

IAAAA

IAAAA Strategic Plan

2009-2011

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Who we are:

IAAAA is the umbrella acronym for two organizations, the Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging and IAAAA Education Institute. The organizations share a common board of directors and staff. IAAAA's membership is comprised by the sixteen Area Agencies on Aging.

Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging is organized as a 501 (c) 6, a not for profit trade association. Its mission is to advance the missions of the member area agencies on aging legislatively and administratively and to advocate for quality programs and services for older adults and persons with disabilities.

IAAAA Education Institute is organized as a 501 (c) 3 charitable/educational organization. Its mission is to enhance the ability of area agency on aging staff and others within the aging network to provide quality services to older adults and persons with disabilities through education and training. It also provides outreach to the general public on selected issues.

What we do:

IAAAA advocates, educates and collaborates.

IAAAA advocates to elected and appointed policymakers for programs, services and policies that will result in independence, dignity and choices for older adults and persons with disabilities. IAAAA advocates on behalf for the members to ensure that area agencies on aging are able to operate programs with adequate funding resources.

IAAAA educates area agency on aging staff, persons whose work is funded through the Older Americans Act and older adults by providing training and outreach. IAAAA offers a variety of venues including but not limited to: face to face training, conference, outreach sessions, webinars and e-learning.

IAAAA collaborates with a number of organizations and entities to promote public policy, educate professionals and the public and to advance the mission of Indiana's Area Agencies on Aging.

THE PLAN 2009-2011

The strategic plan reflects IAAAA's focus as the state prepares to meet the challenges posed by Indiana's changing population.

The plan has four goals. Collectively, the goals work together to create a strong infrastructure for IAAAA, one that will be positioned to respond quickly to emerging issues. The objectives under each goal shape the network's capacity to continue as a leader for aging policy in Indiana.

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GOAL ONE: Seek opportunities that will result in a strong and vibrant AAA network.

The challenges facing the aging network are many. In 2007, over one million Hoosiers were over the age of 60. More than half of that number were over the age of 70 (Administration on Aging, www.aoa.gov, population statistics). According to the Administration on Aging projections, in less than two years, 2010, nearly 18% of Indiana's population will be over 60.

The growing number of older adults will place a strain on resources and funding. The increase in the number of retirees will affect the leadership in the aging network as well. Area Agencies on Aging, like nonprofits across the country, will see a number of experienced leaders retire to other pursuits. IAAAA must work to help to ensure that area agencies on aging are able to meet future demands.

Objectives

1. Build the IAAA infrastructure through: education and training; creating opportunities to establish and share best practices/standard operating procedures; utilizing off board committees ; enhancing the ability to utilize electronic communication; and, enhancing collaborative efforts by targeting select groups outside the AAA network for education and communication.
2. Help member agencies husband resources by seeking opportunities that will result in direct cost savings to them through use of group purchasing/consortiums when possible and feasible. Investigate health insurance consortium possibility.
3. Educate the public about AAA resources by promoting the ADRCs; creating open forums for discussion; promoting AAAs as resources for information to the community.
4. Prepare future leaders by collaborating with n4a to promote their leadership training; educating AAA staff through peer led events, roundtable discussion and enhanced electronic communication; identifying other avenues to train leaders through education.
5. Create informational and educational tools to aid members with operational changes that will aid in implementing Money Follows the Person, diversions and re-directing PAS.
6. Enhance the ability of the AAAs to meet their missions through management of the Money Follows the Person grant nursing home transition contract.

GOAL TWO: Provide leadership in seeking the development of a state endorsed comprehensive aging policy for the state of Indiana.

Like many other states, Indiana does not have a comprehensive policy that addresses the needs of an aging population. Various initiatives exist that address an aspect of policy including Opt IN, the Life Span Community Project, legislation such as SEA 493 and SEA 315. At the federal level, the Administration on Aging, the National Association of State Units on Aging and the n4a have created Project 2020 (www.n4a.org). The Administration on Aging and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services are promoting evidence based health promotion programs as a tool to implement aging policy. IA AAA believes Indiana must develop a policy and that IA AAA can provide partnership. IA AAA is working to implement evidence based health promotion programs across Indiana.

Objectives

1. Advocate to the Division of Aging, the General Assembly and other organizations on the need for a comprehensive policy.
2. Seek opportunities, including grant funding, that will result in the development and implementation of programs and policy.
3. Collaborate with other organizations by initiating discussion, meetings and action to identify the needs, challenges and solutions that should be included in state policy.
4. Educate members, the Division on Aging and other organizations about other states' policies or initiatives to address the "age wave".
5. Build on the work of the Lifespan Communities and Aging in Place initiatives to identify local solutions and promote elder friendly communities throughout the state.
6. Educate and train AAAs to implement evidence based health promotion programs within their service areas.

GOAL THREE: Advocate for legislative and administrative policies that support the work of the area agencies on aging.

The vision adopted by the Board of Directors in 2005 is aggressive. It calls for a comprehensive state policy, it mandates that AAAs be strong enough to meet the challenges of the future and it calls for individuals to become involved in planning for a healthy future – fiscally and physically. IAAAA’s advocacy efforts on every level must focused and targeted in order to achieve the vision. IAAAA will support n4a initiatives such as Project 2020 (www.n4a.org)

Objectives

1. Advocate to legislators and policy makers with a defined set of goals set by the Board.
2. Develop a strong grassroots effort and clarify expectations of participants.
3. Collaborate with other organizations at the federal and state level to promote public policy that will implement the vision. Build and maintain relationships with organizations. This includes efforts to support Project 2020 as well as IAAAA identified or supported initiatives at the state and federal level.
4. Educate partner organizations and the public through the use of an advocacy section of the message board.

GOAL FOUR: Strengthen Board and Staff capability.

To achieve the goals of the Strategic Plan, IAAAA must create internal supports that provide for ease in communication, decision making and ability to implement actions efficiently and effectively. IAAAA is a collaboration of the Board, staff and committees. Periodic review of organizational structure, policy and processes will work to ensure clarity and balance across all roles. This goal is necessarily internally focused.

Objectives

1. Contract with an outside entity to conduct an organizational assessment to obtain an objective look at structure, policies, and processes including expectations from the board and of the board.
2. Enhance capacity through review of and implementation of the recommendations resulting from the organizational assessment.
3. Enhance communication through adoption and implementation of protocols and processes. This includes the use electronic communication, including meetings.
4. Build capacity of the AAAs through education venues such as the AAA Directors Roundtable and tools such as webinars and e-learning modules.