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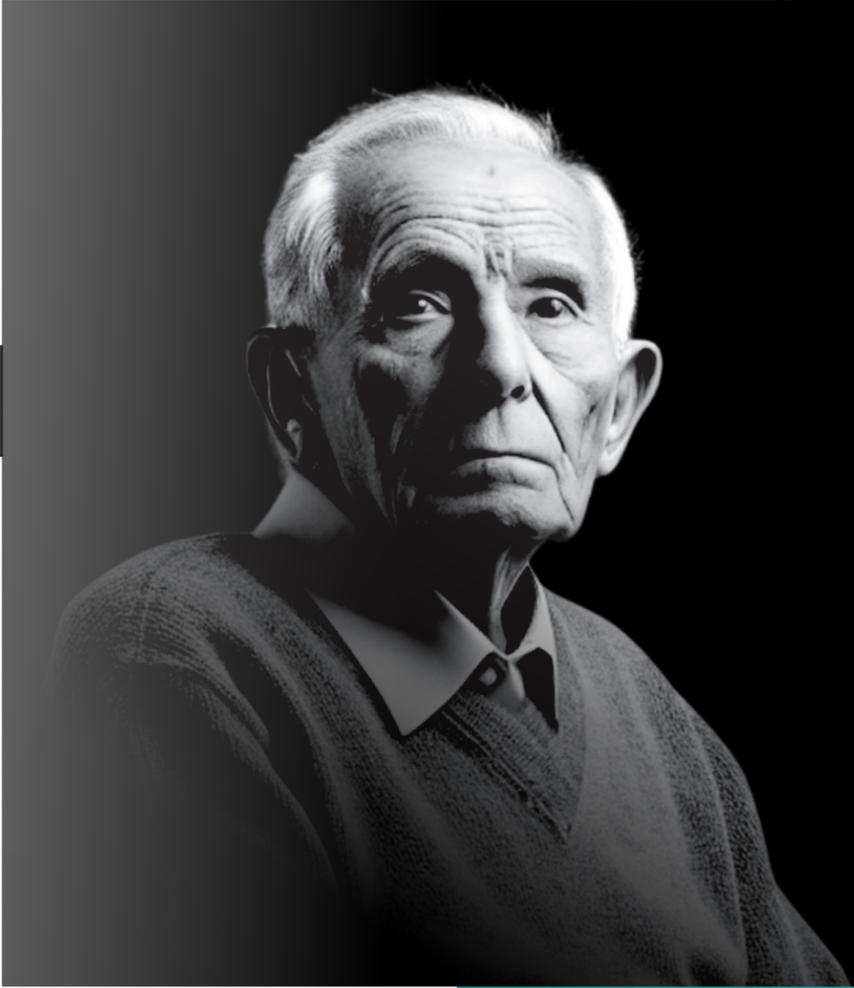
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# Legislative Budget Priorities

# 2026 Legislative Session



THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORT  
FCOA PRIORITIES

Deep gratitude for our special donor **Dr. George Rapier**



AGING AT HOME OR IN A HOME?

# Legislative Budget Priorities for the 2026 Legislative

About FCOA: Since 1955, Florida Council on Aging has been committed to serving Florida's varied aging interests through education, information-sharing, and advocacy.

70 Years Representing Florida's Aging Network:  
www.fcoa.org | 850-222-8877 | fcoa@fcoa.org



Agencies in the statewide aging network know their communities best, and increased funding for these life-saving programs reduces Medicaid expenditures for more costly institutional care. These home and community-based care programs have a high return on investment and saves taxpayer dollars.

The Florida Council on Aging recommends the following increases to serve Florida's frailest elders most at-risk for nursing home care who are on the Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) waiting list.



## BY THE NUMBERS

### PRIORITY

**1** Increase Funding for Community Care for the Elderly (CCE) Program: **\$10,000,000**

**Justification:** This funding will serve 1,497 of the most-frail, at-risk seniors on the DOEA waiting list who need assistance to remain at home and avoid or delay nursing home placement. Funded by the state general revenue, the CCE provides essential in-home services such as personal care, home-delivered meals, homemaker services, transportation, companion care, and respite for caregivers to frail seniors who do not qualify for Medicaid.

**Current Statewide Waiting List of Priority Scores 3/4/5: 41,206 seniors**

### PRIORITY

**2** Increase Funding for Alzheimer's Disease Initiative (ADI): **\$6,000,000**

**Justification:** This funding will serve 412 seniors on the waiting list and support family caregivers providing their care. The ADI program offers essential respite care, case management, and in-home services that support families, reduce caregiver burnout, and delay costly institutional care. By helping seniors remain independent and safe at home, ADI delivers compassionate care and cost-effective solutions. This is a vital investment in Florida's growing senior population.

**Current Statewide Waiting List of Priority Scores 3/4/5: 11,311 seniors**

### PRIORITY

**3** Increase Funding for the Home Care for the Elderly (HCE) Program: **\$5,000,000**

**Justification:** This funding will serve 1,349 seniors on the waiting list who are living at home with a caregiver. They must meet Institutional Care Program eligibility standards and asset limitations, as well as be at risk of nursing home care. A basic monthly subsidy of \$160 is provided to the adult caregiver for support and maintenance of the elder, including some medical costs. A special subsidy may be provided for personal care services, incontinence and nutritional supplies.

**Current Statewide Waiting List of Priority Scores 3/4/5: 12,757 seniors**

### PRIORITY

**4** Continuation of Funding for Local Service Programs (LSP):

This funding will continue and expand long-term care alternatives that support non-Medicaid elders to maintain a favorable quality of life in their homes. LSP also targets unmet, specific community service needs, such as congregate or home-delivered meals in regions with high numbers of at-risk seniors.



\$7,000 - \$28,000



\$111,325 - \$150,000



**SAVINGS**  
**\$104,325-\$122,000**  
per person annually

### FLORIDA WAITING LISTS

Community Care Program  
▶ **65,660 SENIORS**

Home Care Program  
▶ **20,757 SENIORS**

Alzheimer's Disease Initiative  
▶ **16,025 SENIORS**

\*DOEA Prioritized Consumer List generated on 9/25/2025

Not only does this make good fiscal sense, but this is morally and ethically the right thing to do – caring for older adults when they need it most. This is smart business and “mom and apple pie” stuff!