

## Protective Services

Under the Protective Services Act, the Butler County Area Agency on Aging is mandated to receive and investigate reports of suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation, and abandonment of incapacitated Butler County residents aged 60 and older and to provide activities, resources and supports to detect, prevent, reduce, and eliminate these conditions.

Trained staff available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to receive reports, to conduct investigations and provide case management.

Persons who report suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation, and abandonment shall be immune from civil and criminal liability under the laws of Pennsylvania (unless reporter acted in bad faith or with malicious purpose). All information is confidential.

To report suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment of Butler County residents aged 60 and older, call 724-283-6955.

**Elder Abuse Hotline**  
*24 hours a day, 7 days a week*  
**Local: 724-283-6955**  
**Statewide: 1-800-490-8505**

## The Ombudsman Program

An Ombudsman is a person who has been trained to help consumers with a concern or problem with any long term care service. They work with a group of dedicated volunteers who are trained to ensure that all long term care consumers are treated with dignity and to advocate for high standards of care. Ombudsman can help with questions about consumer's rights, and quality of care.

**To speak to an Ombudsman, please call Catholic Charities at 724-658-3729.**

## Waiver Programs

The Aging Waiver is a program that provides home and community based long-term care services to individuals as an alternative to nursing home placement. Services are funded through a special federal waiver, which allows Medicaid payments typically used for nursing home care to be used for home care services

**Eligibility:** 60 years of age or older and Butler County Resident, US Citizen. Choose to remain at home with community-based in-home services support to meet medical needs rather than placement in a facility. Meet the medical requirements of the program.

Medical eligibility is determined by a comprehensive assessment completed by Butler County Area Agency on Aging and documentation by your physician.

Meet financial requirements as determined by the local County Assistance Office requirements for program participation

If a person is applying for the Aging Waiver Program and is legally married, then the assets and income of both the individual applying and spouse are taken into consideration when determining financial eligibility

The Department of Human Services can recover costs incurred by recipient in the Aging Waiver Program, if applicable.

The Independent Enrollment Broker (IEB) will assist you with completing a financial application to determine if you are financially eligible to participate in this program.

**Begin the Application Process**  
To begin the Application process, please contact The Independent Enrollment Broker (IEB) 1-877-550-4227.



**Butler County  
Area Agency  
on Aging**

**111 Sunnyview Circle  
Suite 101  
Butler, PA 16001**

**Contact us at  
724-282-3008**

[www.butlercountypa.gov](http://www.butlercountypa.gov)

## Options Program

The Options program provides home and community-based services to enable consumers to remain in their home. Services are provided on a sliding-fee scale to those who qualify.

In order to participate, an individual must be referred to and assessed by the department. After the assessment, a care manager will be assigned to develop a plan of care that meets the needs of the individual. The department contracts with care providers to provide the services.

**Eligibility:** 60 years of age or older and Butler County Resident. Financial information (income and assets) will be verified to determine cost share.

**Services include:** Adult day living, Care management, Personal care services, Personal emergency response systems, and In-Home Meals

## Grandparent Support Program

The Grandparent Program is designed to provide assistance for older persons who are caring for the children of family members, and who live in the same household. Priority is given to caregivers with the greatest financial and social need who are raising children with special needs.

**Eligibility:** The caregiver must be age 55 or older, and be the primary caregiver for relatives who are under age 18. The caregiver and child/children must reside in the same household in Butler County.

Once a referral is made, agency staff will visit the home and complete an assessment of the caregiver's needs. Based on needs and financial situation of the family, the caregiver may be eligible to receive reimbursement for in-home and center-based respite care services and for limited supplemental supplies. An Agency Care Manager will also assist the family in accessing other available community services.

## Caregiver Support Program

The Caregiver Support Program (CSP) is a unique and innovative program designed to provide support to caregivers of functionally dependent people. The program allows the caregiver the opportunity to manage and control what goods and services will be purchased according to the caregiver's needs. The goal of the program is to reduce caregiver stress and reinforce the care being provided to older persons at home.

Caregivers who are accepted into the program may be eligible to receive up to \$600 per month reimbursement for the purchase of supportive services and goods from a pre-authorized care plan. The level of reimbursement is determined on the basis of caregiver need, income, actual expenditures, and the availability of funds.

Eligibility for the program will be determined through a comprehensive assessment.

To be eligible, a person must be the primary caregiver of a functionally dependent person (care receiver) who is age 60 or older or is under the age of 60 and has been diagnosed with chronic dementia.

When the care receiver is an adult under the age of 60 with chronic dementia, the caregiver must obtain a written statement from physician indicating the care receiver has been diagnosed with chronic dementia.

Benefits include care management, counseling and education and training.

Each caregiver may be entitled to a one-time grant of up to a maximum of \$5,000 in order to purchase home modifications and assistive devices

Examples of goods and services that may be purchased include: Personal Care Services, Respite, Adult Day Living Services, OTC Medications, Incontinent Products (Diapers, pads) and Nutritional Supplements

## Information and Referral

Our staff can provide connections to partner agencies, and help you complete applications for benefit programs such as BART, SNAP, LIHEAP and Property Tax/Rent Rebate.

## PA Medi

Medicare, prescription assistance, and supplemental health insurance issues are becoming more complicated. Seniors are overwhelmed by the ever changing information. Our PA MEDI staff can help with billing, Pace applications, and a myriad of other concerns, providing information to allow educated decisions and peace of mind. Call (724) 282-3008 to make an appointment to speak with one of our PA MEDI Counselors.

## Senior Center and In-Home Meals

The Butler County Area Agency on Aging operates seven senior centers throughout the county. The centers are hubs for socialization, health and wellness, education and enrichment programs, specialty activity clubs, and congregate meal programs. Our centers are open to independent older adults, age 60 and over.

Our agency operates an In-Home Meal Program to individuals with sufficient need, age 60 and older.

For more information on our Centers or our In-Home Meal Program, please call our office at (724) 282 – 3008 option 6 to register and or apply.

## Assessment

The Butler County Area Agency on Aging conducts assessments on individuals to determine eligibility for certain Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare and Pennsylvania Department of Aging programs.

### Programs

- Nursing Facility Assessments
- PA Department of Aging Waiver
- LIFE
- Options
- Caregiver Support
- Grandparent Program
- Domiciliary Care
- Attendant Care Waiver
- CommCare Waiver
- Independence Waiver