

POLICY 301

SERVICE PRIORITY TO SPECIFIC CLIENT GROUPS

Service Providers shall set specific goals to ensure that services are provided to older individuals (aged sixty and over) with greatest economic social needs, with special emphasis on low-income minority individuals in at least the proportion of the priority population within the respective Service Provider's geographic boundaries.

PROCEDURE A DEFINITIONS

ADL: The term "activity of daily living" means a personal care skill performed, with or without the use of assistive devices, on a regular basis that enables the individual to meet basic life needs for food, hygiene, and appearance. The term "ADL" may refer to any activity as defined in rule 5101:3-3-06 (B) (1) of the Ohio Administrative Code.

Frail: The term "frail" means that an older individual is determined to be functionally impaired because they are unable to perform at least two activities of daily living without substantial human assistance, including verbal reminding, physical cueing, or supervision.

Greatest Economic Need: The term "greatest economic need" means the need resulting from an income level at or below the official federal poverty line.

Greatest Social Need: The term "greatest social need" means the need caused by non-economic factors, which include physical and mental disabilities; language barriers; and cultural, social, or geographical isolation, including isolation caused by racial or ethnic status, that restricts the ability of an individual to perform normal daily tasks or threatens the capacity of the individual to live independently.

IADL: The term "instrumental activity of daily living" means a community living skill performed, with or without the use of assistive devices, on a regular basis that enables the individual to independently manage the individual's living arrangement. The term "IADL" may refer to any activity defined in rule 5101:3-3-08(B)(4) of the Ohio Administrative Code.

Low Income: The term "low income" refers to an older person whose annual income is at or below 100% of the official poverty line as prescribed in the most current version of the Older Americans Act.

Minority: The term "minority" refers to individuals who are Black Non-Hispanic, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaskan Natives and Oriental/Asian/Pacific Islanders.

Poverty Line: The official poverty line as issued by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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Severe Disabilities: The term "severe disabilities" means a severe, chronic disability attributable to mental or physical impairment, or a combination of mental and physical impairments that is likely to continue indefinitely and results in substantial functional limitation in three or more of the following major life activities: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living, economic self-sufficiency, cognitive functioning, and emotional adjustment.

PROCEDURE B DOCUMENTATION OF SERVICE PRIORITIES

In the Strategic Plan, the Service Provider shall:

1. Identify older low-income minority individuals and those associated with specific client groups listed in Procedure B.3 of this policy;
2. Describe the methods used to satisfy the service needs of such older individuals, and
3. Provide information on the extent to which the Service Provider met the goals required by the first paragraph in this policy.
 - a) This service priority policy is applicable to all services. Evaluation of ADL and IADL status applies to the following services: Adult Day Care, Homemaker, Personal Care, Chore, and Home Delivered Meals as required in the ODA service standards.

PROCEDURE B PROGRAMMATIC REQUIREMENT

1. Service Providers are required to include in the Strategic Plan their strategy for giving preference to the population groups listed in this policy.
2. Service Providers shall include in each agreement made with a sub-contractor of any service under Title III, Title VII, and/or Senior Community Services Funds, a requirement that such Service Provider shall:
 - a) specify how the Service Provider intends to satisfy the service needs of low-income minority individuals and the other specific client groups defined in this policy in the area served by the Service Provider;
 - b) to the maximum extent feasible, provide services to low-income minority individuals and the other specific client groups defined in

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this policy in accordance with their need for such services; and

- c) meet specific goals established by the Service Provider for providing services to individuals with greatest economic and social need within the Service Area.
3. Outreach efforts shall identify individuals eligible for, and inform them of, available assistance under Title III, Title VII, and Senior Community Services Funds, with special emphasis on:
- a) older individuals residing in rural areas;
 - b) older individuals with greatest economic need (with particular attention to low-income minority individuals);
 - c) older individuals with greatest social need (with particular attention to low-income minority individuals);
 - d) older individuals with severe disabilities;
 - e) older individuals with limited English-speaking ability; and
 - f) older individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders with neurological and organic brain dysfunction (and the caretakers of such individuals).
4. The Service Provider shall target communities with the greatest prevalence of older persons with the greatest economic and social needs.