



*Improving the Lives of Older Adults and People with Disabilities  
Through Services, Research, and Education*

September 22, 2020

The Honorable Tom Wolf  
Governor of Pennsylvania  
508 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf:

I am pleased to inform you that the Pennsylvania State Plan on Aging under the Older Americans Act (OAA) for October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2024 has been conditionally approved.

The State Plan outlines a number of significant activities that will serve as a guide for Pennsylvania's aging service network during the next four years. Of particular note is your commitment to the implementation of the visionary five pillar priorities including: expanding employment opportunities, supporting families and caregivers, expanding the aging & disability network, protecting rights and preventing abuse, and connecting people to resources. The Administration for Community Living recognizes the on-going and difficult challenges faced by the Pennsylvania Department of Aging during the current pandemic and I appreciate your commitment and dedication to ensure the continuity of quality services. I am delighted to see that the Pennsylvania Department of Aging continues to serve as an effective and visible advocate for older adults at a state level.

During the course the review of the State Plan by ACL's Philadelphia Regional Office staff, it was discovered that the Intrastate Funding Formula (IFF) set forth in the State Plan, by which OAA funds are allocated to the Area Agencies on Aging, is in need of revision. Rather than withhold approval of the State Plan on Aging while this issue is addressed (which would result in an interruption in OAA funding), the Administration for Community Living (ACL) has opted to provide this conditional approval in order to give the Pennsylvania Department of Aging a reasonable period of time to revise the IFF. The conditions to which this State Plan approval is subject are the following:

- A proper revision of the IFF (including but not limited to, a process that includes consultation with the AAAs and allowance for AAA and public input, as well as the submission to ACL for approval of a formal amendment of the State Plan with respect to the revised IFF) being completed by 2/28/2021;

- The revised IFF must be in full compliance with the Older Americans Act (OAA) and all applicable ACL requirements;
- The revised IFF must be in effect and implemented in accordance with its terms, and in full compliance with the OAA and all applicable ACL requirements, no later than 7/1/2021; and
- If any of the above conditions is not satisfied, then, at the option of ACL, this conditional approval of the State Plan may be rescinded.

The Philadelphia Regional Office staff of the U.S. Administration for Community Living looks forward to working with you and the Pennsylvania Department of Aging in the implementation of the State Plan and stands ready to provide technical assistance to the Pennsylvania Department of Aging with respect to the needed revision of the IFF noted above. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Rhonda Schwartz, Regional Administrator, at 267-831-2329. I appreciate your dedication and commitment toward improving the lives of older persons in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lance Robertson" with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Lance Robertson

Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging