

Weekly *Tell All*

DADS, ACCESS AND INTAKE DIVISION, AREA AGENCIES ON AGING SECTION

Establishing and maintaining a locally based, unified system of access to a comprehensive and coordinated continuum of community services and supports for older Texans and persons with disabilities, allowing them to live independent and productive lives.

Around the State

National Alzheimer's Disease Month

November is National Alzheimer's Disease Month. Former President Ronald Reagan signed the [proclamation](#) September 30, 1983, eleven years prior to being diagnosed with the disease himself. He died June 5, 2004, almost ten years after his diagnosis.

Family Caregivers Month

Governor Rick Perry signed a proclamation on October 16, 2006 recognizing November as Family Caregivers Month. The Governor's [proclamation is attached](#).

Community Outreach and Assistance Awards

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announced tentative contract awards for Community Outreach and Assistance, RFP # 529-06-0405. Awards are contingent upon the successful negotiation and execution of a contract. In the event negotiations are unsuccessful, HHSC may initiate negotiations with the next successful vendor or vendors. Six of the 21 tentative awards include AAAs or partner entities: Nortex Regional Planning Commission, West Central Texas Council of Governments, The Community Council of



McKittrick Canyon, Guadalupe Mountains National Park

Greater Dallas, Texoma Council of Governments, Health and Human Services of East Texas Coalition, and Concho Valley Council of Governments.

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Over Coffee ... with Betty Ford

I recently stopped by the Annual Caregiver's Conference, "Striking a Balance" sponsored by the AAA of the Capital Area. I was impressed by the program, speakers, exhibitors and audience. Gary Barg, Editor and Publisher of Today's Caregiver magazine was the featured speaker. Congratulations to the AAA of the Capital Area for a successful event which provided caregivers with valuable information to make any caregiving situation easier to handle.

During a visit to the Central Texas AAA in Belton, Toni Packard and I met community partners committed to the establishment of the regional Aging and Disability Resource Center. We also toured the newly remodeled offices of the Central Texas Council of Governments, beautifully designed for current and future use. The level of community

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Report Dates

October 23

- NAPIS Provider Data

October 25

- CMS SHIPTalk Public and Media Activity
- CMS SHIPTalk Client Contact

October 31

- Volunteer Training and Counseling Hours

November 2

- AAA Activities List (See Report Notes)

November 16

- Ombudsman Program Performance Report

November 30

- Close-out Report
- NAPIS Report (staffing and provider information)
- NAPIS Data File

Report Notes:

AAA Activities List -

An email with the AAA Activities List format was sent to the network on 10/19/06. The AAAs list their upcoming activities which are compiled into one report and submitted for Advisory Council meetings. The report is due back to Toni Packard by 11/2/06.



RFP Notice in Texas Register

The following notice will be put in the first possible edition of the Texas Register. As soon as the specific edition information is received from the DADS rules group, it will be sent to the network.

Department of Aging and Disability Services Notice - Procurement of services by Area Agencies on Aging

The Department of Aging and Disability Services' Access and Intake--Area Agencies on Aging Section oversees the delivery of Older Americans Act services for individuals age 60 and older, their family members, and other caregivers through contracts with Area Agencies on Aging located throughout the state. These 28 Area Agencies on Aging are currently seeking qualified entities to provide services, such as: Congregate Meals, Home Delivered Meals, Transportation, Personal Assistance, Homemaker, and Caregiver, as well as other related services. Parties interested in providing services must contact the Area Agency on Aging operating within their service area to obtain information relating to vendor open enrollment, requests for proposals (RFP), the contracting process, the types of services being considered, and the actual funding available.

Identified in the comprehensive list is all Area

Weekly Activity Report

Agencies on Aging, contact information, addresses, telephone numbers, and service areas: (A copy of the AAA Contact listing will be included).

Rule Repeal

As a part of a general rule clean up from the consolidation activities, Rules 100.5 The Texas Board on Aging, 100.7 Advisory Council, 100.24 Agency Training Plan, and 100.35 HUB Program will be repealed since they cover areas no longer in existence or as in 100.35 covered at a higher level rule. The other former TDoA rules, 100.1 Operation of the Texas Department on Aging, 100.3 Governing Documents, and 100.22 Public Hearing Procedures for the Texas Department on Aging are a part of another review.

Texas Register edition information about the repealed rules will follow as soon as available.

CMS Online Enrollment Center

The Online Enrollment Center was deactivated in mid-October. The reason for deactivation is to ensure that a user who intends to enroll in 2007 plan coverage does not mistakenly sign up for 2006 coverage. The center will be reactivated on November 15, for the start of the 2007 enrollment period. In the meantime, beneficiaries can enroll in a drug plan by calling the drug plan directly or by filing an application directly with the plan.

Program Issues

A&I-AAA staff is working on FY07 original budgets. A meeting with A&I-AAA staff will be held November 2nd to discuss Area Plan Instructions development.

"A man does not become old until regrets take the place of dreams."
John Barrymore

"Age is a case of mind over matter. If you don't mind it doesn't matter."
Satchel Paige

Around the State continued...

Titles – Care Coordinators vs. Service Coordinators

DADS received an inquiry regarding the use of the title "Service Coordinator" in lieu of "Care Coordinator." The reason provided for the suggested title change is "Service Coordinator" provides a more accurate description of the job function.

The Department feels the titles area agencies on aging use within their agencies are at the discretion of the

management. If the area agency on aging wishes to change the title of "Care Coordinator" to "Service Coordinator," they may do so. However, the Department's service category name will remain Care Coordination.

DADS will not be revising the Texas Administrative Codes, Program Instructions, or Technical Assistance Memorandums to reflect the requested title change.

Around the State is devoted to keeping AAAs up-to-date on activities around the state. Articles submitted by AAAs for publication in the *Weekly Tell All* should not exceed 100 words. Please submit articles by email to Jeffery Seider at jeffery.seider@dads.state.tx.us. Submission deadline is 10:00 a.m. Tuesdays.

Over Coffee ... with Betty Ford

support enjoyed by the AAA and CTCOG was evident in the number of organizations sharing office space in this facility. Regional collaboration, coordination and co-location are alive and well in Central Texas.

We are working on the area plan format, joint monitoring tools, business plans, performance projection approvals, planning budgets and implications of reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, just to name a few projects! For your information, **attached is an up-to-date DADS telephone listing** as requested by Rhonda Pogue.

Thank you for all the good stuff happening out there. Please "Tell-All" about it!

Let's keep in touch.



Grants and other funding opportunities

[Work Incentives Planning and Assistance \(WIPA\) Program](#), deadline December 15, 2006. Social Security Administration, funding opportunity number SSA-OESP-07-01, CFDA Number 96.008. This program was formerly referred to as the Benefits Planning, Assistance and Outreach (BPAO) Program. <http://www.grants.gov/>

2006 Disaster Relief Grant, deadline November 9, 2006. [AARP Foundation Disaster Relief and Recovery Fund](#), **view the attached announcement letter from AARP**. Individual grant awards will not exceed \$50,000.

