



TEMPE
Community
Council

Seniors

INFORMATION UPDATE
FY 2019-20



Seniors

Outcomes

Community non-profit social service agencies are producing meaningful outcomes that are changing and saving lives for Tempe seniors.

Trends

Funded programs are focused on maintaining and increasing independent living factors for vulnerable older adults with low incomes.

COVID-19 Concerns

Among adults, the risk for severe illness from COVID-19 increases with age, with older adults at highest risk. In most cases, older adults are advised to remain sheltering in place, and for many this is extremely isolating and hard to bear.

Action Needed

Social service non-profits need additional support to meet the increasing demand for services that are only beginning to be evident including:

- Increased funding (city, state, faith-based, individual, foundation and corporate)
- Increased volunteer and in-kind contributions
- Creative, innovative programming with meaningful outcome measures
- Equitable opportunity for all
- Advocacy (federal, state and local)
- Community awareness of the challenges, discussion around solutions and support

Partnerships

TCC funded Agency Partners and the City of Tempe human services programs work together to provide quality services and support to seniors.



Supporting Seniors

AGENCIES & OUTCOMES

Tempe Community Council's grant allocation process known as *Agency Review* partners with the City of Tempe to provide funding to address human service needs in the community. Grant dollars are provided through City of Tempe budgeted tax dollars/revenue, Tempe Community Council and Together Tempe contributions.

Just one outcome measure is highlighted from FY 2019/20 reports to illustrate the variety of work our partner agencies provide Tempe citizens.

Agency Review Seniors Investment

FY 2019-20

\$161,320

Self-Sufficiency

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

(In Home Services)

57 Tempe clients improved quality of life after receiving in-home services.

ASTER AGING FKA East Valley Adult Resources

(Older Adult Support Services)

686 service contacts were received by 84 Tempe residents to support living independently in their homes.

BANNER ALZHEIMER'S FOUNDATION

(Dementia Friendly Tempe)

102 Tempe caregiving participants were able to identify at least one community service, organization or resource to assist them with their caregiving efforts.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA DBA VALLEY CENTER OF THE DEAF

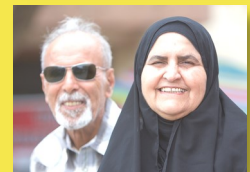
(Transportation of Low-Income Deaf Seniors)

28 deaf seniors in Tempe received case management services that assisted them to remain in their homes.

TEMPE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

(Senior Independence Program)

1,335 Tempe seniors receiving congregate or home-delivered meals reported that their quality of life improved as a result of the service.

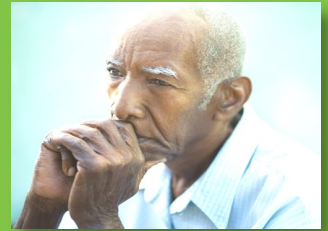




TRENDS

Tempe's Agency Review funded human services programs are focused on maintaining and increasing independent living factors for vulnerable older adults with low incomes.

Areas of growing concern are:



Funding for Services and Rising Costs of Providing Services

Funding for senior programming (i.e., in-home services, nutrition programs, transportation, etc.) has remained relatively stagnant for several years while costs continue to rise. As the numbers of older adults increase, it has become an ongoing challenge for providers to keep up with the requests for service, causing many individuals in need to endure longer waitlists or no services at all. Tempe Community Action Agency (Tempe's Community Action Program) Neighbors Helping Neighbors' report that only an estimated 10% of the older adults who request services, are currently receiving them due to program capacity.



Independent Living and Caregiver Shortages

The incoming population of aging adults tend to have smaller or distant families increasing the requirement for paid professional caregivers which is complicated by a labor shortage in a challenging and non-lucrative field.



Understanding Gaps in Coverage of Services

Navigating and understanding the various options across agencies, programs and services can be difficult for aging adults. Many do not understand the programmatic requirements for age, disability, income or jurisdiction. Additional concerns remain such as financial security, prevention of social isolation, affordable housing, adequate home maintenance, safety, abuse prevention and various health issues.



Mortgage and Rental Assistance

Older adults living in renter-occupied housing units are more likely to spend 30% or more of their income on housing (55.7%) compared to the general population (46.4 %).



TEMPE

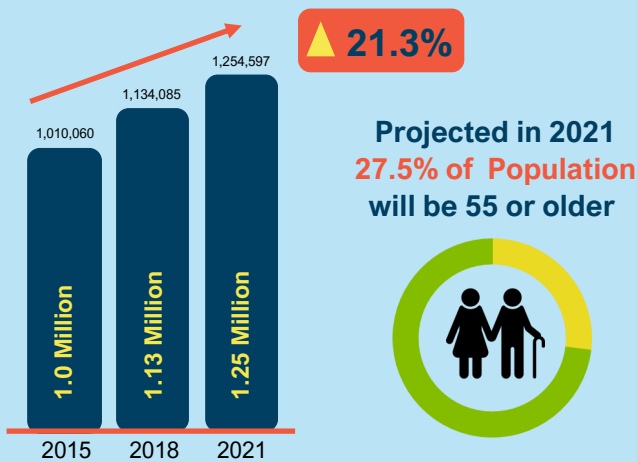


Residents 65 or older make up **10% of population**

(US Census Bureau, based on 2019 Tempe population of 195,805)

MARICOPA COUNTY

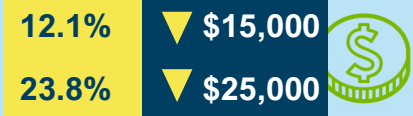
Aging Population 55+ on the Rise



1 in 10 Adults 60+ Live in Poverty



Many 55+ Adults Live On Low Annual Incomes



(Older Adult Needs in Maricopa County 2017)

ARIZONA

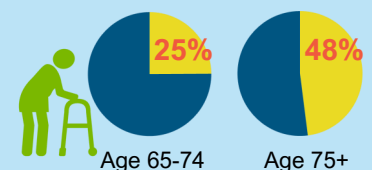
22% of Population are 60 and older



Costs of Family Caregivers



Senior Disabilities Doubling with Age



(AARP Bulletin, December 1, 2017)

NATIONAL



Over **5 million** are living with **Alzheimer's**

Alzheimer's Rapidly Increasing

6th leading **cause of death**

1 in 3 seniors die with **Alzheimer's** or form of dementia

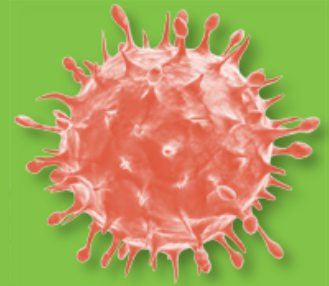
16 million provide unpaid care for people with Alzheimer's

(2019 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures Report)



COVID-19

With the spread of COVID-19, seniors are facing serious threats of infection. They represent the leading age group who contract the virus which often leads to death. The isolation and impact of significantly reduced availability of caregivers and healthcare workers puts this population at great risk. Many seniors can also be at a greater risk of infection and complications from infection. Human service providers are reporting the following challenges and concerns while responding to the COVID-19 crisis.



- Harder to get care at home
- Need help getting food and to the grocery store safely
- Increased phone contacts
- Increased in-home meals
- Being asked to travel to a lab because in-home care is not available
- Help with setting-up medications
- Bathing
- Short-term rehab and skilled nursing facilities aren't readily available
- Isolation and loneliness
- Fewer people are volunteering – don't want to make anyone sick
- Anxiety and fear of dying alone
- Senior Helpline calls are up at Area Agency on Aging (nearly one-third of total yearly call volume in a month)

CHALLENGES

Partner agencies serving older adults report the following specific concerns for this population.



Focus on family members as caregivers:

- More people are finding themselves in the role of sole caregiver to a family member as support services are fluctuating or diminishing (examples: in-home care, less volunteers, less access to outside services, family member out-of-state)
- Caregivers are often not in good health and are caring for family members. Many caregivers experience added financial stress.
- Caregivers need help navigating services available for their family member

Close the digital divide:

- Awareness, knowledge, education, access to devices and internet hot spots
- Providing one-on-one technical assistance so that seniors are confident using technology and are able to connect to their service needs



TCC, FUNDED AGENCY PARTNERS & CITY OF TEMPE

As partners in supporting senior needs, we share goals and align strategies to serve the community in the most efficient and effective ways possible.

HUMAN SERVICES SURVEY COMMUNITY PRIORITY

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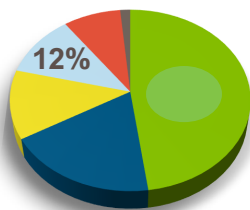
Partners in Aging Services Working Together - A Success Story

Funded nonprofits Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and Tempe Community Action Agency (TCAA) teamed up together to immediately connect Tempe resident, Janet, 55, with home-delivered meals through TCAA's "QuickStart" option.

Suffering with severe nerve damage in her back and spine, Janet is unable to stand and prepare her own meals. AAA referred Janet to TCAA to get her promptly started with their daily meals while continuing to process her program enrollment and determine eligibility. She was subsequently approved by AAA for continued delivered meals while Janet seeks therapy for her medical issue.



UPCOMING FY 2020-21 Agency Review Seniors Investment



\$145,159
out of
\$1,182,205

QUALITY OF LIFE Tempe City Council Strategic Priority 3.10

Ensure that agencies who receive human service grants from the City, achieve their performance goals related to homeless, youth, domestic violence, working poor, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

