

Area Plan Summary

The Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging (SWCAA) is an Area Agency on Aging serving older adults and persons with disabilities. SWCAA's Agency vision is to, 1) enhance access to ageing & disability supports & services; 2) guide individuals through person-centered care management; and 3) build the capacity of ageing and disability provider network.

Over the past three years, SWCAA effectively met the challenges of a growing elder population, efforts to rebalance systems away from institutional bias and the unprecedented needs associated with the pandemic. The region stands stronger today than before the pandemic with greater collaboration, cooperation and hyper focus on the target populations identified in the Older Americans Act.

The Federal Fiscal Year 2022-2024 Area Plan began with a rigorous assessment of need. Utilizing data from thousands of calls to SWCAA's 800#, we analyzed the most pressing regional needs. Literature reviews and resources such as Administration on Community Living, and National Council on Ageing provide a global perspective while work with state partners, Aging and Disability Services offered statewide perspective.

The Area Plan has three visionary goals aligned with the Connecticut Aging and Disability Services Department.

1. Empower older individuals to reside in the community setting of their choice.
2. Provide older adults with prevention and wellness opportunities.
3. Protect elder rights and well-being and prevent elder abuse, fraud, neglect, and exploitation.

The Area Plan and mission integrate a vision to build a network of support that allows older adults and persons with disabilities to achieve maximum independence, dignity, and quality of life. Health access, protection against harm and discrimination, and access to supportive services provide the foundation for our work. The Area Plan represents a roadmap to support the staff and community stakeholders as we weave a strong network of supports and services to maximize the opportunities for older residents, persons with disabilities and the people who love them.