

The Senior Alliance COLLOQUY

The Senior Alliance's Monthly Advocacy Update

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Welcome to The Senior Alliance's advocacy newsletter, COLLOQUY! This monthly e-mail is a look at the issues, legislation, and events impacting aging.

Federal Budget Update

In mid-November, a FY 2026 budget was signed that brought an end to the longest government shutdown in U.S. history. The legislation included the final three FY 2025 appropriations bills, along with a continuing resolution extending funding for the remaining nine bills, including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, through **January 30**. The measure also extended funding for programs under the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act through January 30 and provided full FY 2026 funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Although another shutdown is not expected, it remains a possibility if Congress faces similar challenges in January.

What's Next

As Congress returns to negotiations on the remaining appropriations bills, it is critical for aging advocates to take action to ensure that Older Americans Act (OAA) programs are protected and funded at the highest possible levels in the final spending package.

The Senior Alliance will continue to advocate with our federal legislators on these issues to ensure protection and continued funding for FY 2026. Take action through our website or using the button below to ensure the needs of older adults are heard.

Take Action

Take action using the button below or by heading to our website to contact your Members of Congress and ask them to maintain the funding levels proposed in the Labor/HHS bill, which includes millions of dollars in increases for Title III B Supportive Services. For Title VI of the OAA and the Senior Community Service Employment Program (Title V), we are calling on Congress to adopt the Senate's recommendation to fund the program, as the House proposal provided no funding for Title V in FY 2026.

[Take Action on FY 2026 Federal Budget](#)

New Episode of Inside The Senior Alliance!

In this episode, Jason Maciejewski, CEO of The Senior Alliance, talks to Michigan State Representative Stephanie Young, who serves the 16th House District.

They talk about the biggest challenges in the coming year for older adults, the impacts of the federal budget cuts and how Michigan is trying to limit the impacts of those cuts. They also discuss the guardianship assistance bill that Representative Young recently introduced, housing affordability, transportation, aging veterans, and how older adults can help advocate and make their voices heard in Lansing. Listen [here](#).

Give Hunger a Holiday

In Michigan, 1 in 7 older adults struggles with food insecurity. During the holidays, your generous donations enable The Senior Alliance to continue to meet the needs of food-insecure aging adults and adults with disabilities in our community when traditional meal-delivery services are unavailable.

Because of you, in FY 2025 (October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025), on Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, over 2,900 hot meals were served. This year, we hope to serve even more vulnerable members in our area. Your donation, whether \$5 or \$500, will help provide meals and also support other

services for the aging adults in our community - through this holiday season and beyond.

Help us Give Hunger a Holiday by donating today.

[Donate to Give Hunger a Holiday](#)

We Want Your Feedback!

Help us gain insight on aging and community needs in Western Wayne County and Downriver through our Multi-Year Plan survey.

The fiscal year (FY) 2027-2029 Multi-Year Plan outlines our priorities and strategies to address the evolving needs of older adults and caregivers in our community. Completed every few years, this plan guides our work over the next three fiscal years by identifying gaps, setting goals, and shaping programs that help older adults remain healthy, independent, and connected.

Your responses directly shape how federal and state funding is prioritized for programs and services that support older adults, adults living with disabilities, and caregivers. By taking our survey, you help guide our planning efforts for the years ahead.

The survey is open to everyone and community members of all ages are encouraged to participate. Please feel free to share this with your networks so we can hear from as many people as possible.

Use the button below to complete the survey today!

[2027- 2029 Multi-Year Plan Survey](#)

[Advocate!](#)