

State Support for Senior Services By the Numbers

\$32 B Annual spending by Michigan seniors age 65+, mostly locally, boosting our state's economy

\$17.13 The amount of state dollars allocated for Older Michigianians Act services per senior

The percent of Michigan population age 60 and older in 2010—estimated total 1,892,731

18%

Percent of state general funds allocated for Older Michigianians Act programs (0.315%)

<1%

407,000 The number of Meals on Wheels affected by the FY 2010 \$1.9 million state funding reduction

8,800 The number of vulnerable seniors who may not receive help in 2010 due to state budget cuts

OMD 2010 Steering Committee

AARP, Alzheimer's Association Greater Michigan Chapter, Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan, Michigan Association of Senior Centers, Senior Volunteer Programs of Michigan, Michigan Directors of Services to the Aging, Michigan Senior Advocates Council

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**2010
OLDER MICHIGIANIANS DAY**



**PLATFORM
For Legislative Action**

www.oldermichigianiansday.com

Michigan Seniors urge Legislators and the Governor to:

- Protect services for the most vulnerable
- Invest in prevention programs that work and save money
- Make Michigan a retirement destination of choice
- Close tax loopholes, reform government, and restructure taxes to raise needed state revenue

June 10, 2010

Capitol Rally Day

OMD 2010 Legislative Advocacy Platform

We urge Legislators and the Governor to:

Protect vulnerable seniors: Fund senior and long term care programs

No further cuts to Office of Services to the Aging programs like home delivered meals, in-home care, senior volunteers, and caregiver respite.

- Approve Governor's recommended \$14 million increase in the MI Choice home-based nursing home alternative.
- No further cuts to Medicaid health, mental health and nursing home providers.

Protect vulnerable seniors: pass Elder Abuse laws

- The 2006 Governor's Elder Abuse Task Force Report calls for the adoption of several laws that would enhance protection for vulnerable older adults. Not one piece of legislation implementing the recommendations has been passed by the Legislature.
- More than 20 elder abuse bills are before the legislature, and 8 bills have passed the House and are awaiting action in the Senate. These bills must pass.
- Protections needed by older adults include: require reporting by financial institutions of suspected abuse; increase penalties for abuse or exploitation; require court appointed guardians to be bonded; allow videotaped testimony; and allow courts to freeze assets when necessary to protect seniors' savings.



Invest in prevention programs that work

- Support Older Michiganians Act programs that prevent, delay, or divert dependence on costly Medicaid and institutional care.
- Expand financing for evidence-based wellness programs, offered by senior centers and other aging network organizations, that lower health care costs.

Make Michigan a retirement destination of choice

- Support legislation that creates communities that embrace an aging and disabled population. Seniors are a \$32 billion economic force in Michigan. Their economic contributions create jobs that will not leave the state. Their income is imported into the state's economy (Social Security, pension, earnings on investments).

Reform Michigan government and taxation to match current conditions and needs

- Restructure Michigan's tax system with fairness to promote economic growth; reform government operations to maximize cost effectiveness; and raise needed revenues for state-supported services by closing tax loopholes.

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