elder Affairs



- Aging or Physical Disability Services and Agency or Division with Multiple Functions
- Medicaid Services
- Long-term Care Ombudsman
- Provider Regulation and Oversight
- Advisory Board
- ..... Denotes an advisory board or a contractual/indirect reporting relationship.
- \* Denotes Cabinet-level Agency

## Responsibilities of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs

Aging & Adult Services	
Set statewide aging policy	✓
Set statewide disability policy	
Administer Older Americans Act (all programs except SCSEP)	✓
Administer Senior Community Service Employment Program	✓
Administer a state-funded aging & disability program	✓
Manage state Aging & Disability Resource Center network	✓
Administer the State Health Insurance Assistance Program	✓
Provide Adult Protective Services (18+)	
Provide Elder Protective Services <i>only</i> (60-65+)	✓
Operate state-owned institutional facilities	
Oversee guardianship program	✓
Serve as state guardian	✓
Oversee Centers for Independent Living	
Administer State Vocational Rehabilitation Program	
Administer State Assistive Technology Program	
Manage No Wrong Door system	✓

Medicaid Services	
Administer Medicaid State Plan Services	
Administer Medicaid HCBS waiver(s)	
Administer PACE program	✓
Perform Medicaid functional eligibility determinations	✓
Perform Medicaid financial eligibility determinations	✓
Provide case management services to Medicaid recipients	
Administer PASRR	
Regulate and administer managed long-term services and supports	
Provide quality assurance for managed long-term services and supports	
Provide quality assurance for Medicaid HCBS	

Responsibilities for Provider Management	
Regulate institutional providers	
License institutional providers	
Regulate HCBS providers	
License HCBS providers	
Certify Assisted Living providers	

## Key State Initiative

### *Feeding Older Floridians Restaurant Meal Initiative*

The Department of Elder Affairs and the 11 Area Agencies on Aging created new business models to increase all home-delivered meal services, including the launch of the new restaurant meal initiative—delivered over 3.7 million restaurant meals. Together, they were able to ensure older adults remaining at home would continue to receive nutritious meals.

### *Livable Florida*

In embracing the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities Age-Friendly designation, Governor DeSantis and Secretary Prudom shared the vision of a Florida where older adults will thrive in these supportive and engaging communities, where they not only live but live well and age well. The Florida Department of Elder Affairs calls it “Livable Florida.” Becoming a Livable Community addresses the social determinants of health—conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age. They include factors like socioeconomic status; education; appropriate and affordable housing; transportation options; safe streets and neighborhoods; protection against natural disasters and protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation; employment; and social support networks; combatting loneliness and depression as well as access to personalized health care.

### *Project: VITAL*

DOEA recognized social isolation for residents of nursing facilities and assisted living facilities needed to be addressed. Project: VITAL (Virtual Inclusive Technology for All) is a partnership with the Alzheimer’s Association. The project supports the well-being of seniors, their families, and caregivers by allowing them to remain virtually engaged and connected through specially created tablets designed to access resources like music, books, games, and the ability to video chat and email with family outside. The tablets are preloaded with software programming from It’s Never Too Late (iN2L), enabling residents to connect with their loved ones via video chat with a simple tap on the home screen.

### *Scent Preservation Kits*

DOEA partnered with Scent Evidence K9 to distribute Scent Preservation Kits to caregivers of those living with AD/DRD. Kits are distributed through 17 Memory Disorder Clinics. These kits provide K9 responders with uncontaminated scent articles that significantly reduce the time it takes to locate someone. If that happens, proactive family safety measures, such as the Scent Preservation Kit, are providing effective response systems to locate missing persons and return them to safety.

*Continues.*

## **Key State Initiative** *Continued.*

### ***Therapeutic Robotic Companion Pets***

In a partnership with Ageless Innovation's Joy for All® Companion Pets, DOEA delivers therapeutic robotic pets to socially isolated seniors and adults living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. The interactive companion pets help combat loneliness by improving overall mood and quality of life.

