



2019-20 STATE BUDGET PRIORITIES

Budget Priorities at a Glance

1. Social Adult Day Benefit Administrative Cut (2018-19 Enacted Budget)
 2. Transportation Carve-out
 3. Managed Long-Term Care (MLTC) Homecare Requirement
 4. Social Adult Day Care Funding
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Social Adult Day Benefit Administrative Cut enacted in the 2018-19 Budget

We strongly encourage the legislature to reinstate the \$28.13 million administrative cut in the 2018-19 enacted state Budget. This administrative cut allowing MLTC Plans to manage the social adult day benefit more efficiently by eliminating contracts with “poor performing” providers and limiting utilization of these services has no basis and is unfounded.

NYSADSA has not received additional information on how this budget item will continue to be implemented, therefore we are concerned that this cut will continue to affect those programs that are well-performing, following the rules and regulations established by the State Office for the Aging. We are already feeling the affect of implementation, as several MLTC plans are limiting contracts with new program attendees to only two days per week per participant.

Transportation Carve-Out

NYSADSA also oppose the transportation carve-out as this may it more difficult and more costly for older New Yorkers to get to critical medical appointments such as dialysis. The current transportation manager system is working well and moving to state-contracted transportation managers could result in poor coordination and missed medical appointments, preventing necessary visits to a provider, or hospital system. The current transportation system is a reliable and safe means, especially for those throughout the most rural counties. The elimination of \$4 million in State-only payments for rural transit assistance is especially concerning. This proposal

was included in the 2018-19 Executive Budget proposal and was ultimately rejected in the enacted State budget.

Managed Long Term Care (MLTC) Homecare Requirement

The lack of available home care workers in suburban/rural communities has a ripple effect resulting in seniors losing services for which they are eligible and which they need.

Under current Department of Health regulations, individuals qualify for Medicaid Managed Long Term Care (MLTC) by requiring at least 120 days of long-term care services and they must receive a “core” service (such as home care) in order to access social model adult day care. If the home care portion of an individual’s care plan cannot be fulfilled, the MLTC program will dis-enroll the participant from the MLTC and they will be unable to attend a social model adult day care program. Thus, through no fault of their own, the senior loses services.

Social Adult Day Care Funding

The 2019-20 Executive Budget provides \$1,072,000 in funding. We respectfully request the Legislature provide an increase in funding and allocate a total of \$3 million for social adult day care programs. The current appropriation allows the State Office for the Aging to invest in only 17 programs across New York State enabling the frail elderly and those with Alzheimer’s/related dementia to remain in the community while providing respite for families and caregivers so that they may continue to maintain employment. There is a tremendous need for adult day care in New York State, and this cannot be underestimated. Without access to services, the physical and mental health of many adults and their caregivers may deteriorate. An increase in funding will support additional programs to ensure caregivers have access to social model programs in every region of the State as well as increase capacity at existing programs.

Social Adult Day Care Training and Technical Assistance

We strongly support the continued allocation of \$122,500 to provide training and technical assistance to social adult day care providers in regard to the SOFA rules and regulations which govern social model programs in New York State. Since 2013, NYSADSA has conducted trainings across the State and provided technical assistance to educate thousands of and prospective providers, managed long terms care plans and area agencies on aging. NYSADSA is currently in the fifth year of a five-year grant.

Alzheimer’s Caregiver Support

The Governor’s proposed 2019-20 Executive Budget includes \$50 million for Alzheimer’s Disease Caregiver Support Services. We support these initiatives as social adult day programs offer excellent respite options for caregivers to consider, and encourage the State to take advantage of the existing network and programs that provide these vital services.

The mission of the New York State Adult Day Services Association (NYSADSA) is to develop, promote, and enhance adult day services as an integral part of the services continuum. We have many goals as a unified organization, and we aim to provide resources, information, and support to the public and the adult day services industry. NYSADSA is committed to the development and promotion of adult day services. We work to ensure the highest standards of quality and responsiveness to the individuals we serve, and our communities' needs. We are adult day providers from across New York State, working with and for our adult day service colleagues, as well as the individuals and families our programs serve.

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