An Introduction to the Administration for Community Living

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ACL
Administration for Community Living

Mission

Maximize the independence, well-being, and health of older adults, people with disabilities, and their families and caregivers.

Vision

All people, regardless of age and disability, live with dignity, make their own choices, and participate in society.

Key Functions

Administer 40+ disability and aging programs

Fund services and supports provided by networks of state, tribal, educational, and community-based organizations

Advance research and innovation to address the nation's most pressing disability and rehabilitation challenges

Advise the HHS Secretary and other departments and agencies on aging and disability policy

ACL
Administration for Community Living

Advancing independence and inclusion of older adults and people with disabilities

Introduction to Office of Healthcare Information and Counseling (OHIC)

Overview and Priorities

Office of Healthcare Information and Counseling (OHIC)

Responsible for managing programs and activities designed to empower Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers to make informed healthcare decisions.

	Program Overview	Type of Award & Competition	Current Project Period	Data System
Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)	To educate and empower beneficiaries on how to protect themselves from Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse	Fully competitive Cooperative Agreement	6/1/2023- 5/31/2028	SIRS
State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)	To educate and assist beneficiaries on Medicare options, facilitating enrollment, and accessing benefits	Non-Competitive(per statute funding goes to State Dept on Aging or Insurance) Cooperative Agreement	4/1/2025-3/31/2030	STARS
Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA)	To assist beneficiaries with limited income and assets in understanding and enrolling in programs to help them pay for Medicare	Mandatory Cooperative Agreement to States (that choose to submit state plans) to provide funding for SHIPs, AAAs, and ADRCs	9/1/2025 – 8/31/2027	STARS

OHIC Program Funding

Program	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
SHIP	**$55.242M**	**$55.242M**	**$55.242M**
SMP	**$35M** (+$500,000 HCFAC Wedge)	**$35M** (+$500,000 HCFAC Wedge)	**$35M** (+$750,000 HCFAC Wedge)
MIPPA*	**$50M**	**$50M**	**$50M**
SHIP	*$15M*	*$15M*	*$15M*
AAA	*$15M*	*$15M*	*$15M*
ADRC	*$5M*	*$5M*	*$5M*
NCOBE	*$15M*	*$15M*	*$15M*

* Congress has reauthorized and extended MIPPA through December 2027 at current funding levels.

ACL & Grantee Roles for Managing Awards

ACL Team Roles

- **OHIC Program Managers**
  - Set national program direction
  - Overall management/administration of the program
  - Oversight and management of Center grants
- **OHIC Project Officer (PO)**
  - Day-to-day Federal responsibilities for managing grants
  - Provide technical assistance and guidance to grantees
  - Grantees' **primary point of contact at ACL**
- **Grants Management Specialist (GMS)**
  - Responsible for business, fiscal, and non-programmatic aspects of federal grant management
  - May contact grantees with budget questions or requests

Grantee Roles

Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR)

- Authorized to act on agency's behalf (and can commit agency to agreement with federal terms)
- Signs grant applications

Principle Investigator/Project Director (PIPD)

- Day-to-day management of the grant program
- Responsible for programmatic and technical operations

Fiscal Staff

- Responsible for fiscal management of the federal grant award
- Completes federal financial forms (i.e. SF 425)

Important Partners

ACL/OHIC Grantees

- **North East Iowa Area Agency on Aging (NEI3A)**
  - SMP Resource Center
  - SHIP Technical Assistance Center
- **National Council on Aging (NCOA)**
  - National Center for Benefits Outreach and Enrollment

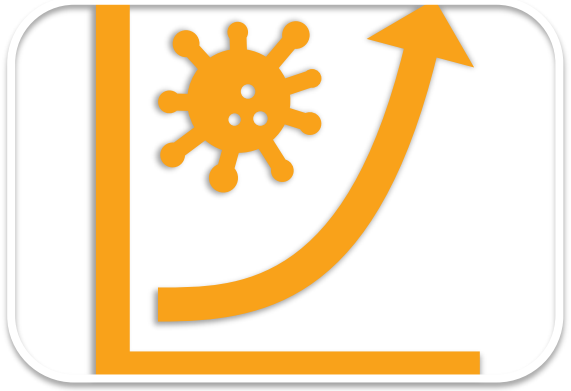
Other Non-Federal Partners

- USAging
- ADvancing States
- Center for Medicare Advocacy
- Medicare Rights Center

Federal Partners

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
  - ACL has existing MOU in place to help navigate partnership and connections
- HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG)
  - Designated SMP Liaison (Michael Cohen)
- HHS Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR)
- Social Security Administration
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)

2026 OHIC Priorities



Improving Outcomes

- Focusing on data integrity/quality and person centered beneficiary support



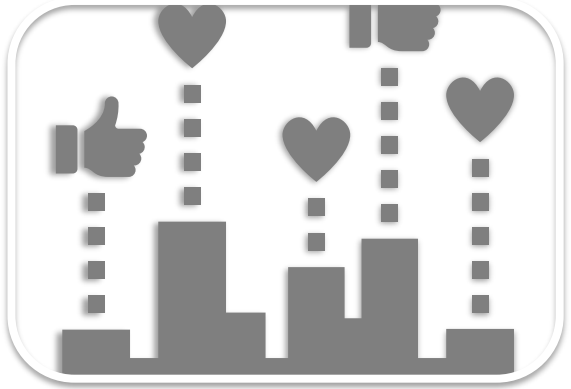
Expanding Program Visibility

- Improving story telling



Improving Program Reach

- Through use of AI and other technology



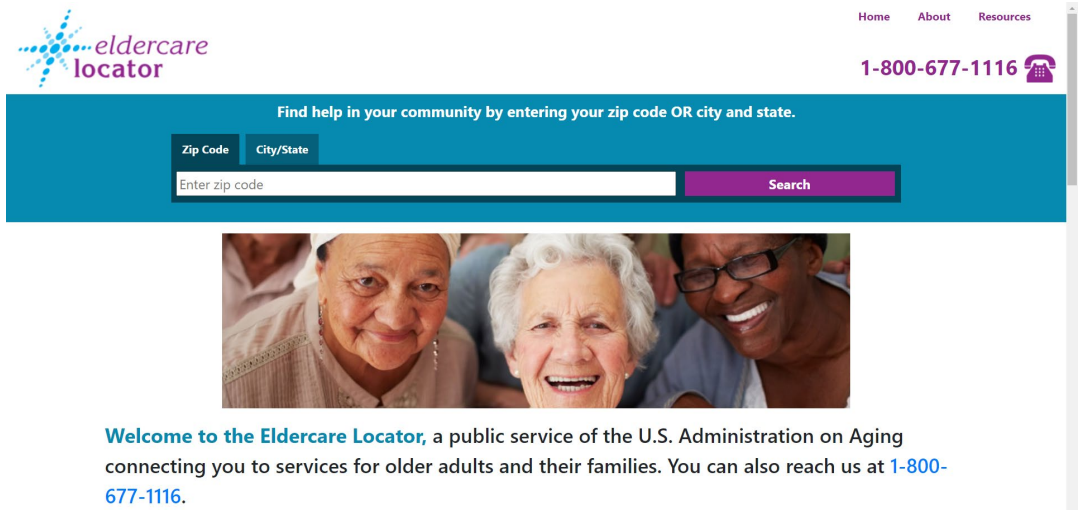
Scaling

- Identifying and sharing program best practices; expanding workforce

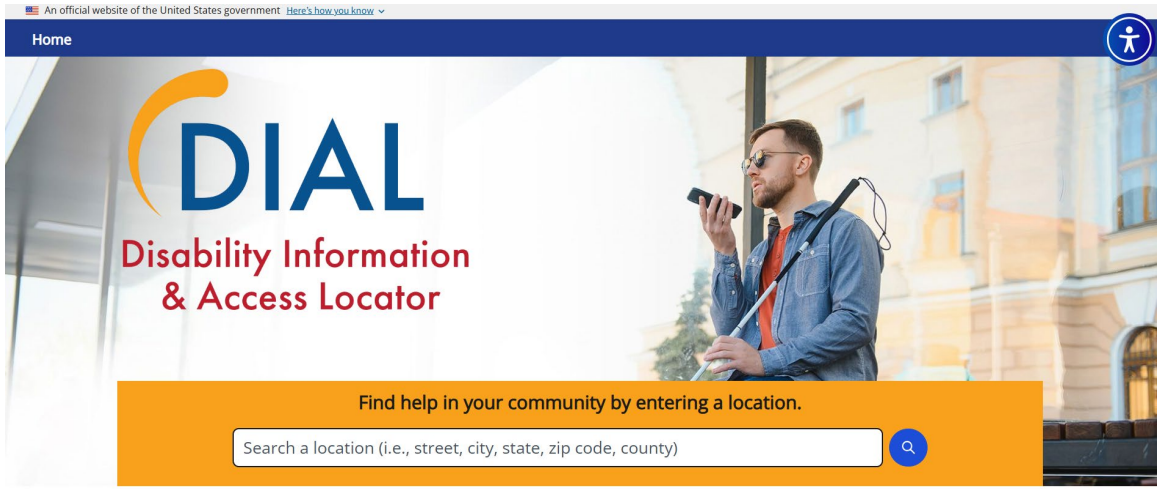
Appendix

National Eldercare Locator and Disability Information & Access Line

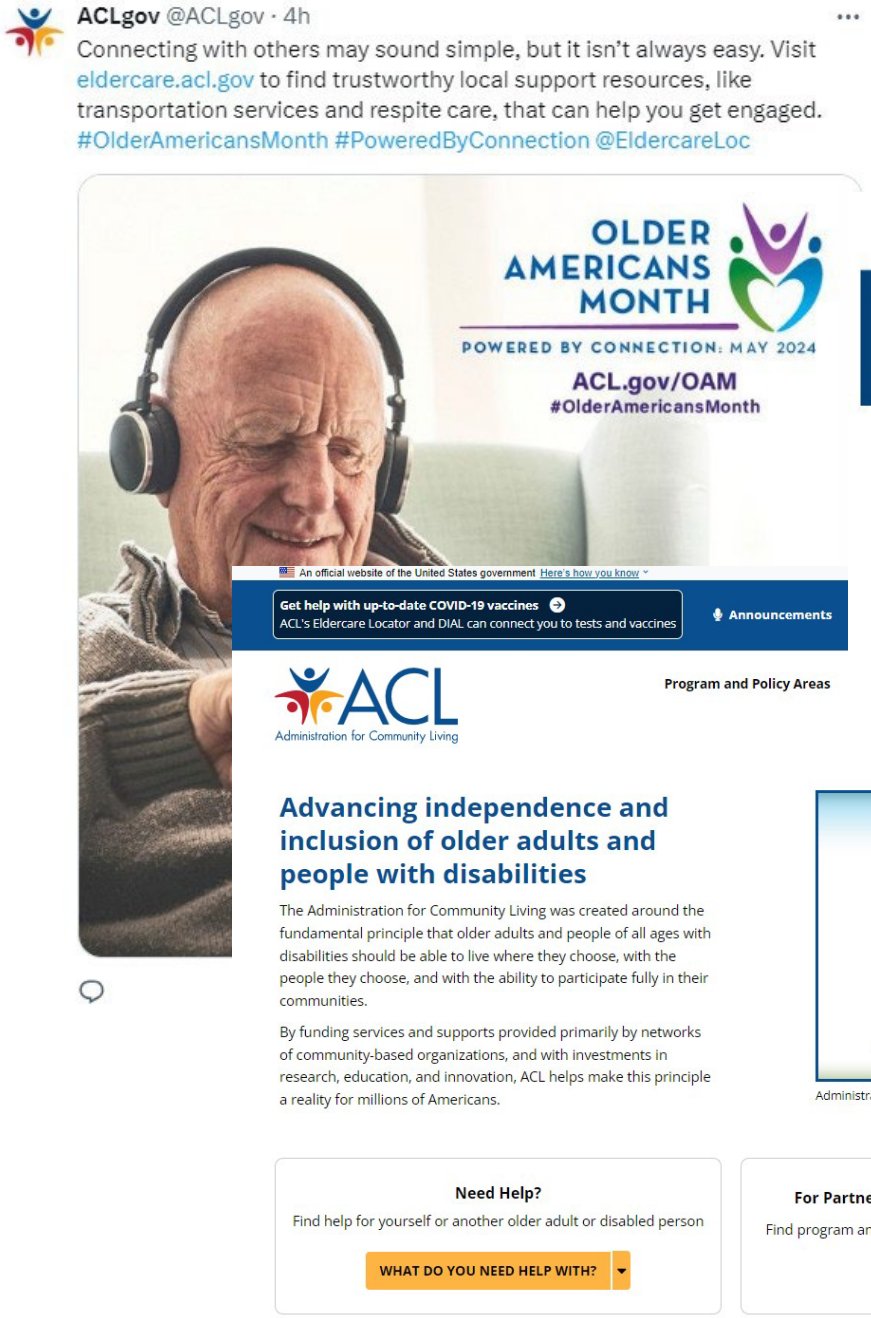
Nationwide services that connect people with trustworthy local resources for people with disabilities, older adults and family caregivers. Eldercare Locator information specialists can be reached through online chat, text, and email. Both websites can be searched by zip code or city/state.



- https://eldercare.acl.gov/
- 1-800-677-1116



- https://dial.acl.gov/







Elder Justice Coordinating Council

Register To Watch Online: June Elder Justice Coordinating Council Meeting



Administration for Community Living: Strengthening Communities Video

For More Information

ACL.gov

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