

The following are Federal and State updates and emergency resources that are available for older adults and their caregivers.

Federal

- **OAA Reauthorized:** President Trump signed [HR4334](#), the Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020 into law!!! The law reauthorizes critical **Older Americans Act (OAA) programs through 2024**. Since 1965, the OAA has provided critical services that enable millions of older Americans to stay in their own homes and communities. See full text: *A Renewed Commitment to our Nation's Older Adults*; Lance Robertson, Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging, ACL [Originally published on the HHS Blog](#).
- **Coronavirus Relief for Seniors and People with Disabilities Act, S. 3544:** Proposed legislation by Sen. Casey to support emergency funding to meet the pressing needs being faced by older adults and family caregivers. The bill allocates \$1 billion for OAA Title III-B Supportive Services, \$1.65 Billion for Title III-C2 home-delivered nutrition services, \$185 million for Title III-E Family Caregiver Supports and nearly \$16 million for long-term care ombudsman services.
- **COVID-19 Emergency Funding Bills:** The second bill was signed into law last week authorized \$250 million for OAA nutrition services. IL received almost \$9M for nutrition programs statewide to increase capacity and address wait lists for home delivered meals.

State

- **FEMA Food Assistance:** IL Dept. On Aging (IDoA) is making additional shelf stable meals available through the FEMA and the Defense Logistics Agency (DLAFEMA) to supplement food supply and reduce potential food supply shortages for OAA home Delivered Meal programs. This FEMA program is also available to food pantries and school food programs. <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/19/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-eligible-emergency-protective-measures>
- **Emergency Fund Availability:** IDoA has made available \$7 million in Emergency Senior Services (ESS) funding to the Care Coordination Units (CCU) statewide to assist seniors and persons under 60 (if they are Adult Protective Service clients) to assist with emergency needs during the COVID crisis. Each CCU is receiving \$17,000 initially and can then request more if needed. Requests for food, utilities, medical supplies, transportation etc., should be sent to local CCUs for assistance. Managed Care Organization (MCO) clients are not eligible for these funds as they will be assisted through their MCO.

AgeGuide

- **Other Resources Available:** AgeGuide funded partners also has emergency funds under the Title III-E Caregiver (respite/Gap), ALZ Disease and Related Dementia Funds and Flexible Community Services funds that can assist Older Adults and their caregivers. There are no financial restrictions.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** If you would like to volunteer or know others that want to help, contact Alaine Kvedaras akvedaras@ageguide.org. This could be making phone calls to older adults, 2020 Census assistance or home delivered meal delivery.