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Older Adults Recovery and Resilience (OARR) Funding for the Older Californians Nutrition Program and Intergenerational Activities

Frequently Asked Questions

Revised November 10, 2022

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General

- 1. How does the potential change in the end date of the OARR funding impact the AAAs' spending of OARR funds? **New****

AAAs should spend down OARR funds in anticipation of the potential new end date of December 31, 2023.

- 2. Are AAAs required to submit plans for intergenerational activities to CDA for approval before moving forward with our planned activities?**

AAAs are not required to submit plans for intergenerational activities to CDA for approval. For technical assistance and guidance, AAAs can email the nutrition team at CDANutritionandHealthPromotion@aging.ca.gov.

- 3. Can CDA share the intergenerational projects the AAAs are planning that have been approved by CDA?**

Please note that intergenerational activity plans do not require CDA review/approval. CDA will share information, resources, successes, etc. as appropriate.

- 4. What if we cannot find a provider to create an intergenerational program? **Revised****

It is allowable to use OARR funding for the sole purpose of providing more Older Californians Nutrition Program (OCNP) meals to more older adults, however, CDA encourages all AAAs to also explore intergenerational opportunities that connect OCNP participants with younger generations.

Opportunities could include activities that enhance the OCNP, such as a Home-Delivered Meal (HDM) provider utilizing staff and/or volunteers to pair with HDM clients for lunch. Opportunities could also be separate from the OCNP meal, such as inviting Title IIIC participants to an intergenerational gardening activity.

Note that OARR funding may also be used for the planning stages. For example, you could use funding in 2022 to pursue partnerships and potential collaborative efforts for intergenerational activities that are then implemented in 2023.

- 5. Please clarify what the following statement from PM 22-09 means: *OARR funding may be used to provide meals for older adults and younger generations participating in activities that support intergenerational connections, however, OARR funding may not supplant funds that would otherwise be available from other nutrition programs.***

OARR funds may not be used to *replace* state/federal funds already available for the Title IIIC program.

- 6. Please clarify the following statement from PM 22-09 regarding program flexibilities: *Program flexibilities provided under the Major Disaster Declaration (MDD) apply to the OARR funding and remain in place until further notice. Funding flexibilities provided under the Major Disaster Declaration are not applicable to OARR funding.***

As mentioned in PM 22-09, the MDD funding flexibilities do not apply to the OARR funding, however, OCNP/Intergenerational Activities funding is transferrable between Title IIIC-1 and IIIC-2. Program flexibilities, as documented in the COVID-19 FAQs, have remained in place during the MDD. With the Governor's announcement that that MDD will end on February 28, 2023, AAAs now have a six-month transition period to resume standard program operations by June 30, 2023.

Fiscal

- 7. Are AAAs receiving a base of \$300,000?**

Per PM 22-09: *Each AAA will receive a base allocation of \$300 thousand with the remaining funding allocated based on the Intrastate Funding Formula Washington factors.*

- 8. Can AAAs submit Fall Prevention, Legal, and Family Caregiver budgets first if not ready to submit OARR budgets for the OCNP/Intergenerational Activities?**

For AAAs that have Intergenerational Activities in their contracts, CDA cannot execute the contract without all applicable budgets submitted, reviewed, and approved. AAAs may submit the other 3 budgets first for CDA review, however, as these are all under 1 contract, CDA cannot execute the contract until budgets for all programs within the contract have been submitted, reviewed, and approved.

- 9. Are OARR funds transferable between IIIC-1 and IIIC-2? If so, are there any limits?**

Funding is transferable between C-1 and C-2 without limits. The funding is in the budget display as C-1 and C-2, but your "transfer" is how you choose to budget. For example, you can budget 100% in C-1 and 0% in C-2 if you choose. If you want to change the allocation between C-1 and C-2 mid-contract, submit a budget revision to reflect the transfer.

10. What is the reimbursement process if we choose the advance funding option?

AAAs that opt to receive advance funding will receive a check for one-sixth of the allocated funding upon execution of the contract. Once the AAA/service provider spends the one-sixth advance funding amount, send invoices to CDA (Local Finance Bureau) and the AAA will be reimbursed for that amount. The reimbursement process takes 45 days. Continue this process until all funding is expended.

Allowable Activities

11. Can OARR funding be used for intergenerational activities that do not include meals?

Yes. There is not a requirement that meals are provided when using OARR funds for the OCNP program and intergenerational activities. OARR funding may be used exclusively for intergenerational activities.

12. Can OARR funding be used only to provide more meals to more older adults?

Yes, funding can be used for meals for IIC participants, even if intergenerational activities are not provided. Please note that the intent of the funding is also to connect OCNP participants with younger generations. AAAs and service providers are encouraged to make efforts toward this goal.

13. If meals are provided, are the nutritional requirements for meals the same for older adults and for younger generations under age 60? Revised

Meals provided with OARR funding would follow the same requirements as Older Americans Act (OAA) meals: follow the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA) and provide 1/3 of the Dietary References Intakes (DRI), however, there is still a waiver of DGA/DRI requirements which is granted at the federal level and is tied to the Public Health Emergency (PHE). Health and Human Services (HHS) will provide a 60-day notice before ending the PHE. The nutrition requirements waiver ends once the PHE ends. Meals provided to other age groups should be of the same nutritional value as meals provided to older adults.

14. Can OARR funding be used to provide snacks, or would a complete meal need to be provided?

Meals do not need to be served as part of an intergenerational activity. Healthy snacks may be included as part of an intergenerational activity. Note that snacks would not be reported as meals but would instead be considered part of the intergenerational activity.

15. Are intergenerational meals/activities limited to serving those that are 17 and younger or can we include all generations 59 years and younger?

Intergenerational activities can include all generations. Here is an excerpt from PM 22-09: *OARR funding utilized for intergenerational activities support the goal of connecting older adults with children, youth, and adults through the OCNP.*

16. Do activities need to include both older adults and children to count as an intergenerational activity?

No. The intent of the funding is to connect older adults with other generations, which could include children, youth, or adults. Allowable activities may also include the planning and

development of partnerships and activities prior to the implementation of activities that include both older adults and other generations (children, youth, and adults).

17. Do projects/activities funded by OARR, such as gardens, have to involve nutrition program participants?

It is feasible that OARR-funded activities would be offered to older adults who are not participating in the OCNP. Participation in the OCNP is not required, however, older adults participating in intergenerational activities, such as gardening activities, should be encouraged to also participate in the OCNP.

The intent of the OARR funding is to support the AAAs and their service providers in providing more OCNP meals to more people and to support the planning, development, and implementation of intergenerational activities that connect OCNP participants (i.e., IIIC-1 and IIIC-2 clients) with younger generations.

18. Can we work with food banks to put in their new garden which will be used for education for children and older adults, as well as fresh produce?

Yes, working with a food bank on a garden project that would provide education and produce for children and older adults would be an appropriate intergenerational activity. As noted in PM 22-09, allowable activities include: *Planning, development, or implementation of a shared garden site(s) and intergenerational gardening activities and nutrition education.*

19. What are requirements for using OARR funding for gardens and for using garden produce in Title IIIC meals.

OARR funds can be used to support garden activities and supplies. Supplies to build and maintain a garden include, but are not limited to, items such as materials, tools, soil, seeds, and food-bearing plants and trees.

If the provider plans to use produce from the garden in Title IIIC meals, consult with the local Environmental Health Department for any requirements for serving garden produce on-site. Note that requirements may vary in different counties. Providers should also develop a policy and procedures for the handling of garden produce.

20. Would it be allowable to partner with a local shelter serving older adults and other adult to improve their ability to serve meals to homeless adults of all ages? Do the homeless older adults have to also be Title IIIC participants, or could we consider these meals provided at that site as IIIC meals if our senior meal program is doing the meals?

The intent of the funding is to connect older adults with other generations. Serving meals to various age groups at a homeless shelter without an intentional intergenerational activity to connect older adults with other age groups would not meet the intent of the funding. Activities that connect older adults with other generations, which could be as simple as pairing an older adult with a younger person for a meal, would be allowable.

The homeless shelter could be considered a Title IIIC congregate site if all requirements met as per the [California Code of Regulations, Article 5. Title IIIC](#).

21. Would an activity between a 60-year-old and an 80-year-old be considered intergenerational?

An intentional activity between different age groups, including 60's age group and 80's age group, could be considered intergenerational.

22. Can OARR funding be used for grandparents raising grandchildren?

Grandparents raising grandchildren aligns with the IIIIE Family Caregiver Support Program, therefore IIIIE funds should be used for this purpose. The IIIIE program has two service categories that can provide food/meal support to children as the care receivers (grandparents or older adult relatives, 55 or older, are the caregivers) as noted in the [CDA Service Categories and Data Dictionary](#) under two categories:

- Caregiver Respite Homemaker Assistance: provides supportive services, including assistance with meal preparation, to the grandparent/older adult relative providing care to a child.
- Caregiving Emergency Cash/Material Aid: provides supportive services, including assistance to caregivers in the form of material aid or cash to purchase surplus food or meals, to the grandparent/older adult relative providing care to a child.

If IIIIE funding is not available under either of these two service categories, it is allowable for a child being raised by a grandparent to accompany the grandparent to a IIIC congregate site for an intergenerational activity (which could include a meal).

23. Is it allowable to use OARR funds for HDM providers to provide meals to children living in the home with their grandparents or to grandparents raising their grandchildren?

Grandparents raising grandchildren aligns with the IIIIE Family Caregiver Support Program, therefore IIIIE funds should be used for this purpose if meals are to be provided on a regular basis.

If IIIIE funding is not available under the service categories noted in Question 21, it is allowable for a home-delivered meal to be provided to a child being raised by a grandparent if the meal is part of a designated intergenerational activity. It is not allowable to use OARR funds routinely to provide meals to a child raised by a grandparent in the absence of a planned intergenerational activity.

Note that any individuals under age 60 are eligible to receive a home-delivered meal if they have a disability and reside at home with older individuals, if an assessment concludes that it is in the best interest of the homebound older individual who participates in the program.

24. We have a Title IIIIE Kinship program which includes grandparents who are not HDM clients currently. Can OARR funding be used to serve meals to the family? Can the OARR funding be added the provider's IIIIE contract, or do we need to go through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process?

Providing meals to the family of an older adult does not meet the intent of the funding as it does not enhance a participant's existing opportunities for socialization; however, it is

allowable for a home-delivered meal to be provided to a child being raised by a grandparent if the meal is part of a designated intergenerational activity. It is not allowable to use OARR funds routinely to provide meals to a child raised by a grandparent in the absence of a planned intergenerational activity.

The AAA would need to determine if the planned intergenerational activities are within the scope of work of the current contracted provider. If planned activities are not within the contract scope of work, the AAA would need to go through the RFP process. See Question 24 for more information.

Procurement

25. If we fund our current OAA providers, are we required to go out to RFP for OARR funding or can we use the current contracts that have just gone through a RFP and add funds?

AAAs can distribute/amend contracts (e.g., additional OARR funding) to the same provider from the most recent RFP contract as long as it is for the same service, same contract term, for the same service provider, and meets the intent of the funding. The AAA can amend such a contract with additional funding without having to go out to RFP.

Since OARR funds may be used to provide meals for older adults, amending contracts for this purpose would be appropriate. Amending contracts to add intergenerational activities would depend on if the planned intergenerational activities fit within the current contract scope of work.

Note that contracts that have been procured through a RFP are limited to one-year periods and, at the discretion of the AAA, those contracts may be renegotiated up to a maximum of three additional one-year periods (i.e., for an aggregate total of 4 years).

Emergency contracts (that did not have a competitive RFP process) cannot be extended/amended. Noncompetitive awards are permitted under certain circumstances, such as a public emergency. The AAA would have to conduct its own analysis of the appropriate time period, and whether the public exigency/emergency exception exists for their agency. The continuing COVID-19 pandemic and the fact that we are currently operating under the MDD are among the many factors that could be considered by the AAA.

26. For contract amendment purposes, what is considered a same service?

A same service for the OCNP would include activities that enhance the IIC dining experience or enhance IIC participants' opportunities for socialization. The AAA should determine if the planned intergenerational activities are within the scope of service in the contract.

The following would be examples of a same service:

- Younger generations join older adults for a meal
- Younger generations join older adults for a meal and an activity such sharing stories, nutrition education, cooking demonstrations, etc.
- An adult delivers a C-2 meal to an older adult and dines with them.

All of the above examples could also be done virtually.

27. If our meal providers don't want to create an intergenerational program but another OAA provider does want to create a program, is it allowable to fund OARR intergenerational activities through another OAA provider?

It is allowable to use OARR funds for intergenerational activities through other OAA providers, such as IIIB program providers. The AAA would need to determine if the planned intergenerational activities are within the scope of work of the current contracted provider.

If planned activities are not within the contract scope of work, the AAA would need to go through the RFP process. AAAs may also contract with entities not currently providing OAA services by going through the RFP process.

Since the intent of OARR funding is to provide meals for older adults and/or to connect OCNP participants with younger generations, OCNP participants should be invited to OARR-funded activities. Additionally, older adults who are not OCNP participants should be encouraged to participate in the OCNP program.

28. If the AAA provides direct IIIC services, does the AAA need to go out to RFP for intergenerational activities?

AAAs providing Title IIIC as a direct service do not need to go out to RFP for intergenerational activities if the AAA plans to provide those services directly.

29. If working outside of our contracted nutrition providers for intergenerational activities, do we have to go out to RFP?

AAAs cannot forgo the competitive RFP process and must adhere to regular contractual requirements.

Reporting

30. If a meal is provided to both the young person and older adult, how do we account for the meals in CARS?

OARR funding is separate from all other Title III C/Area Plan funding and must be tracked separately from the NAPIS/SPR systems and submitted on a format prescribed by CDA. The following meal data will be collected:

- The service units (meals) and unduplicated client count for congregate (C-1) and home-delivered (C-2) meals provided to OCNP clients using OARR funds.
- The service units (meals) and estimated participant count for meals provided to intergenerational participants who are ineligible for OCNP meals.

31. Are service units required to be reported for OARR funds? If so, how are multiple services reported (i.e., meals, intergenerational activities, etc.)?

Yes, service units for both meals and intergenerational activities are required to be reported for OARR funds. Required reporting will include the following:

- The service units (meals) and estimated unduplicated client count for congregate (C-1) and home-delivered (C-2) meals provided to OCNP clients using OARR funds.
- The service units (meals) and estimated participant count for meals provided to intergenerational participants who are ineligible for OCNP meals.

- The service units (intergenerational activities) and estimated unduplicated client count for OCNP clients participating in OARR-funded intergenerational activities.
- The service units (intergenerational activities) and estimated participant count for participants under age 60 participating in OARR-funded intergenerational activities.

Required reporting will also include a quarterly narrative report describing intergenerational activities, demographics of participants of intergenerational activities, and successes and challenges with OARR-funded activities, as instructed by CDA. Reporting of total expenditures is also required quarterly.

32. Are AAAs required to collect demographic information from participants of OARR-funded meals and activities?

Demographic information will not be reported in CARS for participants of OARR-funded meals and activities; however, AAAs should collect demographic information to include in the quarterly narrative report.