

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services Subcommittee on Aging

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High Country Area Agency on Aging

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highcountryaging.org

Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)

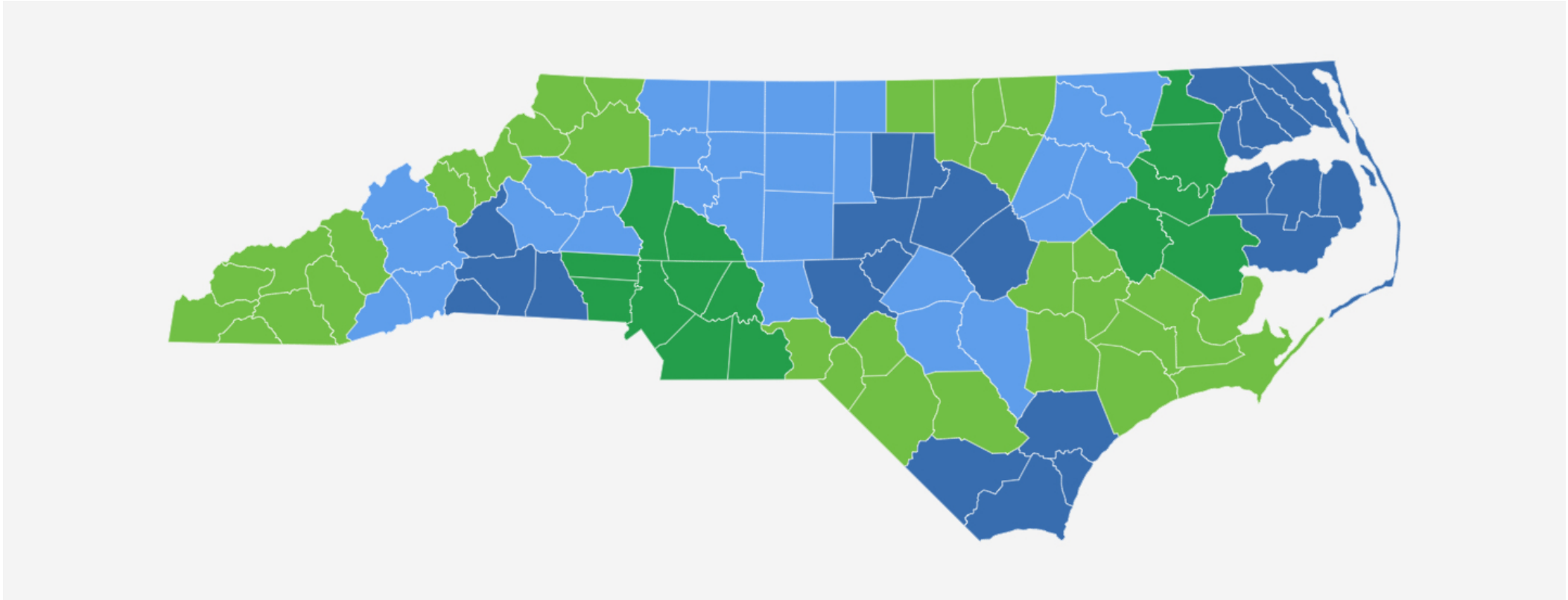
- Formally established under the federal Older Americans Act (OAA)
- Charged with helping vulnerable older adults live with independence and dignity in their community
- Responsible for developing a coordinated delivery system of Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) services and supports



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16 Area Agencies on Aging



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Core Functions

- Quality Assurance and Fund Accountability
- Program and Resource Development
- Information Brokerage
- Advocacy, Training, and Education



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Core Services

- Home and Community Care Block Grant services
- Long Term Care Ombudsman program
- Family Caregiver Support program
- Evidence Based Health Promotion programs



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Older Americans Act



Home and Community Care Block Grant



Area Agencies on Aging



County



Designated Local Providers



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High Country Region

Total Population: 213,032

- 65+ population: 42,364 (20% of region)
- 24% of those 65+ live alone
- 27% of those 65+ are within 200% of poverty level

People served with HCCBG funding: roughly **9,000-10,000**

- **436** waiting for services



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Successes

- Cost effective
- Leverage volunteers
- Leverage local resources
- Cost savings by investing in healthcare continuum
- Local flexibility to meet local needs



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Challenges

- Funding – over 10,000 waitlisted statewide for needed services
- Shortage of 10 long term care ombudsmen statewide
- Decreasing numbers of volunteers
- Technology and software to capture our impact
- Integrating our services with healthcare delivery
- Lack of awareness of the impact of our aging state



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nc4a Legislative Priorities

- Increase the recurring state funding for the Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) by \$7 million.
- Establish a joint legislative committee to examine issues pertaining to the state's growing older adult population, including health care and financial security, and to make recommendations on how the state can better support North Carolinians to age with dignity.



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nc4a Recommendations

- Increase funding for the Home and Community Care Block Grant by \$7M
- Increase funding for Long Term Care Ombudsman Program by \$800,000
- Increase funding for senior centers
- Support volunteerism
- Promote the aging network in delivery of healthcare



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