



FY2026 Annual Report

Governor's Office of
Elderly Affairs

Prepared on Behalf of
Louisiana Executive
Board on Aging

Chairwoman
Leslie Keen

Vice-Chairwoman
Ann Keene

BOARD MEMBERS

What are the functions of LEBA? La. R.S. 46:934(A) states that “The board shall develop and implement policies and procedures pertaining to the Office of Elderly Affairs and its functions, shall approve matters of policy and all rules and regulations promulgated by the board or the office which pertain to elderly affairs and voluntary parish councils on aging, shall review and make recommendations to the director on matters of general importance and relevance to the planning, monitoring, coordination, and delivery of services to the elderly of the state, and shall prepare and submit an annual report to the legislature and to the governor sixty days prior to the legislative session.”



Member	PSC #
Leslie Keen, Chairwoman	1
Ricco Thomas	2
Vacant	3
Vacant	4
Vacant	5
Charles “Buddy” Pugh	1
Rene Thibodeaux	2
Vacant	3
Vacant	4
Blanche Wilks	5
Huey Beverly	1
Heather Prejean	2
Vacant	3
Donald Mallet	4
Ann Keene, Vice-Chairwoman	5

CHAIRWOMAN'S LETTER

Dear Friends and Partners,

On behalf of the Louisiana Executive Board on Aging (LEBA) and the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs (GOEA), it is my privilege to present the Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Report.

Louisiana's older adult population continues to grow, and with that growth comes an increasing responsibility to ensure that seniors have access to the services and support needed to remain healthy, independent, and engaged in their communities. Every day, the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs and our statewide aging network work to address the needs of older adults and their caregivers while preserving the dignity and quality of life they deserve.

The impact of these efforts is reflected throughout this report. During Fiscal Year 2026, GOEA and its partners served 233,315 older adults through programs funded under the Older Americans Act and related initiatives. Among those served, 45% were members of minority populations, nearly 28% lived in rural areas, and more than 40% were living below the federal poverty level, demonstrating our continued focus on supporting some of Louisiana's most vulnerable residents.

Access to nutrition, transportation, caregiver support, and community-based services remains essential to helping seniors age in place. This year, the aging network delivered more than 3.7 million home-delivered meals and 1.6 million congregate meals, helping address food insecurity while promoting health and social connection. Transportation programs provided more than 525,000 trips, enabling older adults to access medical appointments, essential services, and community activities. In addition, GOEA and its partners responded to more than 62,000 requests for information and assistance, ensuring that seniors and their families could access available resources and support.

We also recognize the critical role family caregivers play in supporting older adults across our state. Through the National Family Caregiver Support Program, GOEA assisted more than 6,000 caregivers, providing respite services, information and assistance, counseling, education, and other resources that help caregivers continue their important work while maintaining their own well-being.

These accomplishments would not be possible without the dedication of GOEA staff, Area Agencies on Aging, Councils on Aging, senior centers, service providers, volunteers, community partners, and advocates who serve on the front lines every day. Their commitment, compassion, and innovation continue to strengthen Louisiana's aging network and improve the lives of older adults throughout our state.

I also extend my sincere appreciation to Governor Landry's Administration, the Louisiana Legislature, parish governments, federal partners, and all organizations that invest in programs for older adults. Your support helps ensure that essential services remain available to those who need them most.

While we are proud of the progress highlighted in this report, we know the need for services will continue to grow as Louisiana's population ages. Together, we must remain committed to expanding opportunities, strengthening community-based support programs, and ensuring that all older Louisianans can age with dignity, independence, and purpose.

Thank you for your continued partnership and dedication to Louisiana's seniors. Working together, we can build a future where every older adult has the opportunity to thrive with grace.

With gratitude and respect,



Leslie Louviere Keen

Chairwoman

Louisiana Executive Board on Aging (LEBA)



OUR VISION

Ours is a changing and aging population. According to the 2024 Census estimates, Louisiana's elderly population crossed the million-person threshold (1,116,126 for 60 plus citizens) constituting 24.3% of our state's total population. Currently there are more seniors living in Louisiana than there are persons under the age of 18.

The Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs' (GOEA's) core programs provide a wide range of in-home and community-based supports that are helping older adults remain independent, active and at home. These programs fulfill the Aging Network's responsibility to bring together and coordinate a variety of services and activities for older adults. All Older Americans Act services specifically target the most vulnerable seniors in Louisiana; these clients tend to be among the oldest of the old.

MISSION

To serve as the focal point for the development, implementation and administration of public policy for the state of Louisiana to address the needs of the state's elderly citizens.

PHILOSOPHY

As the State Unit on Aging, GOEA is designated by the Governor and the Legislature to be the sole state agency representative for coordinating the programs and services designed to meet the needs of Louisiana's seniors. We work to promote the dignity of older adults by providing services and supports that enable them to remain as independent as possible and remain active and productive in their own homes and communities through the following:

- Building partnerships with communities, organizations, agencies, families, and individuals. GOEA works to ensure the availability and accessibility of a continuum of services designed to meet the needs of all older Louisianans.
- Promoting education and public awareness about the aging process, including current trends in aging, the current older population, and projections of future generations of older persons.
- Supporting inter-generational activities between our seniors and younger generations to foster a mutual understanding, support, shared values, and personal responsibility.
- Intervening to protect vulnerable seniors from exploitation and abuse.

AGENCY GOAL

To serve as an effective and visible advocate for the elderly population in Louisiana, ensuring seniors in need receive appropriate services from providers in the Aging Network.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT

Over the past 50 years, the Older Americans Act ("OAA") has provided services that assist and support older adults to maintain their independence and remain in their homes.

FY2026 PROGRAM STATISTICS

Number of Service Units Provided by Program

Personal Care	34,569
Homemaker	138,082
Chore	5,935
Transportation	525,301
Legal Assistance	2,952
Information & Assistance	62,070
Outreach	9,401
Material Aid	89,205
Health/Wellness	142,393
Telephoning	102,706
Respite Care	78,138
Nutrition Education & Counseling	27,692

Nutrition Programs

5.38 MILLION MEALS

36,680 SENIORS

OAA programs are vital for seniors who are at significant risk of hunger, isolation, and losing the ability to live independently

CONGREGATE MEALS

1,618,503

MEALS SERVED



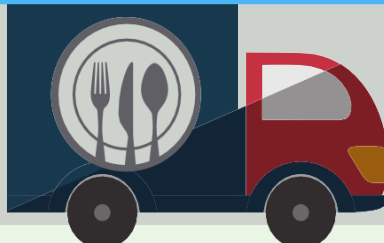
16,104

SENIORS SERVED

HOME-DELIVERED MEALS

3,768,367

MEALS DELIVERED



20,576

SENIORS SERVED

Meals delivered to seniors' doorsteps provide both nutrition and comfort to a vulnerable population, keeping seniors in their own homes

LONG-TERM CARE



OMBUDSMEN

INVESTIGATION COMPLAINTS

WHAT IS AN OMBUDSMAN?

Ombudsmen are workers, both paid state and volunteer, who investigate and resolve complaints made by, or on behalf of elderly residents of



"LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES"

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN

"LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES"?

- Nursing homes
- Assisted living
- Personal Care Homes that serve individuals aged 60 years and older who are elderly, and/or disabled.

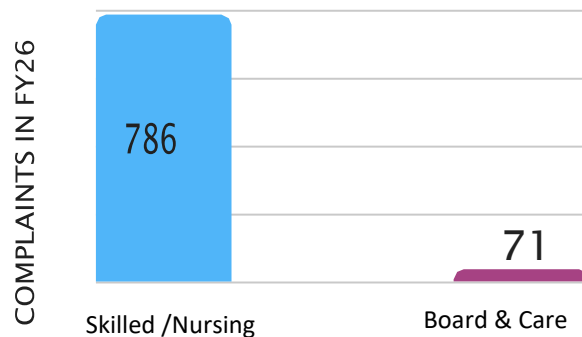
ADVOCACY & PROTECTION

WHY AN OMBUDSMAN?

Residents in Long-Term Care Facilities sometimes have little or no contact with the outside world and feel helpless in controlling their own lives. The Ombudsman is a voice for residents to help them solve their problems and assist them in understanding what is happening to them.



NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS BY FACILITY TYPE



TO WHAT KINDS OF COMPLAINTS DOES AN OMBUDSMAN RESPOND?

Ombudsmen are interested in every problem, complaint, or concern that a resident may have.



Common problems include:

- Quality of care
- Food
- Financial Exploitation
- Social Services and Activities
- Visitation and Access
- Any issue that affects the residents' ability to exercise their rights as a resident or a citizen

OTHER PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS

AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER AND SENIORX

The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) is a collaborative effort of GOEA, Administration for Community Living (ACL), and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid services connecting seniors with available long-term support and services. ADRC's provide a single entry point for all long-term supports funded by Medicaid, Older Americans Act (OAA), and state revenue programs.

The SeniorRx program connects qualified, low-income individuals with discount prescription drugs direct from the pharmaceutical manufacturer. Trained counselors are available to provide Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage Plan Comparisons and Enrollment Assistance.

SENIORX & RX ASSISTANCE

54,168

Clients provided with access to free or low-cost prescription drugs

DRUG SAVINGS TO SENIORS

\$14,549,686

Drug savings to consumers and the state

FOR EVERY STATE DOLLAR INVESTED

\$13.78

Dollars saved by seniors through the SeniorRx/ADRC Programs

MEDICARE PART D COUNSELING AND ASSISTANCE

5,659

Number of clients provided enrollment assistance and/or counseling for Medicare Part D

Family Caregiver Support

The **Family Caregiver Support Program** helps caregivers of all ages balance caregiving with other responsibilities to ensure more seniors stay in their homes and communities.

6,433

Caregivers Served

102,935

Units Provided

Answering the Call:

ELDERLY PROTECTIVE SERVICES (EPS)



Louisiana Law protects persons aged 60 years and older from physical or emotional abuse, neglect from caregivers, theft and misuse of funds, and self-neglect. All suspected abuse should be reported to EPS to investigate. EPS staff investigates all eligible cases of abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation, and intervenes when and where appropriate, and prepares a plan of resolution, monitoring at each step until the situation is stabilized and the client is safe.

What types of abuse are occurring?

Reported Abuse	Reports in FY2026
Abandonment	2
Caregiver Neglect	1,597
Emotional Abuse	693
Extortion	20
Financial Exploitation	3,013
Physical Abuse	573
Self-Neglect	2,260
Sexual Abuse	64



PERCENT OF INTAKE
INVESTIGATED BY EPS

- Intake cases investigated by EPS
- Intake cases not meeting criteria for services

There's
NO EXCUSE
For Elder Abuse!



HIGH-PRIORITY
REPORTS IN
FY2026

Number of EPS cases received in FY26 8,232