



News for Immediate Release

Oct. 12, 2012

Governor Corbett Announces Approval of State Plan on Aging

Harrisburg – Governor Tom Corbett today announced federal approval of the Pennsylvania Department of Aging’s 2012-2016 State Plan on Aging. The plan sets goals for the next four years on how the state responds to the needs of older Pennsylvanians.

“Older Pennsylvanians are a vital part of the commonwealth and we have a responsibility to make sure their needs are met,” Corbett said. “The State Plan on Aging is a blueprint to ensure programs and services are in place to assist the growing number of older adults statewide.”

The State Plan on Aging is required by both state and federal governments. Every four years, the Pennsylvania Department of Aging develops a plan to establish a strategic course and to fulfill the direction established by the Older Americans Act.

The four goals outlined in the 2012-2016 plan are:

- Improve access to care for older individuals at the right time, in the right setting, and at the right intensity;
- Empower older individuals to remain in the setting of their choice;
- Direct older individuals to the support systems they need to maximize their health and well-being; and
- Revitalize and redesign the aging services network to enhance the lives of older individuals.

“The department’s main priorities are prevention and protection for older adults in Pennsylvania,” said Secretary of Aging Brian Duke. “Our plan ensures access to programs and services that will enable Pennsylvanians to age and live well in their communities.”

The department began the strategic planning process in November 2011. Regional public hearings were conducted to obtain advice from consumers, subject matter experts, and special needs focus groups.

The 52 Area Agencies on Aging also developed four year plans that complement the state plan and focus on the needs of older Pennsylvanians in local communities.

For more information on the State Plan on Aging, visit www.pa.gov

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