



American
Society
on Aging

August 4, 2023

ASA Chicagoland Roundtable

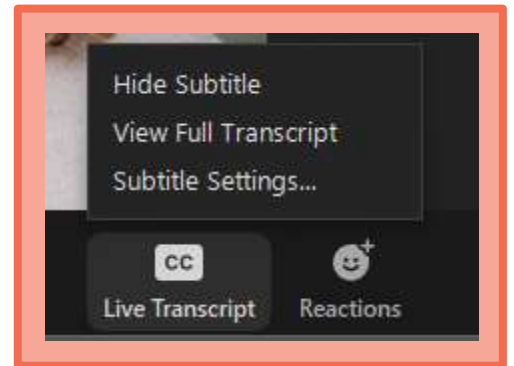
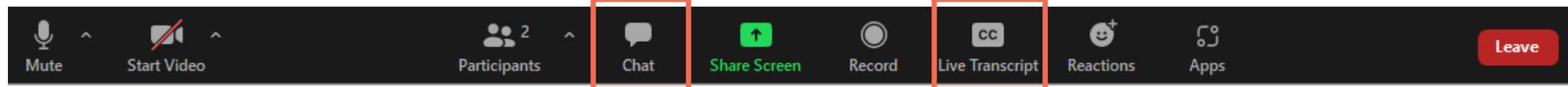
Over the Cliff - Push Comes to Shove

Logistics

Submit your questions into the chat box as we go

Slides and a recording will be shared with registrants

Closed captioning available



Today's speakers

- **Robert Blancato**, President of Matz, Blancato, & Associates, and Executive Director of the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services
- **U.S. Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky**, Illinois 9th district
- **Robyn Golden**, Associate Vice President of Social Work and Community Health, RUSH University Medical Center
- **LaCinda Jones**, Clinical Social Worker & 2021-2022 Health & Aging Policy Fellow
- **Amy Gotwals**, Chief of Public Policy and External Affairs, USAging
- *Moderated by:* **Diane Slezak**, CEO, AgeOptions

Join at [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) use code 26 86 31 8



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Diane Slezak



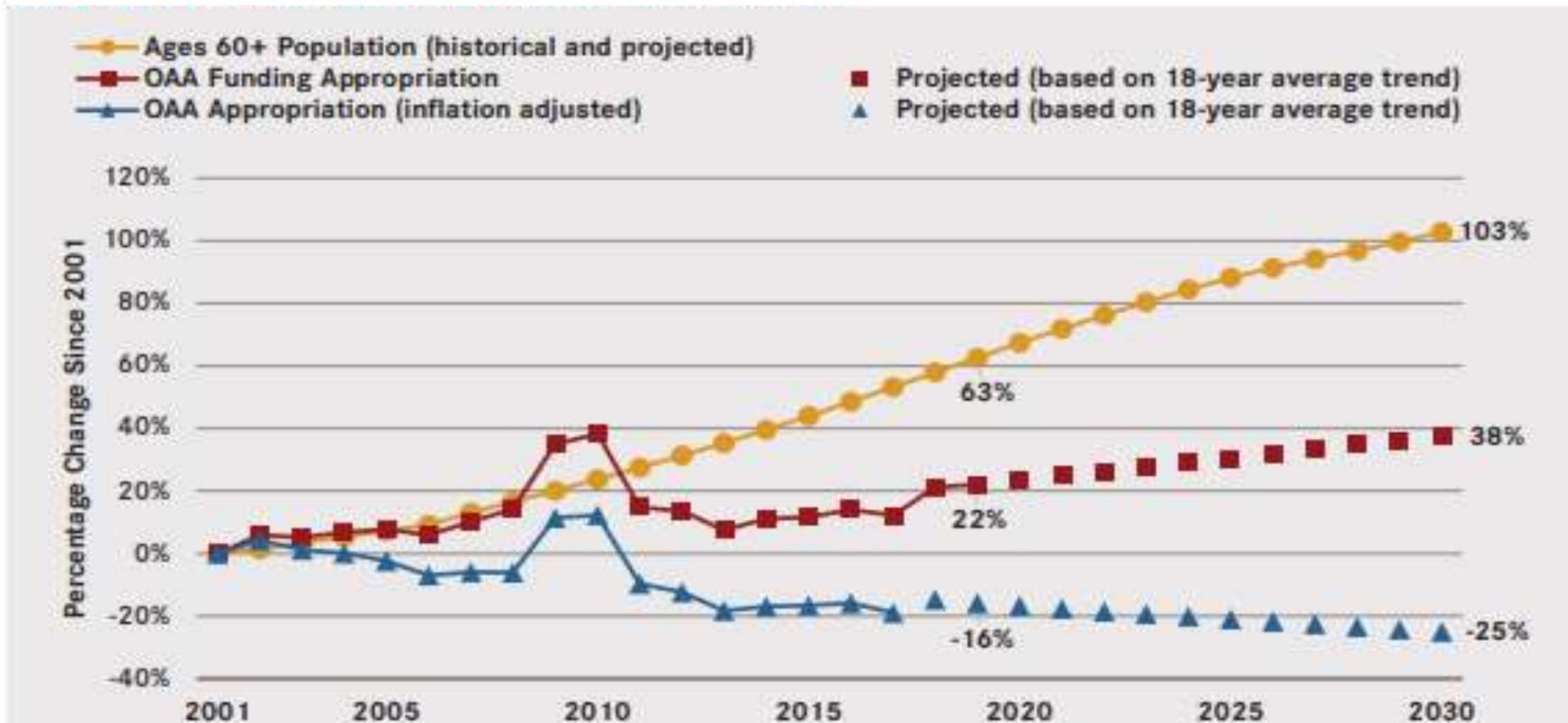
CEO, AGEOPTIONS

What Comes Next

New realities of
aging services.

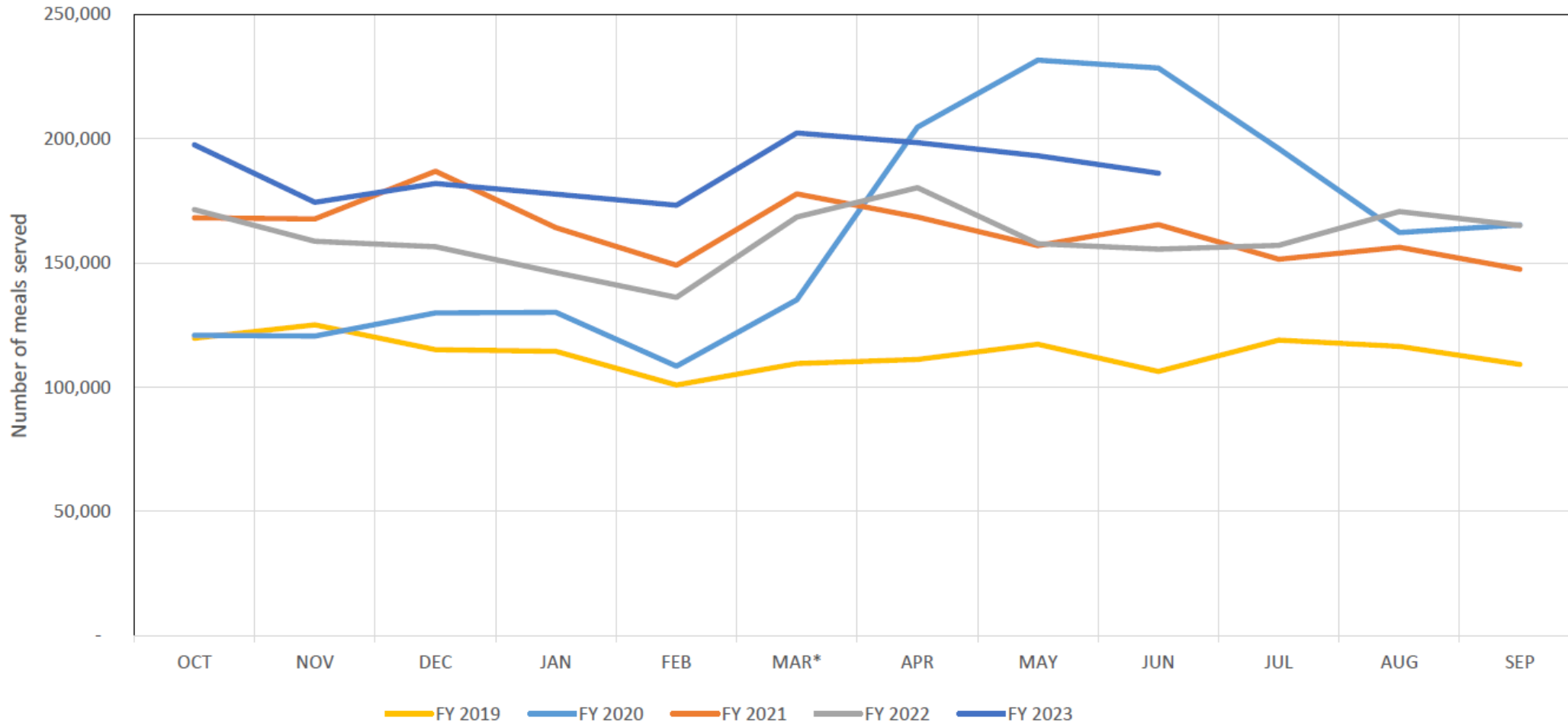


Federal Funding Not Keeping Up with Age 60+ Population Growth in the USA



Source: Funding appropriations for OAA and other aging services programs for FY 2001–FY 2004 from CRS Report for Congress, Older Americans Act: History of Appropriations, FY 1966–FY 2004, June 18, 2004. Funding appropriations for FY 2005–FY 2009 from CRS Report for Congress, Funding for the Older Americans Act and Other Aging Services Programs, February 22, 2013. Data for FY 2010–FY 2019 funding appropriations from CRS Older Americans Act: Overview and Funding, November 14, 2018. Ages 60+ populations estimates from US Census Bureau, Population Division. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Selected Age Groups by Sex for the United States: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2009, released June 2010, and April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017, released June 2018. AARP Public Policy Institute calculations from Regional Economic Models Inc., eREMI 4.1.0 (build 4681) standard regional control. AARP Public Policy Institute calculations using annual average consumer price index 2001–17 data and projections based on 18-year average trend, from US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Table 24. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: US City Average, All Items, <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/tables/supplemental-files/historical-cpi-u-201811.pdf>, accessed, January 10, 2019.

COVID-19 Response (Nutrition)
incl. Delivered Food Boxes

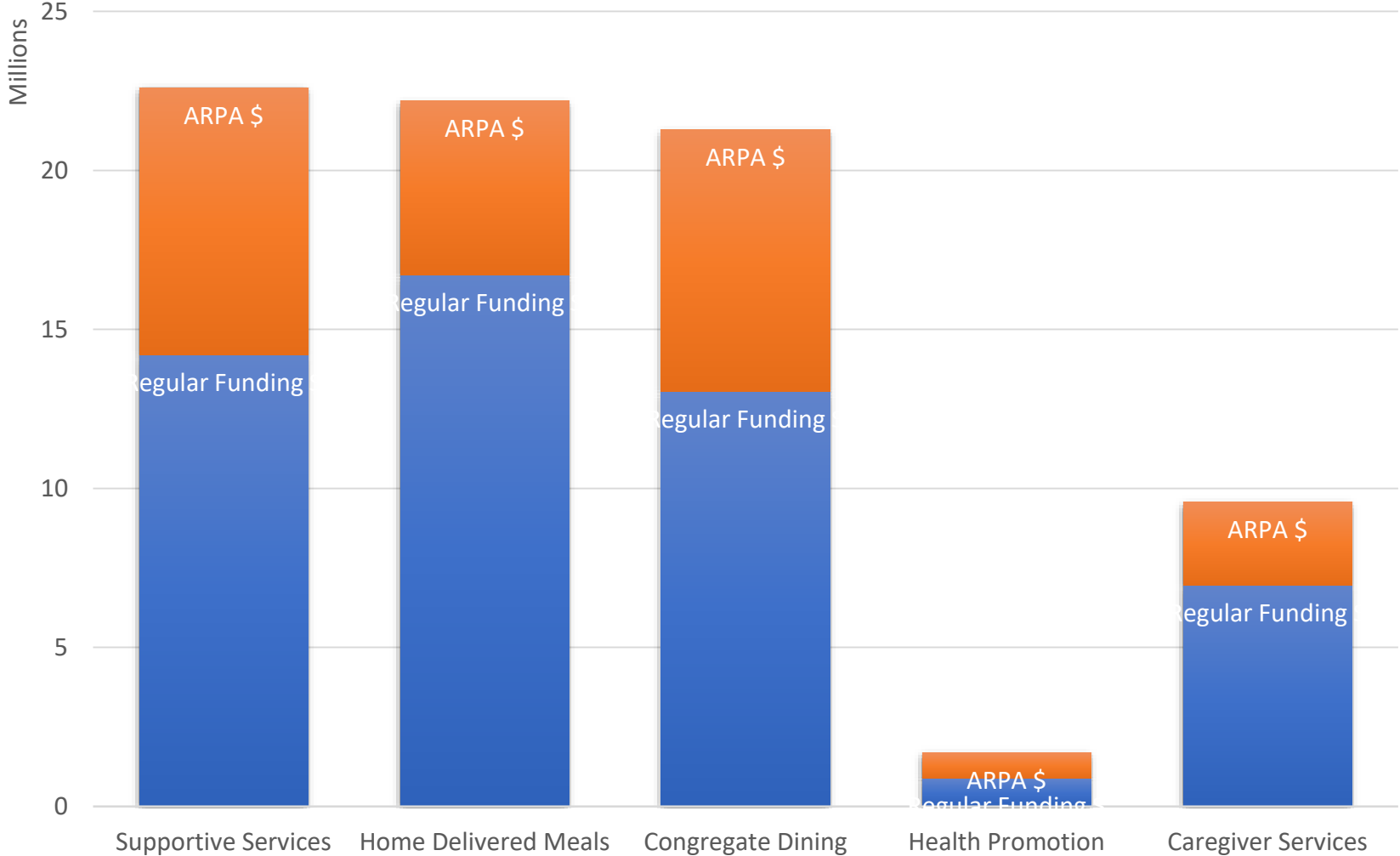


June 2023
meals served;
an increase of



75%
over June 2019.

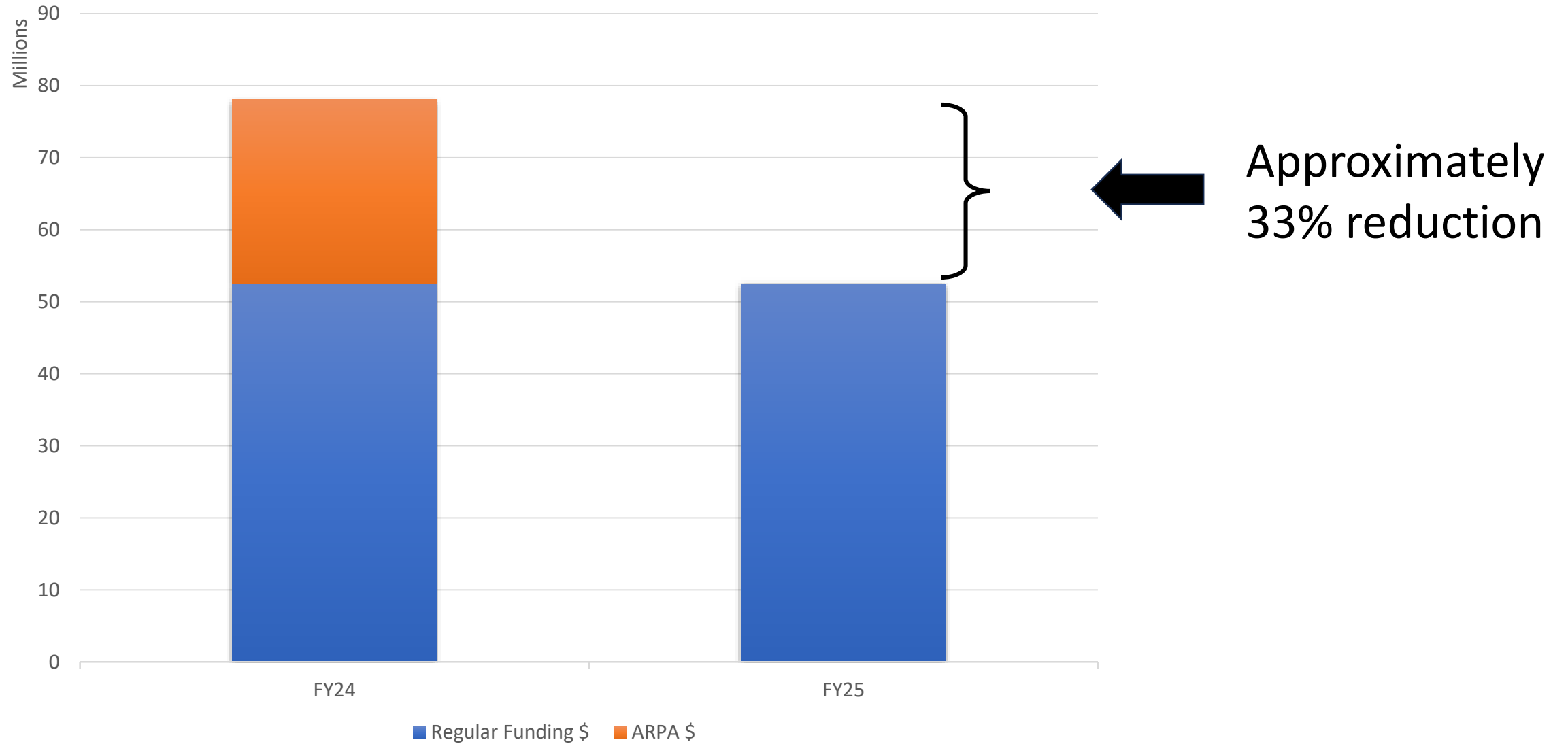
Statewide Total Funding for FY 2024



** Total state allocation of ARPA money is \$51,050,398 for Oct. 2021 – Sept. 2024.

Due to timing of fund distribution, for this chart half of the total amount was included.

ARPA = America Rescue Plan Act



AgeOptions

Goals for Programs funded by ARPA \$

- Focus dollars to individuals and communities most impacted by coronavirus and the resulting economic downturn - older adults & their caregivers, especially:
 - Socially isolated older adults
 - Hispanic/Latinx, Black and brown older adults/ Older people of color
 - Low-income communities
- Person Centered/Community Centered
- Increase partnerships & connections within Black and Latinx communities



ARPA Social Services (Title 3B)

Social Isolation

- Uniper
- Library Project
- CTLB
- Faith CARES
- Memory Cafes
- Sing-Alongs
- Thrive with Pride

Home Preservation

- Staff at CCUs focused on housing spectrum
- Legal Aid for Housing Preservation
- Home repairs
- Legal Risk Detector

Mental Health

- Mental Health Destigmatization for Limited English-Speaking Older Adults

ARPA Title IIIC - Nutrition

Support Existing Programs

- Meet increased needs of nutrition sites

Establish New Congregate Sites

- Areas of socio-economic need
 - Ethnic populations
 - Areas more distant from existing meal sites

Medically-tailored Diets

- Establish pilot program for medically tailored diets at congregate sites

New Models & Partnerships

- Food trucks
- Pop-up meals sites
- Partnering with colleges for intergenerational sites

ARPA Title IIID – Health Promotion

New Evidence-Based Mental Health Programs

- Provide funding to local organizations to implement evidenced-based programs for older adults

Support Current Evidenced Based Health Programs

- Additional technology for enhanced hybrid programming
- Funds to increase awareness of current health promotion program offerings through advertisement

ARPA Title III E – Caregiver Programs

Increased Staff at Caregiver Resource Centers (CRCs)

- Provide funding to local mental health service organizations to implement evidenced-based programs for older adults

Continue Programs

- TCare Implementation
- Memory Cafes

ARPA Title VII – LTC Ombudsman

Public Awareness

- Increased awareness of the Long-Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman Program and the role it plays

Support for LTC Ombudsman

- Support the increased costs of the LTC Ombudsman program

VAC-5 Funds (1 Year – Ends 9/30/2022)

Support for Older Adults in Community

- Funds to community sites for education & outreach to encourage initial vaccines & follow-up boosters

In-Home Vax

- Working with CIMPARG to provide in-home vax to any qualified older adult in sub Cook County

Community Health Workers (CHW)

- Working with 2 community-based orgs to dedicate CHW time to reaching older adults in their communities

Robert Blancato



PRESIDENT OF MATZ, BLANCATO, & ASSOCIATES, AND EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NUTRITION AND
AGING SERVICES

Congressional Budget Process ASA Chicagoland Roundtable

Bob Blancato

rblancato@matzblancato.com

Congressional Budget Process

- According to Congressional research service the Congressional budget process involves:
 - Submission of President's budget
 - Adoption of a budget resolution agreement between House and Senate
 - Budget resolution with reconciliation instructions (sometimes)
 - Development, consideration and passage of 12 appropriations bills
 - Continuing resolution: adopted to keep government open if appropriations bills are not passed by Oct 1

Budget process - 2023 Version

- ✓ President submits budget –done
- ✓ Congressional budget resolution passed House/ Senate-not done
- ✓ Passage of 12 appropriations bills-incomplete
 - Senate Appropriations Committee has passed all 12.
 - House passed only 10 to date but not including Labor HHS

Adoption of continuing resolution is expected

What's different about 2023?

- Passage of the debt ceiling agreement
 - Commandeered the normal budget process
 - Imposes caps on spending, the debt ceiling version roll back to FY 23 for two fiscal years; 1% increase in third year.
- House chosen another path. Base caps on FY 22 spending levels and won't release actual numbers until weeks after Subcommittee passage of their bill
- Senate honoring the debt ceiling agreement and essentially holding spending at FY 23 levels
- Continuing resolution not an automatic for October 1
 - Provision in debt ceiling calls for 1% across board cuts if 12 appropriation bills not done by Oct 1
- **How does it play out? Wild September in DC**

Federal Appropriations

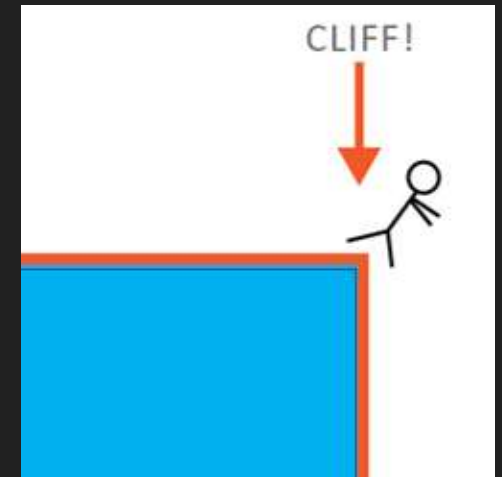
Program	FY23 Final	FY24 Biden	FY24 House	FY24 Senate
Older Americans Act Programs				
Title III-B Home and Community-Based Services	\$410 million	\$500 million		\$410 million
Title III-C Nutrition Total	\$1.066 billion	\$1.284 billion		\$1.058 billion
<i>III-C-1 Congregate Meals</i>	\$540 million	\$762 million		\$565.342 million
<i>III-C-2 Home-Delivered Meals</i>	\$366 million	\$410 million		\$381.342 million
<i>III-C Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)</i>	\$160 million	\$112 million		\$112 million
Title III-D Preventive Health	\$26.3 million	\$26.3 million		
Title III-E Family Caregiver Support Program	\$205 million	\$249.9 million		\$210 million
Title V Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)	\$405 million	\$405 million	\$0- program eliminated	\$405 million
Title VI Native Americans Nutrition/Supportive Services	\$38.2 million	\$70.2 million		\$38.264 million
Title VI Native Americans Caregiver Program	\$12 million	\$15.8 million		\$12 million
Title VII Long-Term Care Ombudsman	\$21.8 million	\$27 million		\$26.658 million
Title VII Elder Rights Support Activities Total	\$33.9 million	\$77 million		\$33.874 million
<i>Elder Justice-Opioids</i>	<i>n/a</i>	\$3 million		
<i>Elder Justice-Guardianship</i>	<i>n/a</i>	\$2 million		
<i>Elder Justice-Infrastructure</i>	<i>n/a</i>	\$10 million		
<i>Elder Justice-State APS Grants/APS Funding</i>	\$15 million	\$58 million		
Block Grants				
Social Services Block Grant (HHS-ACF)	\$1.7 billion	\$1.7 billion		\$1.7 billion

ARPA and current budget

- Decision to impose spending caps comes as pandemic funding begins to run out
 - Forces programs back to regular appropriation levels
 - Some \$6 trillion in emergency spending provided in 4 bills
 - Led to major activity in all areas especially services for older adults
 - Included was a \$1.6 billion in emergency funding just for OAA nutrition programs
 - Also \$376 million in unprecedented spending for the Elder Justice Act
 - And many more programs

Emergency Funds Expiring Soon

- At various times between the beginning and end of the year these emergency funds expire
- Some were to be clawed back under the debt ceiling agreement if they were not spent. No ACL funds involved
- But these funds will not be replaced by future budgets. They were emergency vs regular appropriated funds.
- The challenge being faced across the country: how do we avoid a service cliff



How do we avoid a service cliff?

- No one has that answer yet. We've already seen millions of people being removed from Medicaid during eligibility redetermination
- We saw dramatic drops in SNAP benefits post-pandemic, including older adult receiving SNAP minimum benefit going from \$250/month to just \$23/month.
- Now we face even more service reductions and or eliminations
- It is going to take collecting data and real-life stories to get any response out of D.C.

Take home Messages

- Two messages to convey
- One: Gather as much data as you can on impact of service eliminations and or cuts
- Two: Put a human face on it—who is the person, the family that is impacted? What alternatives do they have?
- Share it with your House member and two Senators
- Senator Durbin in particular a senior member of the Appropriations Committee
 - Message to Durbin: hang tough, let the Senate numbers prevail, and if there is a chance to do better take it
- To others
 - Ask them to support the Senate numbers over the House for aging services and health programs

Quick hits-OAA Regulations Update

- Important for the aging network to review the proposed regulations for the Older Americans Act. First ones since 1988 and first ones issued by ACL
 - Goal to not just implement but modernize the OAA taking into account realities not anticipated when law was passed in 2020
 - Pandemic and acceleration of emergency preparedness.
 - Important work that ACL did in crafting these proposed rules
 - **Comments due by August 15**
- And shout out to Biden Administration for their new Medicare Dementia Care model featuring important provisions to help unpaid caregivers and an important package of care coordination and management

Sources: <https://acl.gov/OAArule>;
<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/biden-harris-administration-announces-medicare-dementia-care-model>

Robert Blancato



PRESIDENT OF MATZ, BLANCATO, & ASSOCIATES, AND EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NUTRITION AND
AGING SERVICES

Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky



US REPRESENTATIVE – ILLINOIS 9TH DISTRICT

Amy Gotwals



CHIEF OF PUBLIC POLICY AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, USAGING



Proposed Older Americans Act Regulations

Amy Gotwals, Chief, Public Policy and External Affairs

August 4, 2023

OAA Proposed Regulations, High-Level Overview

- Roles and responsibilities of SUAs, AAAs (incl in health care contracting)
- Serving people with greatest economic and social need
- Family caregiving
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Nutrition flexibilities and modernization
- Title VI Native American programs
- Elder Abuse Prevention, Legal, LTCOP, Guardianship

Top Issues

States have great flexibility on what the policies and procedures will be.

- A potential liability for AAAs and providers if SUA overreach
- Will require tremendous AAA-SUA engagement post-regulation finalization
- Looking for additional ways to urge transparency and modesty by states

Top Issues

Contracting/commercial relationships: [1321.9(c)(2)(xiv)]

- A too-strict interpretation of “approval to establish contracts” could disrupt current successes and relationships
- Sec. 306(g) says no restrictions, but Sec. 212 and Sec. 306(a)(13)(B)(i) raise state approval language
- The reg tells states to develop a policy for AAAs and service providers to receive “approval to establish contracts and comm. relationships and participate in activities related to contracts and comm. relationships.”

Top Issues

Contracting/commercial relationships: [1321.9(c)(2)(xiv)]

- We still assert this should not be applied when no OAA funds are used
- Already having seed-planting Hill conversations about fixing this for good in 2024
- We will also push for the lightest possible touch on a blanket approval process
- For consistency of our argument that SUAs should not have this authority, we do not believe it should be in the area plan

Top Issues

Contracting/commercial relationships: [1321.9(c)(2)(xiv)]

- Majority willing to provide annual assurance of compliance on all OAA responsibilities, incl. firewalls for COI, etc.
- Slim majority were willing to provide a list of contracts with the above assurances
- AAAs should not have to share proprietary info. on the contracts, contract details; and it should be made clear that it's *not an approval of the contract itself*

Top Issues

Nutrition flexibilities:

- III C1 congregate: limited funding (20 percent) may be used for “shelf-stable, pick-up, carry-out, drive-through and similar meals” under certain circumstances
- State decides to offer; if they do, must be statewide
- USAging will recommend 25 percent
- AAAs should be able to offer this option even if not statewide

Top Issues

Nutrition flexibilities:

- Clarifies that HDM may also be provided via pick-up, carry-out or drive-through
- Eligibility for HDM is not limited to those identified as homebound, and an HDM client may also be encouraged to attend congregate activities
- USAging supports this language, reminds that more flexibility is a reauthorization issue

Top Issues

- **Conflict of Interest**
 - New definition; general support but some concerns
- **Legal Assistance and Guardianship**
 - Framed as a serious COI
 - For significant minority of AAAs, the guardianship role is dictated or necessary as a last resort
 - Does not have to be a perceived or real COI, can be remediable with appropriate COI policies and firewalls
 - Legal Assistance: Some concerns about the rigorous regs, impact on providers as well as the pre-screening language

What Did We Miss?

- Anything in the SUA section?
- In the AAA section?
- Definitions?
- Caregiver or III D?
- New emergency section?

Next Steps

- USAging to release a talking points document today for AAAs
- Wednesday, August 9, 5:00 pm CT Webinar for Title VI Programs with NICOA, IA2, USAging
- **Comments due Tuesday, 8/15**

Comments can be submitted online at [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov). (Enter "2023-12829" in the search bar, select ACL's proposed rule and then click the blue "comment" box at the top left of the page.) ***Comments must be received by 11:59 pm EST on Tuesday, August 15.***

Join us for the next Aging Policy Briefing & Capitol Hill Day!

March 12-13, 2024

Learn more at www.usaging.org/apb

USAging

**Aging Policy Briefing
& Capitol Hill Day**

USAgging Policy Team

- Amy Gotwals, Chief, Public Policy and External Affairs
- Olivia Umoren, Director, Public Policy and Advocacy
- Seth Ickes, Public Policy Associate

Reach out to us at policy@usaging.org!

Robyn Golden



ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF SOCIAL WORK AND COMMUNITY
HEALTH, RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER



Kotter's 8 Stages of Change

- 1. Establish a sense of urgency**
- 2. Create the guiding coalition**
- 3. Develop vision and strategy**
- 4. Communicate the change vision**
- 5. Empower broad-based action**
- 6. Generate short-term wins**
- 7. Consolidate gains/produce more change**
- 8. Anchor new approaches**

LaCinda Jones



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Thank you!

Please share any announcements in the chat

View recordings from recent sessions at <https://aging.rush.edu/policy/asa-chicagoland/>

Please join us for our upcoming Roundtable

- Friday 10/6/22, 8:30-10:30am for a session on end of life
- Registration / details will be shared in September via ASA listserv
 - *Bonnie will also share registration details in follow-up from today's event*

Join at [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) use code 26 86 31 8



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