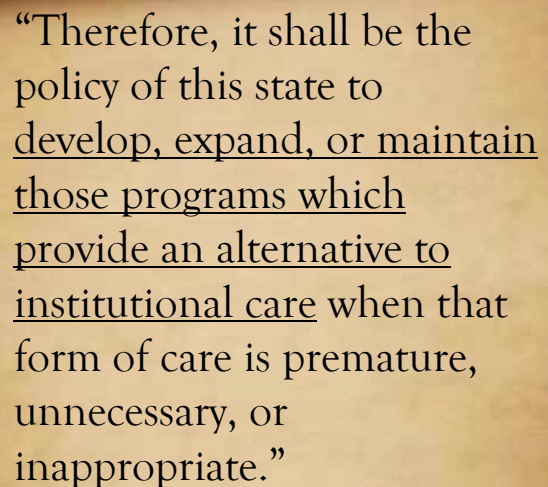


# In Hard Times, Protect What Works!

## The Senior Citizens Services Act Keeps Seniors at Home in their Community

### What is SCSA?

The Senior Citizens Services Act (SCSA) was passed by the legislature in 1977 to build a system of community-based services to help seniors stay home and avoid costly institutional care. The network of services created through SCSA meets these goals in an extraordinarily cost effective manner. At its current funding level of \$8.4 million dollars per year, SCSA provides an incredible return on that investment in the services it funds directly and in its leveraging of matching funds. Over 300,000 seniors receive help annually through SCSA-funded services.



“Therefore, it shall be the policy of this state to develop, expand, or maintain those programs which provide an alternative to institutional care when that form of care is premature, unnecessary, or inappropriate.”

(RCW 74.38.010; 1977)

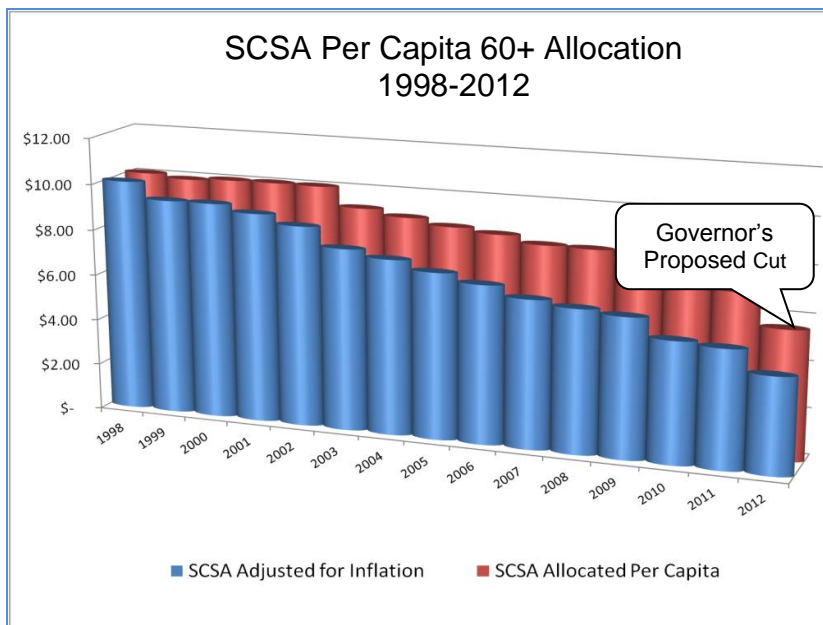
### The Legislature Promised...

When the law was passed in 1977, it began an innovative service system that works well, is cost effective, efficient, and locally controlled, meeting the needs of older people in every part of our Great State. Cuts to SCSA mean cuts to services for real seniors who depend on them. Cuts to SCSA mean saving a little now to spend an enormous amount on long term care in the future.

Washington State has led the nation in innovative solutions for long term services and supports that take place in a person's home, not in an institution. Seniors and their families navigate the home care system using supports funded by SCSA. Cutting SCSA in the middle of a tsunami of aging baby boomers will dismantle systems that will be necessary to save millions of public funds in the next 10 years. Times are tough, but cutting programs that save millions will result in spending a dollar to save a dime.

Service	Approximate Units Provided, 2011*	People Served
Transportation	194,138 one way trips	11,109
Information and Assistance	387,408 contacts/assists	196,319
Case Management - Aging Network	2,582 cases	1,885
Resident Services Coordination	1,600 cases	1,600
Personal Care Services - Aging Network	4,288 hours	81
Health Maintenance	1,987 contacts/hours	398
Bath Assistance	6,451 contacts/hours	111
Visiting/Telephone Reassurance	15,574 contacts	14,689
Minor Home Repair	921 contacts	421
Adult Day Services	22,550 days	375
Congregate Meals	1,501,491 meals	66,285
Home Delivered Meals	1,480,898 meals	13,574
Medication Management	7,678 contacts	4,927
Senior Drug Education	1,398 trainings	11,070
Disease Prevention/Health Promotion	6,147 hours	9,840
Mental Health Supports	2,294 hours	788
Long Term Care Ombudsman	5,177 investigations	6,182
Foot Care	10,685 sessions	2,520
Outreach	7,000 contacts	7,000
Total People Served with SCSA		349,174

\* Estimates only. Actual numbers not yet compiled for 2011.



The services provided using SCSA funds vary tremendously by region in the state. The local control of these resources allows Area Agencies on Aging to apply the funds to service needs tailored to their communities. While the increasing need for services corresponds to the continued growth in the 60+ population, the per capita allocation has continued to decrease since 1998.