

The Senior Alliance

COLLOQUY

The Senior Alliance's Monthly Advocacy Update

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Volume 6.3

*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

On Friday, the U.S. Senate passed a six-month continuing resolution (CR) that funds the government until the end of September, the end of the fiscal year (FY). Under this FY 2025 CR, Older American's Act (OAA), State Health Insurance Assistance Program, and other aging programs appear to remain funded at FY 2024 levels.

Additionally, language was added to the CR to extend funding to Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) programs for area agencies on aging (AAAs) and State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs) to continue outreach to enroll low-income Medicare beneficiaries in cost saving Medicare programs until the end of FY 2025.

The Senior Alliance will kick off its advocacy efforts for FY 2026, focusing on aging programs and support for older adults.

Join The Senior Advisory Council

The Senior Alliance is accepting new members over age 60 to join our Advisory Council. The Council's purpose is to advise the Board of Directors and staff on matters related to older persons, including community perspectives on activities and issues related to the agency.

Advisory Council's are mandated by the State of Michigan Operating Standards for Area Agencies on Aging under the Older Americans Act. Members are composed of those age 60 or older, persons with disabilities, community members, caregivers, veterans, minorities, service providers, elected officials, and general public. The Council meets seven times per year at The Senior Alliance office in Dearborn, Michigan. Each member is appointed by our Board of Directors.

Duties include reviewing our annual implementation plan/multi-year plan for Older Americans Act funded programs, and being an advocacy voice for older adults in our community.

If you or someone you know are interested in applying to be on our Advisory Council, contact Emma Case at ecase@thesenioralliance.org.

Inside The Senior Alliance Podcast

In the latest episode, Emma Case, Planning and Advocacy Manager at The Senior Alliance, talks to Renee Roederer, Senior Director of Programs and Community Care at [The Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan](#). They discuss how epilepsy affects those who have it, particularly among seniors, and many of the common misconceptions about epilepsy. For example, you can be diagnosed at any age with epilepsy, even if you have not had it before. They also talk about navigating the healthcare system, getting better accommodations for those living with epilepsy, and how to find support in Michigan for patients and their caregivers.

[Listen to the episode.](#)

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