

Making your Area Plan on Aging LGBTQ+ and HIV+ Inclusive:

New Older Americans Act Requirements & ACL Guidelines

SAGE is the world's largest and oldest organization dedicated to improving the lives of LGBTQ+ elders and we are here as a resource. We can answer questions, give feedback, and provide free technical assistance and materials from our National Resource Center on LGBTQ+ Aging.

There is new OAA language and ACL guidance on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) and HIV+ inclusion in your Area Plan.

The 2020 reauthorization of the OAA requires the aging network to:

1. Engage in outreach to LGBTQ+ older people
2. Collect data on their needs
3. Collect data on whether you are meeting those needs

This language is found in [42 USC §3026 Area Plans](#) and [§3027 State Plans](#).

§3026 states:

Each area agency on aging... shall, in order to be approved by the State agency, prepare and develop an area plan... each such plan shall...

(18) provide assurances that the area agency on aging will collect data to determine:

(A) the services that are needed by older individuals whose needs were the focus of all centers funded under subchapter IV in fiscal year 2019;

(B) the effectiveness of the programs, policies, and services provided by such area agency on aging in assisting such individuals;

(19) provide assurances that the area agency on aging will use outreach efforts that will identify individuals eligible for assistance under this chapter, with special emphasis on those individuals whose needs were the focus of all centers funded under subchapter IV in fiscal year 2019.

NOTE: "Centers funded under Title IV in fiscal year 2019 (Sec. 307(a)(30)(C))," include National Minority Aging Organizations Technical Assistance Centers, which includes the National Resource Center on LGBTQ+ Aging.

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VISIT: sageusa.org/oa for more resources!

ACL GUIDANCE

ACL built on these requirements when it released Guidance for Developing State Plans on Aging on August 5, 2021. ACL's guidance details how and why ACL believes that LGBTQ+ older people and older people living with HIV are greatest social needs populations.

This guidance is set to take effect on or after **October 1, 2022. ACL states:**

"As you develop your State Plans, ACL encourages states and AAAs to take a broad approach to ensuring services are reaching older adults in greatest social need in line with recent Executive Orders by President Biden. These populations include: individuals who are Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and other persons of color, members of religious minorities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons, persons with disabilities, and persons who live in rural areas."

"To the extent possible, states should describe how greatest economic and social need are determined, the number and percentage of such individuals in the state and the data sources used for this determination, and the number and percentage of such individuals receiving OAA services."

"State Plans must include measurable objectives that address State Plan requirements within each topic area below that is applicable to your state..."

Equity Topic Area	
Overview:	Areas to Address:
<p>"Serving individuals with the greatest economic and social need means ensuring equity in all aspects of plan administration. The State Plan should address activities to support these goals."</p>	<p>"Describe plans and include objectives and measures (data elements and sources) that you will use to demonstrate your progress towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engagement in outreach with older individuals whose needs were the focus of all centers funded under Title IV in fiscal year 2019 (Sec. 307(a)(30)(C));• Serving older adults living with HIV/AIDS."

SAGE stands ready to serve as a resource to ensure that your Area Plan complies with these federal requirements and is inclusive of LGBTQ+ & HIV+ older adults. We can redline a draft plan, provide sample language, and/or set-up a call to talk through your options.