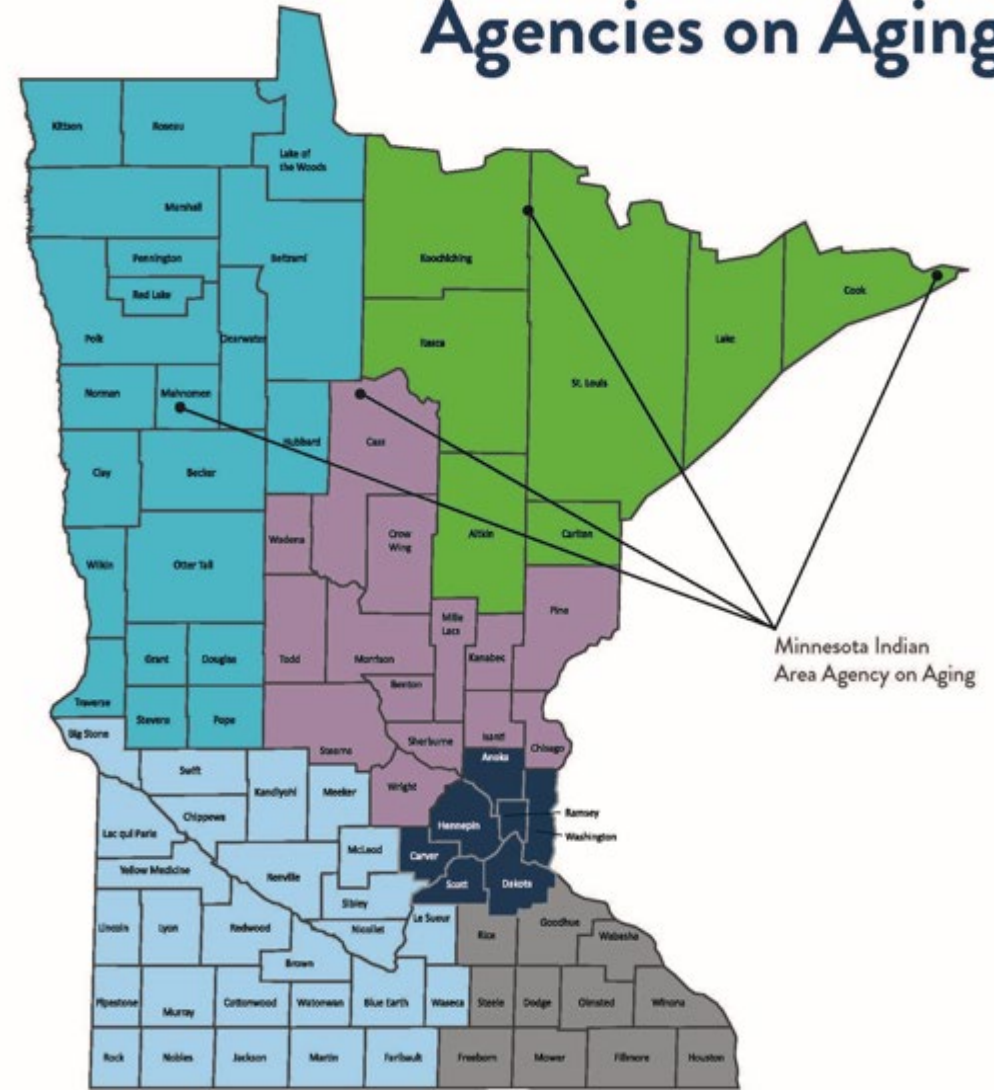


# Roles and Perspectives of Minnesota's Area Agencies on Aging

- Lori Vrolson, Executive Director
- Central Minnesota Council on Aging
- Presentation for the Legislative Task Force on Aging
- August 24, 2023

# Minnesota's Area Agencies On Aging Regional Map

## Minnesota Area Agencies on Aging



Minnesota Indian Area Agency on Aging

- Dancing Sky Area Agency on Aging
- Central Minnesota Council on Aging
- Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging
- Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging
- Trellis
- Southeastern Minnesota Area Agency on Aging



## AAA Core Functions

Connect people with Services and Resource

Fund community partners

Spur collaboration in service innovation

Advocate for resources and system change

# MN Aging Network – Federal Fiscal Year 2022



All AAAs play a key role in:

**Planning**

**Developing**

**Coordinating**

**Delivering**

**A WIDE RANGE OF LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS**  
to consumers in their local planning and service area (PSA)



**90%**  
of adults age  
65 and older say  
they hope to stay  
in their homes  
for as long as  
possible.<sup>2</sup>

But to do so, many people will eventually need some level of service or support to live safely and successfully in their home or community.

# Family & Friend Caregivers Need Our Support

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MN has 640,000 family caregivers providing an estimated \$8.6 B a year in care to older adults.

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Most are women, average age is around 49.

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An estimate of 61% of family caregivers are in the workforce.

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On average, family caregiver of adults provide care for 4.5 years.

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Over 170,000 family caregivers are providing care to a loved one living with Alzheimer's or dementia in MN.

Minnesota must have a reliable source of food for frail and food-insecure seniors

- Demand for home-delivered meals continues
- Hunger Solutions reports 31% increase in food shelf visits by older adults 60+
- We must meet the basic need for food for frail seniors at home.





# Transportation services

## High demand and growing challenge

- Older adults outlive their ability to drive by 7 – 10 yrs and 1 in 5 older adults do not drive
- Since the initial DHS Gaps Analysis (2001) transportation for older adults has been cited as a top gap
- Fewest services/options in rural communities
- Older adults who stop driving do not, and many cannot, use public transit
- Clarity is needed on requirements for nonprofit providers of volunteer transportation
- Designate state funding for community-based transportation solutions
- Volunteer mileage tax reform



On Behalf of  
the MN Area  
Agencies on  
Aging  
Thank You

