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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) implements programs and initiatives as authorized through a variety of statutes. These programs and initiatives aim to support the independence, well-being, and health of older adults and those with disabilities across the lifespan and support their families and caregivers. ACL strives to ensure that all people, no matter their age or disability, are allowed to live with dignity, make their own choices, and fully participate in society.

Following the adoption of the Foundations for Evidence-based Policymaking Act in 2019, ACL and other agencies were encouraged to make agency data publicly available and to plan and develop evidence to support policymaking. In keeping to the Evidence Act’s requirements, ACL outlined the agency’s priorities in an evaluation plan.¹

In 2020, ACL contracted with RTI International to summarize the research and evaluation activities undertaken by ACL with the intent of forging partnerships across programs and inform future research and evaluation endeavors. This Biennial Research and Evaluation Report showcases activities underway between October 2020 and September 2022.

ES Exhibit 1. ACL Priority Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority Question 1</th>
<th>What is the efficacy and effectiveness of ACL programs and initiatives?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority Question 2</td>
<td>What are states funded by ACL doing to enhance and promote aging and disability services and programs?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Question 3</td>
<td>How does ACL prepare its staff to better support the aging and disability networks?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Priority Question 4</td>
<td>What are the current avenues for collaboration and coordination between the aging and disability networks that ACL works with? How can ACL encourage better collaboration and coordination?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Question 5</td>
<td>What new research and information are being generated, by both ACL and in the field, on aging and disability? How is ACL implementing it, and how can ACL better implement it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Question 6</td>
<td>What are the knowledge gaps between ACL, research, and stakeholders? How can ACL close the knowledge gaps?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Although the current priority question 2 mentions “states,” the language of future iterations of this priority is expected to be broadened to “grantees.”
**Methods**
To present a complete picture of all the research and evaluation activities performed by ACL, designated Center and Office staff were invited to submit essential data elements of each project in an online data capture form. Key information about each activity is summarized in this report.

**Summary of Activities**
Between October 2020 and September 2022, ACL had 54 research and evaluation projects underway across six of its Centers. Of those, 2 projects ended in 2020, 8 ended in 2021, 23 ended in 2022,\(^2\) and 21 remained ongoing at the end of the reporting period.

**ES Exhibit 3. List of R/E Activities by ACL Center**

- **Administration on Aging**: 13 activities
- **Administration on Disabilities**: 9 activities
- **Center for Innovation and Partnership**: 15 activities
- **Center for Management and Budget**: 1 activity
- **Center for Policy and Evaluation**: 12 activities
- **Center for Regional Operations**: 1 activity
- **National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research**: 3 activities

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\(^2\) These projects ended during the data collection period, meaning project activities were completed before October 2022.
Findings

The data collection revealed important findings about the breadth, depth, collaborations, dissemination, and challenges of ACL’s recent research and evaluation activities. Findings also reveal how ACL’s current activities are supporting its progress in meeting its research and evaluation priorities.

- 33 projects addressed multiple priorities. Priorities 1 (efficacy and effectiveness) and 6 (knowledge gaps) were the most commonly addressed. Priority 4 (collaboration and coordination between aging and disability networks) was the least commonly addressed priority.
- 51 of the 54 projects involved stakeholders.
- 10 of the 24 projects with final findings reports were reported as having been made publicly available at the time of reporting. Likewise, of the five final datasets, one has been made publicly available at the time of reporting.
- 23 of the projects reported challenges, the number one challenge related to the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE).

Conclusion

The findings from this and future Biennial Reports provide a useful snapshot of where ACL is concentrating its research and evaluation endeavors which can be helpful in informing future research and evaluation activities and opportunities for growth. ACL will post this Biennial Report on its website, making it available to its many partners and the public.

- Concentrating on activities that address ACL’s priority focused on collaboration and coordination between aging and disability networks.
- Including older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers as stakeholders involved in the design and implementation of activities.
- Encourage wider dissemination of results.
BACKGROUND

ACL implements programs and initiatives authorized through the Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA), Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act), and several other statutes. Programs and initiatives resulting from these statutes support older Americans and Americans with disabilities to live independently at home with dignity and fully participate in their communities. In keeping to the spirit of the Foundations for Evidence-based Policymaking Act (House Resolution 4174; Evidence Act), ACL undertakes research and evaluation activities to ensure that its programs are effective, staff are prepared, collaboration and coordination is occurring between the aging and disability networks, and emerging areas from the field and knowledge gaps are identified.

The Evidence Act, which took effect in 2019, promotes publicly accessible agency data and requires agencies to plan and develop statistical evidence to support policymaking. Agencies must annually submit a plan for identifying and addressing policy questions to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The plan must include the following elements: questions for developing evidence to support policymaking; data the agency intends to collect or use as evidence; methods and approaches that may be used to develop evidence to support policymaking; and challenges to developing evidence-based policy. OMB is obligated to report biennially on agency performance and compliance.

To fulfill the requirement to submit an annual plan as outlined above, ACL along with the other operating divisions within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), develop evaluation plans that outline their priorities. A selection of ACL’s priority questions were incorporated into the larger HHS fiscal year 2022 evaluation plan. Exhibit 1 lists ACL-wide dynamic priority questions included in ACL’s Interim Learning Agenda and Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Evaluation Plan intended to guide ACL’s research and evaluation activities along with a brief description of the aim of each priority question.3

Exhibit 1. ACL Priority Questions

| Priority Question 1 | • What is the efficacy and effectiveness of ACL programs and initiatives? |
| Priority Question 2 | • What are states funded by ACL doing to enhance and promote aging and disability services and programs? |
| Priority Question 3 | • How does ACL prepare its staff to better support the aging and disability networks? |
| Priority Question 4 | • What are the current avenues for collaboration and coordination between the aging and disability networks that ACL works with? How can ACL encourage better collaboration and coordination? |
| Priority Question 5 | • What new research and information are being generated, by both ACL and in the field, on aging and disability? How is ACL implementing it, and how can ACL better implement it? |
| Priority Question 6 | • What are the knowledge gaps between ACL, research, and stakeholders? How can ACL close the knowledge gaps? |

3 Although the current priority question 2 mentions “states,” the language of future iterations of this priority is expected to be broadened to “grantees.”
In 2020, ACL contracted with RTI International to develop the Biennial Research and Evaluation Report. The purpose of the report is to showcase ACL’s research and evaluation activities during a 2-year period (see Appendix A for full details on each project). This first report summarizes the research and evaluation activities underway between October 2020 and September 2022. Additionally, this report documents ACL’s achievements in meeting its dynamic priorities.
METHODS

Data for the Biennial Research and Evaluation Report were collected from 13 ACL staff members across its eight centers in three steps. These steps are described in more detail below.

Identify and Invite ACL Staff to Participate

Participants in this data collection effort included ACL Office Directors and their supporting staff. In collaboration with ACL, RTI identified and reached out to the Office Directors within each of the eight ACL Centers, using the ACL Organizational Chart. Early outreach included inviting Office Directors to participate in the data collection effort and identify an Office contact to complete the data collection form. Once the proper Office staff were identified, RTI shared instructions for next steps.

Data Collection Effort

Information collected for this Biennial Report was limited to those projects underway at any point between October 2020 and September 2022. Exhibit 2 lists the Items collected for each research and evaluation activity in an online data capture form.

Data collection began in May 2022. RTI contacted ACL staff participating in the data collection effort with the link to the data capture form along with instructions on how to complete the form (see Appendix B). This one-page of instructions gave staff additional background on the questions and the type of information being requested to better prepare them to complete the data capture form (see Appendix C). Data collection lasted 7 weeks.

Summarizing Data Collected

A total of 54 projects were submitted. Information submitted by ACL staff was transferred into a master database and reviewed for completeness. Once complete, key information from the master database was entered into summary tables and organized by ACL Center and Office for inclusion in this report.

Exhibit 2. Data Items Captured

- Project details (i.e., Name, Dates, and Purpose)
- ACL priorities
- Stakeholder involvement
- Data sources
- Report of findings
- Datasets produced
- Dissemination plans
- ACL actions
SUMMARY OF RESEARCH AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

Of the 54 research and evaluation projects underway between October 2020 and September 2022, 4 most were led by the Center for Innovation and Partnership (15) and Administration on Aging (13) followed by the Center for Policy and Evaluation (12), Administration on Disabilities (9), National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (3), Center for Budget and Management (1), and Center for Regional Operations (1). These research and evaluation projects are summarized in the following sections. Full details for each project can be found in Appendix A.

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4 It should be noted that many ACL Offices are doing other forms of research or data use activities, but the parameters established for this effort may have precluded those projects in this data call across the agency.

ACL Research and Evaluation Biennial Report
Final Report 7
The Administration on Aging (AoA) is the principal HHS agency designated to carry out the provisions of the OAA, as amended (42 U.S.C.A. § 3001 et seq.) (ACL, 2017). Within AoA there are four offices, all of which undertook 13 projects between October 2020 and September 2022. Full details on AoA projects can be found in Appendix A-1.

Office of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian Programs

Title VI Evaluation
2016–2021
Addresses Priorities 1 & 6
ACL Center Partners: CPE

• Study Purpose: Forty years after the federal government established Title VI under the OAA, the Title VI Evaluation provided an opportunity to understand the value and impact that Title VI programs have on elder program participants, caregivers of elders, elders raising grandchildren or caring for adult children with disabilities, and program staff.

• Methods: Literature review, focus groups, analysis of administrative data, analysis of National Resource Center on Native American Aging and US Aging survey data, and site visits.

• ACL Actions in Response to Project: ACL has begun work on Title VI data workbooks, developing and delivering trainings on caregiver services, and establishment other data usage tools.
Title III and Title VI Grantee Collaboration Study
2019–2020
Addresses Priorities 1 & 2
ACL Center Partners: CRO & CPE

- **Study Purpose:** The OAA requires coordination between Title VI and Title III grantees, but does not specify how grantees should work together and collaborate. To better understand how this requirement is implemented at the Tribal, state, and local levels, ACL funded a study to identify examples and best practices of Title VI and Title III grantee collaboration.
- **Methods:** Environmental scan and interviews.
- **ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL has presented findings to ACL grantees and at national conferences.

Office of Elder Justice and Adult Protective Services

LTCOP Outcome Evaluation
2017–2022
Addresses Priority 1
ACL Center Partners: CPE

- **Study Purpose:** The primary objective of this project is to conduct a comprehensive outcome evaluation of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP) that builds on two previous evaluation efforts: Evaluation Study Design of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs under the Older Americans Act and the Process Evaluation and Special Studies Related to the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.
- **Methods:** Cross-sectional and longitudinal data collection activities including focus groups, stakeholder interviews, and surveys.
**Office of Nutrition and Health Promotion Programs**

**Exploratory Study of OAA Nutrition Services During COVID-19**
- **2021**
- Addresses Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6
- ACL Center Partners: CPE

- **Study Purpose:** An exploratory study to examine the performance of OAA-funded state and local senior nutrition programs, including challenges encountered in program services, reporting, and innovative services implemented during the COVID-19 PHE.
- **Methods:** Interviews with staff from State Units on Aging (SUAs), Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), and local service providers (LSPs).
- **ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL may take action based on project recommendations/implications for (a) future technical assistance to those in the aging and disability services network (e.g., SUAs, AAAs, LSPs); and (b) additional research.

**Promoting Equity in Older Americans Act Service Outreach**
- **2021–2022**
- Addresses Priorities 1 & 2
- ACL Center Partners: CPE

- **Study Purpose:** To examine who is being served by the Home-Delivered Meals and Congregate Meals programs in a sample of states and then recommend best practices to reach populations that are not traditionally well served.
- **Methods:** Semistructured interviews conducted with Nutrition Leads or managers of the SUAs for eight states. Data from AGID and the Census Bureau were used to select states of focus based on criteria defined in consultation with ACL.

**Adult Protective Services Client Outcomes Study**
- **2018–2022**
- Addresses Priorities 1, 2, 5, & 6
- ACL Center Partners: CPE

- **Study Purpose:** This study examines if and how Adult Protective Services (APS) programs make a difference in the lives of clients with regard to their satisfaction, safety/risk, and well-being.
- **Methods:** The study includes a mixed-methods approach with a multistate sample of APS programs (27 counties from across 9 states; i.e., three counties per state). Mixed methods included survey data collection and analysis, primary interview focus groups and analysis, and secondary data analysis of APS administrative data.
### Remote Evidence-based Programs Evaluation—Sound Generations

**2021–2022**

**Addresses Priorities 1 & 5**

- **Study Purpose:** To evaluate whether and how remote evidence-based programs (EBPs) guide future policymaking and practice at the national, state, and local levels.
- **Methods:** Effectiveness evaluation conducting pre- and post-test surveys of adults with disabilities and older adults participating in at least four EBPs. Implementation evaluation conducting surveys with EBP administrators, delivery organizations, leaders, and participants.

### Congregate Meals and Socialization

**2021–2022**

**Addresses Priorities 5 & 6**

- **Study Purpose:** To develop an understanding of who is attending congregate meals for socialization and why certain target populations are first coming to the congregate meal programs, while also providing insights that may help ACL to reach more vulnerable populations through congregate meals in the future.
- **Methods:** Quantitative data analysis of 2019 National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants (NSOAAP) data.

### Office of Supportive and Caregiver Services

### Caregiver Questions

**2020–2021**

**Addresses Priority 1**

- **Study Purpose:** To examine the National Family Caregiver Support Program participants’ (i.e., caregivers) improvement recommendations as reported in the NSOAAP.
- **Methods:** Analysis of the 2019 NSOAAP data.

### Alzheimer’s Program Grants

**2020–2022**

**Addresses Priority 1**

- **Study Purpose:** To pull together evidence from Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative – Specialized Supportive Services (ADI-SSS) grantee reports to tell a story using existing data about the impact of the grants.
- **Methods:** Review of documentation associated with the Alzheimer’s Program Grants project.
- **ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL shared reports and guidance documents with grantees.
• **Study Purpose:** To review 2019 NSOAAP responses to questions related to demographics, caregiving intensity, unmet needs, and service usage to better understand potential differences in caregivers’ service needs and usage.

• **Methods:** Literature review of peer-reviewed publications and analytic file creation and data analysis of the 2019 NSOAAP Family Caregiver Survey data.

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**Caregiver Disparities 2021–2022**  
Addresses Priority 6

ACL Center Partners: CPE

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**Lifespan Respite Performance Measures 2022–Present**  
Addresses Priority 1

ACL Center Partners: CPE

• **Study Purpose:** To develop a set of performance measures for Lifespan Respite Program grantees.

• **Methods:** Review of Lifespan Respite Program notice of funding opportunity (NOFO), Lifespan Respite Program 2020 and 2021 grantee reporting, the 2019 Lifespan Respite Program report prepared by the Lewin Group, and grantee reporting tools and aggregate reports used by other AoA programs.

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**Review of Respite Models for Family Caregivers of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias 2022**  
Addresses Priority 6

ACL Center Partners: CPE

• **Study Purpose:** ACL funds the Alzheimer’s Disease Program Initiative and the Lifespan Respite Program. At times, grantees in each program touch the focus of the other program. The purpose of this project was to learn more about respite specifically for family caregivers to people living with ADRD.

• **Methods:** Literature review on ADRD respite care models.
Administration on Disabilities

The Administration on Disabilities (AoD) collaborates with states, communities, and partners in the disability network to empower individuals with disabilities of all ages with opportunities, tools, and supports to lead lives of their choice in their community. Under the provisions established through various authorizing statutes, AoD seeks to improve opportunities for people with disabilities to access quality community services and supports, achieve economic self-sufficiency, and experience equality, equity, and inclusion in all facets of community life (ACL, 2021). Within AoD there are three offices, all of which undertook nine projects between October 2020 and September 2022. Full details on AoD projects can be found in Appendix A-2.

Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disability Programs

Building Utilization-Focused Developmental Disabilities Impact Evaluation Skills (BUDDIES) Project
2022–Present
Addresses Priorities 1 & 6

• Study Purpose: To build evaluation capacity and competencies so that staff from State/Territory Councils on Developmental Disabilities are able to engage in continuous quality improvements, data-driven decision making, and communicate the impact of their Council.
• Methods: Developmental Disability Councils completed an Organizational Evaluation Capacity Survey and an Individual Evaluation Competency Survey.

AoD Over the Years
Three of AoD’s projects have been running for over 30 years. These three projects all engage with advisory committees and state IDD agencies for purposes of data collection, analysis, and reporting.
Office of Independent Living Programs

CIL and ILS Programmatic Performance Reports
2021–Present
Addresses Priority 1, 2, 4, & 5

- **Study Purpose:** To track annual performance data of state independent living Part B programs and CILs to evaluate effectiveness and determine trends in service utilization and barriers.
- **Methods:** Grantee data is collected in Program Performance Reports (PPR) via the Q90 portal, the database system.

Native American Indian Independent Living Demonstration (NAILD) program
2016–2022
Addresses Priority 5

- **Study Purpose:** ACL recognizes there is a need to develop capacity building within existing Centers for Independent Living (CIL) for serving individuals with disabilities in AI/NA communities. Through NAILD, ACL intends to (1) gain an increased understanding of service needs of Americans with disabilities, (2) improve cultural competence in regard to the needs of specific tribal organizations targeted by current CIL grantees, and (3) capture lessons learned and best practices for outreach and service delivery AI/NA with disabilities, a traditionally underserved population.
- **Methods:** Mixed methods

Office of Disability Services Innovations

The State of the States in Developmental Disabilities
1982–Present
Addresses Priorities 3, 5, & 6

- **Study Purpose:** This project investigates the determinants of public spending for intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) services in the United States.
- **Methods:** Quantitative analysis of data on the state of supports and services in the United States, including data on community services and supports, public and private institutions, fiscal efforts in states, and demand for services and supports.
1988–Present
Addresses Priority 6

- **Study Purpose:** To describe day and employment services for individuals with developmental disabilities and contribute to an understanding of the factors that influence employment at the individual, service provider, and state levels.
- **Methods:** Longitudinal data collection from state IDD agencies, the vocational rehabilitation (VR) system, and community organizations providing employment support to people with IDD.

Residential Information Systems Project (RISP)
1977–Present
Addresses Priorities 5 & 6

- **Study Purpose:** To gather, maintain, and analyze longitudinal data on Medicaid funded residential and in-home supports for people with IDD.
- **Methods:** Annual surveys of state IDD agencies and state-operated IDD facilities serving 16 or more people.

Community Collaboration for Employment Program Evaluability Study
2022–Present
Addresses Priority 2

- **Study Purpose:** In the fall of 2021, ACL awarded seven Community Collaboration for Employment (CCE) grants through its Projects of National Significance Program. The purpose of this project is to conduct an evaluability assessment of the grant program.
- **Methods:** Interviews with ACL staff, Disability Employment Technical Assistance Center (DETAC) team, CCE grantees (only 8), review of grantee logic models and summary reports and applications to ACL.

Living Well Evaluation
2018–2022
Addresses Priorities 2 & 5

- **Study Purpose:** On behalf of AoD's Projects of National Significance, ACL funded a cross-site evaluation of eight grantees from cohorts one and two in 2018. Each grantee has designed one or more models integrating community monitoring and capacity building with the goal of enhancing health, safety, integration, and independence of individuals with IDD living in the community.
- **Methods:** Site visits, biannual reports, interviews.
• **Study Purpose:** A process evaluation of the NPRC and an outcome evaluation to assess whether the NPRC has (1) improved health and quality of life for individuals with paralysis of all ages, their families, and their support systems; and (2) increased awareness of services, access to services, empowerment, confidence, independence, support system strength, and community living opportunities for individuals living with paralysis.

• **Methods:** Development of a performance monitoring tool to track outputs, interviews with NPRC staff, focus groups, and surveys of program participants.
The Center for Innovation and Partnership (CIP) oversees the administration of programs and initiatives that serve both older adults and people with disabilities, including consumer access and protection programs. Within CIP there are three offices, two of which undertook 15 projects between October 2020 and September 2022. Full details on CIP projects can be found in Appendix A-3.

### Office of Healthcare Information and Counseling

**SMP Outreach**

*2020–2021*

*Addresses Priorities 1 & 2*

**ACL Center Partners: CPE**

**Study Purpose:** To gain better understanding of the most efficient and effective methods to reach the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program’s target audience via outreach and media activities to prevent Medicare fraud.

**Methods:** Analysis of SMP Information and Reporting System (SIRS) data, review of Office of Inspector General (OIG) SMP reports and literature, and subject matter expert interviews.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL shared American Community Survey (ACS) How-To Guide with SMP grantees.

**National Beneficiary Satisfaction Survey**

*2020 –Present*

*Addresses Priorities 1 & 3*

**ACL Center Partners: CPE**

**Study Purpose:** To have ACL’s Office of Healthcare Information and Counseling (OHIC) develop National Beneficiary Satisfaction Surveys for the SHIP and SMP programs. The surveys are designed to assess the quality and effectiveness of the services provided by State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIP) and SMP grantees.

**Methods:** Survey of SHIP and SMP grantees and ACL staff.
• **Study Purpose:** To evaluate the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers (MIPPA) program from multiple lenses. It involves evaluating the program’s current state, the equity within the benefit enrollment centers (which account for 15%-20% of total program funding), equity within the entire program, and defining the program’s future state.

• **Methods:** Stakeholder interviews, analysis of National Council on Aging (NCOA) data, ACS census data, and 2019 Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) enrollment data.

**MIPPA Evaluation**
2020–Present
Addresses Priorities 1 & 3
ACL Center Partners: CPE

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• **Study Purpose:** To estimate the gap between likely eligibility and enrollment in the Low Income Subsidy (LIS) program so that SHIP and MIPPA funding for the states is distributed in proportion to state needs.

• **Methods:** An environmental scan of studies and other resources on estimating eligibility for a variety of entitlement programs and analysis of data from multiple sources including ACL data on SHIP outreach; survey and administrative data; state-, territory-, and county-level Medicare enrollment data; and ACS data.

• **ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL is using results for a more accurate computation of its program funding formulas.

**SHIP and MIPPA Low-Income Population Estimation Model**
2021–2022
Addresses Priority 6
ACL Center Partners: CPE

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• **Study Purpose:** This project supports ACL’s OHIC in calculating the funding formulas for SHIP and MIPPA, determining the denominator data for program performance measures, and documenting the assumptions and procedures for the funding formulas and performance measures.

• **Methods:** Review of the prior funding formula calculations, population data, information on the funding stream priorities (e.g., SHIP and AAAs vs. ADRCs), performance measures, and other data elements used in prior calculations.

**OHIC Performance Measures and Funding Formulas**
2022–Present
Addresses Priority 3
ACL Center Partners: CPE
• **Study Purpose:** To (1) develop a streamlined program profile template for State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP), and Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) grants and (2) develop a dataset and dashboard template for use by ACL to share internally and with grantees.

• **Methods:** Review of another program's profiles, survey SMP, SHIP, and MIPPA grantees, and summarize information submitted in a developed template.

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**Office of Network Advancement**

- **Developing a Business Case for the No Wrong Door System**
  - 2019–Present
  - Addresses Priority 1

  • **Study Purpose:** To conduct a set of analyses to research the association of state-level No Wrong Door (NWD) Systems, nursing facility admission rates, and overall health care costs to Medicaid and Medicare programs.

  • **Methods:** Data collection and analysis of core outcome measures. Data and measures are identified and collected by participating grantee states.

- **An Analysis of Transition Activities among Centers for Independent Living (CILs)**
  - 2020–2021
  - Addresses Priorities 2, 4, & 5

  • **Study Purpose:** To summarize three surveys that either focused on, or included, CILs as key respondents.

  • **Methods:** Analysis of the Collaborative on Health Reform and Independent Living Survey (2020), ACL Care Transitions Technical Assistance Team Survey (March 2021), ACL Housing Team Survey (August 2021).
**COVID Intelligence Dashboard 2020–2022**
Addresses Priorities 1, 4, & 6

- **Study Purpose:** To display visualizations created from a variety of publicly available sources demonstrating valuable information about COVID-19 and its impacts on hospitals, nursing facilities, and local communities. This dashboard was shared with ADRC/COVID grantees to support pandemic response efforts.
- **Methods:** Data were pulled on a weekly basis from sources such as Johns Hopkins University, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, CMS, and ACS.

**ADRC/COVID Grant Semi-Annual Reporting Tool 2020–Present**
Addresses Priorities 2 & 4

- **Study Purpose:** To track progress of grantee goals and performance measures, and identify gaps and best practices. A version of the PRA-approved No Wrong Door System (NWD) Management Tool serves as the semiannual reporting requirement for states and territories receiving ADRC/COVID grant funds.
- **Methods:** State and territory grantees use their own data tracking systems/methods to gather the data for this reporting tool.

**COVID-19 Educational Resources in Languages Other Than English 2020**
Addresses Priority 4

- **Study Purpose:** To have a resource blog post that included COVID-19 and vaccine-related educational and outreach materials available in languages other than English.
- **Methods:** Examining federal, state, and local websites with relevant data sources for COVID outreach in different languages.
- **ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL-supported grantee technical assistance needs to increase outreach to minority/underserved populations.
Social Care Referrals Challenge Survey
2021
Addresses Priorities 5 and 6

• **Study Purpose:** To administer a survey to help expand the broader goals of the Social Care Referrals Challenge, achieving holistic health and social supports through inventive technology approaches. The answers to this survey also informed criteria and the remaining phases of the Challenge.
• **Methods:** Teams completed a survey and were scored individually by multiple judges and evaluated by an expert panel.
• **ACL Actions in Response to Project:** Considerations were derived from the survey for common workflows and data integration to bridge the gap between referral vendors, health care partners, and community-based organizations. These considerations were incorporated into the Challenge criteria.

Vaccine Access Bimonthly Touchpoints and Dashboard
2021–Present
Addresses Priorities 2 & 4

• **Study Purpose:** To serve as the bimonthly reporting requirement for states and territories receiving ADRC/NWD COVID-19 Vaccine Access Supplemental Funding. The project tracks uses of funds and activities supported by this grant, and to identify challenges and best practices related to COVID vaccine outreach.
• **Methods:** Data tracking/methods implemented by state and territory grantees to gather the data for this reporting tool.

Money Follows the Person Demonstration Legislation from 2005–2021
2021
Addresses Priority 6

• **Study Purpose:** To create a document that summarizes and includes language from legislation pertaining to the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Demonstration.
• **Methods:** A review of relevant legislation and documents.
• **ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL identified and described the benefits that can be achieved through partnerships between the NWD System and the MFP Demonstration and strategies for developing partnerships.

No Wrong Door Strategic Planning Key Informant Interviews
2022–Present
Addresses Priorities 3 & 4

• **Study Purpose:** To understand the perception and penetration of the NWD System and its guiding principles across ACL programs.
• **Methods:** Key informant interviews conducted with five ACL program staff members.
The Center for Management and Budget (CMB) is responsible for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of ACL’s operations and providing administrative services supporting ACL’s programs. The goal of CMB is to implement management and workforce practices that support the integrity and efficient operations of programs serving people with disabilities and older adults, therefore ensuring proper stewardship of taxpayers’ dollars (ACL, 2020a). Between October 2020 and September 2022, one project was undertaken by CMB. Full details on CMB projects can be found in Appendix A-4.

• **Study Purpose:** This annual task combines and analyzes data from CMS’s Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS) Limited Data Set Files (LDS) with population estimates and projections data from the U.S. Census Bureau to produce national disability estimates for ACL’s Budget Reports. Additionally, in 2022, additional data analysis was added to examine health services utilization and stress among older adults during the COVID-19 PHE.

• **Methods:** Secondary data analyses of the CMS MCBS LDS, Census Bureau population estimates, and Census Bureau population projections.
The Center for Policy and Evaluation (CPE) collects and analyzes data on populations and services, develops strategic goals and objectives, evaluates the effectiveness of programs, and plans and coordinates the development of policies designed to ensure that older Americans and persons with disabilities are able to fully participate and contribute in an inclusive community life. CPE works with colleagues across the agency and HHS on big-picture policy issues that affect multiple centers and programs within ACL (ACL, 2020b). Within CPE there are two offices, one of which undertook 12 projects between October 2020 and September 2022. Full details on CPE projects can be found in Appendix A-5.

**National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants**
2003–Present
Addresses Priorities 1, 2, 5, & 6

**ACL Center Partners:** AoA & CRO

**Study Purpose:** The NSOAAP is a national survey funded by Title III of the OAA to assess the effectiveness of the Title III programs, maintain accountability, and demonstrate the programs’ success in achieving legislative goals. NSOAAP comprises six annual surveys of select Title III service areas (home-delivered meals, congregate meals, homemaker services, transportation services, case management services, and caregiver support services). The survey instruments focus on consumers’ assessment of service quality and outcomes. The instruments also measure client characteristics such as demographics, health status, and physical and social functioning.

**Methods:** Telephone-based survey conducted each year from May to September.
• **Study Purpose:** To (a) learn more about how ACL programs focused on older adults use volunteers; (b) identify promising practices/recommendations for effective use of volunteers; (c) estimate the economic value of volunteerism to several programs identified by ACL; and (d) develop a plan for future data collection activities and modeling/analysis strategies to refine the estimate of economic value and cost of volunteer labor for ACL programs.

• **Methods:** Analysis of OAA Title III and Title VII State Performance Report data, OAA Title VII National Ombudsman Reporting System (NORS) data, and SHIP data; interviews with ACL staff, grantee programs, and volunteers.

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**Social Determinants of Health**

2020–2022

Addresses Priority 6

ACL Center Partners: AoA, CIP, & CRO

• **Study Purpose:** To better understand how services ACL funds under the OAA specifically address the SDOH. ACL’s programs address these conditions through grants designed to improve organizations and systems, and to mitigate their effects on individuals through the delivery of direct services thereby addressing social risks and social needs.

• **Methods:** Literature review and 15 interviews.

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**Older Americans Act Fidelity Evaluation**

2020–2022

Addresses Priorities 1, 3, & 6

ACL Center Partners: AoA

• **Study Purpose:** To evaluate the fidelity with which ACL and its grantees under the OAA implement the required evidence-based programs.

• **Methods:** Primary data collection through surveys.
**Process Evaluation of the Aging Network Structure Including Business Acumen**

**2020–Present**

**Addresses Priorities 1, 2, & 4**

- **Study Purpose:** To better understand how the Aging Network programs are structured at the state and local levels and their progress toward their goals and mission.
- **Methods:** Literature review, Survey of SUAs, AAAs, and Title VI grantees, and nine interviews following the survey.

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**CLAS Standards at ACL**

**2021–Present**

**Addresses Priorities 1 & 3**

- **Study Purpose:** To explore the extent to which ACL grantees employ CLAS Standards (National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services) in their service delivery processes, particularly their responsiveness to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) priorities, cultural practices, language and communication needs, and health literacy.
- **Methods:** Environmental scan, ACL staff interviews, interviews with external stakeholders and federal partners, survey of grantees, and secondary analysis of administrative data.

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**2020 SPR Supplemental Funds**

**2021**

**Addresses Priorities 1 & 2**

- **Study Purpose:** This project supports ACL’s congressionally mandated performance reporting, which involves coding and reporting on the state/territory supplemental funding data using a template developed by ACL.
- **Methods:** Quantitative and qualitative review of state/territory State Performance Report (SPR) data related to use of supplemental COVID-19 funds in 2020.
- **ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL requested a reporting template and suggested instructions on template use to be developed for states/territories to use in future data collection periods.
Disabilities and HCBS
2021–2022
Addresses Priorities 1 & 6

**Study Purpose:** To provide ACL with additional insight into home and community-based services (HCBS) and OAA services utilization and needs among those aging into disability and those aging with a disability. This information will enable ACL to better understand demand and ultimately target OAA programs and services based on the unique long-term supports and services needs of their clients.

**Methods:** Analysis of Health and Retirement (HRS) data, literature review, key informant interviews.

Design Project for Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center
2021–2022
Addresses Priorities 2, 3, & 6

**Study Purpose:** To develop a Center design plan which outlines the possible structure, functions, and expectations of the Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center for the Aging Network established under the 2020 reauthorization of the OAA.

**Methods:** Environmental scan.

Title VI 2020 Data Review
2022
Addresses Priority 2

**Study Purpose:** To review Title VI 2020 COVID supplemental reports to summarize and report on COVID spending.

**Methods:** Analysis of 2020 Title VI Grantee COVID Spending, Thematic Analysis of 2020 Qualitative PPR Data.

Health Services Utilization and Stress Among Older Adults During the COVID-19 Pandemic
2022
Addresses Priority 1

**Study Purpose:** To examine the health services utilization and stress among older adults during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Methods:** Secondary data analyses of 2019 MCBS and 2021 NSOAAP.
The Center for Regional Operations (CRO) includes 10 regional offices which serve as the focal point for the development, coordination, and administration of ACL programs and activities (ACL, 2022b). Between October 2020 and September 2022, one project was undertaken by CRO. Full details on CRO projects can be found in Appendix A-6.

### NSOAAP Covid Analysis
2022–Present
Addresses Priority 1
ACL Center Partners: AoA & CRO

- **Study Purpose:** To better understand how the pandemic has disrupted and changed the service delivery of six OAA programs and the lives of program clients.
- **Methods:** Analysis of NSOAAP COVID-19 module data.

### Project Generations Crossing
2020–Present
Addresses Priority 6

- **Study Purpose:** To bridge the gap between caregivers and local educators on behalf of the children they mutually love. Over time the project has broadened to look at the caregivers’ and children’s needs beyond education-related needs.
- **Methods:** One-on-one telephone interviews were conducted with seven older relative caregivers.
The National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) is the federal government’s primary disability research organization. NIDILRR’s mission is to generate new knowledge and promote its effective use to improve the abilities of individuals with disabilities to perform activities of their choice in the community and to expand society’s capacity to provide full opportunities and accommodations for its citizens with disabilities (ACL, 2022a). NIDILRR undertook three projects between October 2020 and September 2022. Full details on NIDILRR projects can be found in Appendix A-7.

Office of Research Sciences

**Meta-Analysis of NIDILRR’s Evaluation Work**  
2022  
Addresses Priorities 5 & 6

- **Study Purpose:** To compile all the findings and recommendations from evaluation reports that have been done in the past to promote improved data-driven and decision-making/policy-making, agency, and grantee performance.  
- **Methods:** The mixed-methods meta-evaluation is structured around two stages: a review of previously funded NIDILRR reports and qualitative interviews with NIDILRR staff.

**Multi-Year Citation Analysis**  
2022  
Addresses Priorities 5 & 6

- **Study Purpose:** To track the impact, influence, and quality of NIDLRR’s citation data over multiple years.  
- **Methods:** Analysis of NIDILRR Annual Performance Reporting database and analysis of additional citation data from EndNote Google Scholar data using a search engines results page (SERP API).
NIDILRR’s Social Media Presence: A Pilot Study
2022
Addresses Priorities 5 & 6

- **Study Purpose:** To examine NIDILRR’s social media presence to better reach persons with disabilities and their family members.
- **Methods:** Analysis of administrative data on NIDILRR grantees and Twitter that use #NIDILRR in their message.
FINDINGS

The data collection revealed important findings about the breadth, depth, collaborations, dissemination, and challenges of ACL’s recent research and evaluation activities. Between October 2020 and September 2022, ACL had 54 research and evaluation projects underway across six of its Centers. Of those, 2 projects ended in 2020, 8 ended in 2021, 23 ended in 2022, and 21 remained ongoing at the end of the reporting period.

Findings also reveal how ACL’s current activities are supporting its progress in meeting its research and evaluation priorities. Most projects (33) addressed multiple priorities. Priorities 1 and 6 (i.e., efficacy and effectiveness, knowledge gaps) were the most commonly addressed priorities (25 each). Sixteen projects addressed priorities 2 (promotion of aging and disability programming) and 5 (emerging areas from the field). Ten projects addressed priority 3, staff preparation. Priority 4, collaboration and coordination between aging and disability networks, was the least likely to be addressed during the reporting period, with just eight activities addressing this priority.

Most projects were done collaboratively. Specifically, 51 of the 54 projects involved stakeholders in their development and implementation. These stakeholders ranged from other ACL Center and Office staff, advisory committees, Tribal governments and organizations, grantees, and community program staff to contractors. The most common ACL Center partner for research and evaluation activities was the Center for Policy and Evaluation.

Of the 24 projects with final reports, 10 were reported as having been made publicly available at the time of reporting. Likewise, of the five final datasets, one has been made publicly available at the time of reporting.

Although not all projects were met with challenges, ACL staff reported that 23 of their projects did face challenges. Examples of challenges encountered include delays in getting OMB Paperwork Reduction Act approval to collect data. Other project teams faced challenges because of delays in processing data use agreements with federal partners. The number one challenge reported, however, was the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE). ACL staff reported the PHE required changes to data collection approaches and led to inconsistencies in data reported and changes in operations among partners.

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5 These projects ended during the data collection period, meaning project activities were completed before October 2022.
CONCLUSION

Findings from this report provide insight into how ACL’s research and evaluation activities support the Agency’s Priority Questions. The findings also provide a roadmap for future research and evaluation activities focusing on areas where gaps may exist (see Exhibit 3). For example, the finding that the priorities on efficacy and effectiveness and knowledge gaps were addressed by many more activities than the priority on collaboration and coordination between aging and disability networks, suggests future activities may want to include a focus on this priority to balance the evidence supporting all the priority areas.

Another opportunity for growth and collaboration for ACL may be the wider dissemination of results. While many activities were ongoing and had not yet produced a final report, interim findings, reports, and datasets were not yet published. To better keep to the spirit of the Evidence Act, ACL may want to include disseminating interim results as a task on all future research and evaluation activities.

Most of the research and evaluation activities undertaken involved stakeholders and engaged the aging or disability networks, such as grantees (often staffed by people ACL aims to serve) and program participants. One example of ACL’s participatory approach to research and evaluation includes activities involving the RAISE Family Caregiving Advisory Council. A second example includes AoD’s program performance report, which was jointly developed by CILs, which are operated by people with disabilities. ACL may wish to consider continuing to include older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers as stakeholders, and the participatory research methods described above, in the design or implementation of its research and evaluation activities.

Across seven of its eight centers, ACL had 54 research and evaluation projects underway between October 2020 and September 2022. Along with any new research and evaluation projects undertaken, the 21 which remained ongoing at the end of the reporting period will be included in the 2023 Biennial Report. The findings from this and future Biennial Reports may be used to inform research and evaluation activities, including internal and external collaborations and dissemination.
REFERENCES


## APPENDIX A: RESEARCH AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

### Appendix A-1: Administration on Aging

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administration on Aging (AoA)</th>
<th>AoA—Office for American Indian, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title VI Evaluation</strong></td>
<td>Purpose: ACL began a participatory, culturally responsive evaluation through an implementation and outcomes study of the Title VI Grant Program, which provides home and community-based supportive services for older American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian populations. Forty years after the federal government established Title VI under the OAA, the Evaluation of the ACL Title VI Programs provided an opportunity to understand the value and impact that Title VI programs have had on elder program participants, caregivers of elders, elders raising grandchildren or caring for adult children with disabilities, and program staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addresses Priorities 1 and 6</td>
<td>Methods: Literature review, focus groups, analysis of administrative data, analysis of National Resource Center on Native American Aging and USAging survey data, and site visits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACL Center Partners: CPE</td>
<td>Datasets: None produced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACL Actions in Response to Project: ACL has begun work on Title VI data workbooks, developing and delivering trainings on caregiver services, and establishment other data usage tools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Challenges Encountered: Slow PRA processing times, disruptions in timeline due to COVID-19 pandemic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Next Steps: None at this time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Title III and Title VI Grantee Collaboration Study

**2019–2020**

**Addresses Priorities 1 and 2**

**ACL Center Partners:** CRO and CPE

**Purpose:** The Older Americans Act (OAA) requires coordination between Title VI and Title III grantees, but does not specify how grantees should work together and collaborate. To better understand how this requirement is implemented at the Tribal, state, and local levels, ACL funded a study to identify examples and best practices of Title VI and Title III grantee collaboration.

**Stakeholders Involved:** New Editions/Lewin (Contractor), AAAs, SUAs, Title VI Grantees, Office of Regional Operations, Administration on Aging.

**Methods:** Environmental scan and interviews.

**Report of Findings:** Publicly available final report produced.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation Materials, Outreach, Information, or Guidance Documents, and Reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL has presented findings to ACL grantees and at national conferences.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** Tentative plans to conduct more in-depth study related to extent of Title III and Title VI coordination throughout the network.

### LTCOP Outcome Evaluation

**2017–2022**

**Addresses Priority 1**

**ACL Center Partners:** CPE

**Purpose:** The primary objective of this project is to conduct a comprehensive outcome evaluation of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP) that builds on two previous evaluation efforts: Evaluation Study Design of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs under the Older Americans Act and the Process Evaluation and Special Studies Related to the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

**Stakeholders Involved:** Subject matter experts supported Technical Advisory Group.

**Methods:** Cross-sectional and longitudinal data collection activities including focus groups, stakeholder interviews, and surveys.

**Report of Findings:** None produced.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation Materials, and Reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time; project still ongoing.

**Challenges Encountered:** Delays in data collection due to COVID-19 pandemic.

**Next Steps:** Produce and post final report and dataset on ACL website, disseminate findings.
### Adult Protective Services Client Outcomes Study

**2018–2022**

Addresses Priorities 1, 2, 5 and 6

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to examine if and how APS programs make a difference in the lives of clients with regard to their satisfaction, safety/risk, and well-being.

**Stakeholders Involved:** State and county APS leaders, university faculty specializing in gerontology and elder justice issues.

**Methods:** A mixed-methods approach with a multistate sample of Adult Protective Services (APS) programs (27 counties from across 9 states; i.e., 3 counties per state).

**Report of Findings:** Preliminary report produced, not publicly available.

**Datasets:** Preliminary dataset produced, not publicly available.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation Materials, Data Collection/Analysis, Planning Materials, Outreach, Information, or Guidance Documents, and Reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time; project still ongoing.

**Challenges Encountered:** Delays in data collection timeline due to COVID-19 pandemic.

**Next Steps:** None at this time.

### Exploratory Study of OAA Nutrition Services During COVID-19

**2021**

Addresses Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to conduct an exploratory study to examine the performance of Older Americans Act (OAA)-funded state and local senior nutrition programs, including challenges encountered in program services, reporting, and innovative services implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Stakeholders Involved:** New Editions (contractor).

**Methods:** Interviews with staff from State Units on Aging (SUAs), Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), and local service providers (LSPs).

**Report of Findings:** Final report produced, not publicly available.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation materials.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** Potential for ACL to take action based on project recommendations/implications for future technical assistance to those in adding and disabilities services networks and additional research.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** Additional research or technical assistance may be provided at ACL discretion.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Purpose: The purpose of this project was to examine who is being served by the Home-Delivered Meals and Congregate Meals programs in a sample of states and then recommend best practices to reach populations that are not traditionally well served.</th>
<th>Stakeholders Involved: Research staff at University of Maryland College Park, New Editions (contractor) ACL staff within OPE and ONHPP.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Methods: Semi-structured interviews conducted with Nutrition Leads or managers of State Units on Aging (SUA) for eight states. Data from AGID and the Census Bureau were used to select states of focus based on criteria defined in consultation with ACL.</td>
<td>Report of Findings: Final report produced, not publicly available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Datasets: None produced.</td>
<td>Dissemination Plans: Reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACL Actions in Response to Project: None at this time.</td>
<td>Challenges Encountered: None encountered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Next Steps: Posting of 508-compliant final report.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Purpose: The purpose of this task is to evaluate whether and how remote evidence-based programs (EBPs) guide future policymaking and practice at the national, state, and local levels.</th>
<th>Stakeholders Involved: RTI International (contractor), SoundGenerations and University of Washington (subcontractors).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Methods: Effectiveness evaluation conducting pre- and posttest surveys of adults with disabilities and older adults participating in at least for evidence-based programs. Implementation evaluation: Conducting surveys with EBP administrators, delivery organizations, leaders, and participants.</td>
<td>Report of Findings: Interim report produced, not publicly available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACL Actions in Response to Project: None at this time.</td>
<td>Challenges Encountered: Challenges related to engaging participants due to staff shortages and remote work due to COVID-19 pandemic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Next Steps: None at this time.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Congregate Meals and Socialization

**2021–2022**

Addresses Priorities 5 and 6

**Purpose:** The purpose of this task is to develop an understanding of who is attending congregate meals for socialization, why certain target populations are first coming to the congregate meal programs, while also providing insights that may help ACL to reach more vulnerable populations through congregate meals in the future.

**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor).

**Methods:** Quantitative data analysis of 2019 National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants (NSOAAP) data.

**Report of Findings:** Final report produced, not publicly available.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation materials and reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** Phase 2 was created to examine additional reasons people attend congregate meals besides socialization.

**Challenges Encountered:** ACL learned they do not have permission to use SF-12 items on NSOAAP survey, which led to removing all references of SF-12 items in analysis and reports.

**Next Steps:** ACL continues Phase 2 of the project with RTI.

### AoA—Office of Supportive and Caregiver Services

### Caregiver Questions

**2020–2021**

Addresses Priorities 1

**Purpose:** The purpose of this task was to examine the National Family Caregiver Program participants’ (i.e., caregivers) improvement recommendations as reported in the National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants (NSOAAP).

**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor)

**Methods:** Analysis of 2019 NSOAAP data.

**Report of Findings:** Final report produced, not publicly available.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** An article on American Society on Aging’s website and poster for the 2021 Gerontological Society of America conference.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** None planned at this time.
| **Alzheimer's Program Grants** | **Purpose:** The goal of this task is to pull together evidence from Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative – Specialized Supportive Services (ADI-SSS) grantee reports to tell a story using existing data about the impact of the grants.  
**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor).  
**Methods:** Review of documentation associated with the Alzheimer’s Program Grants project.  
**Report of Findings:** Final report produced, not publicly available.  
**Datasets:** None produced.  
**Dissemination Plans:** Outreach, information, or guidance documents.  
**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL shared reports and guidance documents with grantees.  
**Challenges Encountered:** Inconsistent quality of grantee data made data extraction difficult.  
**Next Steps:** None planned at this time. |
| **Caregiver Disparities** | **Purpose:** The purpose of this task was to review 2019 NSOAAP responses to questions related to demographics, caregiving intensity, unmet needs, and service usage to better understand potential differences in caregivers’ service needs and usage.  
**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor).  
**Methods:** Literature review of peer-reviewed publications, and analytic file creation and data analysis of the 2019 NSOAAP Family Caregiver Survey data.  
**Report of Findings:** Final report produced, not publicly available.  
**Datasets:** None produced.  
**Dissemination Plans:** Outreach, information, or guidance documents and reports.  
**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.  
**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.  
**Next Steps:** Developing a manuscript based on project results. |
| **Lifespan Respite Performance Measures** | **Purpose:** The purpose of this task is to develop a set of performance measures for Lifespan Respite Program grantees.  
**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor), Lifespan Respite grantees.  
**Methods:** Review of Lifespan Respite Program notice of funding opportunity (NOFO), Lifespan Respite Program 2020 and 2021 grantee reporting, the 2019 Lifespan Respite Program report prepared by the Lewin Group, and grantee reporting tools and aggregate reports used by other AoA programs.  
**Report of Findings:** None produced.  
**Datasets:** None produced.  
**Dissemination Plans:** Data collection/analysis.  
**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.  
**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.  
**Next Steps:** Submission of Paperwork Reduction Act package for Office of Management and Budget approval to deploy newly developed performance measures. |
| 2022–Present | Addresses Priorities 1 | 
| ACL Center Partners: CPE |  |

| **Review of Respite Models for Family Caregivers of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias** | **Purpose:** ACL funds the Alzheimer’s Disease Program Initiative and the Lifespan Respite Program. At times, grantees in each program touch the focus of the other program. The purpose of this project was to learn more about respite specifically for family caregivers to people living with Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD).  
**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor).  
**Methods:** Literature review on ADRD respite care models.  
**Report of Findings:** Final report produced, not publicly available.  
**Datasets:** None produced.  
**Dissemination Plans:** Sharing of final report.  
**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.  
**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.  
**Next Steps:** Possible development of a manuscript based on the project results. |
| 2022–Present | Addresses Priorities 6 | 
| ACL Center Partners: CPE |  |
### Administration on Disabilities (AoD)

#### AoD—Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disability Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Utilization-Focused Developmental Disabilities Impact Evaluation Skills (BUDDIES) Project</th>
<th>Purpose: The project’s goal is to build evaluation capacity and competencies so that staff from State/Territory Councils on Developmental Disabilities are able to engage in continuous quality improvements, data-driven decision making, and communicate the impact of their Council.</th>
<th>Stakeholders Involved: Staff from State/Territory Councils on Developmental Disabilities; Staff from Information and Technical Assistance Center (ITACC) for Councils on Developmental Disabilities.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addresses Priorities 1 and 6</td>
<td>Datasets: None produced.</td>
<td>Dissemination Plans: Presentation Materials, Planning Materials, Outreach, Information, or Guidance Documents, and Reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACL Actions in Response to Project: None at this time.</td>
<td>Challenges Encountered: None encountered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Next Steps: Organizational and individual assessment results and findings will be presented to the DD Council Network in August 2022.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### AoD—Office of Independent Living Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CIL and ILS Programmatic Performance Reports</th>
<th>Purpose: To track annual performance data of state IL Part B programs and CILs to evaluate effectiveness and determine trends in service utilization and barriers.</th>
<th>Stakeholders Involved: Centers for Independent Living (CIL) Executive Directors, State Independent Living Council (SILC) Executive Directors; Designated State Entity (DSE) staff, IL T/TA-NET; APRIL.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021–Present</td>
<td>Methods: Grantee data is collected in PPRs via the Q 90 portal.</td>
<td>Report of Findings: Publicly available final report produced with quantitative data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addresses Priority 5</td>
<td>Datasets: Quantitative data publicly available on ACL.gov, due to Personally Identifiable Information qualitative data not publicly available.</td>
<td>Dissemination Plans: To post on website, information, or guidance documents, and reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACL Actions in Response to Project: ACL is in the process of developing a contract with Q 90 to continue to provide support for PPR portal and develop a State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) data entry form in Q 90 portal.</td>
<td>Challenges Encountered: Subjectivity of some of the terms used in the instrument; inclusion of PII by the CILs create barriers to public reporting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Next Steps: Collaborating with CILs to improve the instrument.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Native American Indian Independent Living Demonstration (NAILD) program | **Purpose:** ACL recognizes there is a need to develop capacity building within existing CIL for serving individuals with disabilities in AI/NA communities. Through NAILD, ACL intends to (1) gain an increased understanding of service needs of Americans with disabilities, (2) improve cultural complements in regard to the needs of specific tribal organizations targeted by current CIL grantees and (3) capture lessons learned and best practices for outreach and service delivery AI/NA with disabilities, a traditionally underserved population.  
**Stakeholders Involved:** Centers for Independent Living (CILs); NAILD grantees; Tribal governments and organizations.  
**Methods:** Mixed methods  
**Report of Findings:** Preliminary report produced, not publicly available.  
**Datasets:** Preliminary dataset produced, not publicly available.  
**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation materials, data collection/analysis, and outreach, information, or guidance documents.  
**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.  
**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.  
**Next Steps:** None at this time. To present webinar over findings. |
|---|
| The State of the States in Developmental Disabilities | **Purpose:** This project investigates the determinants of public spending for intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) services in the United States.  
**Stakeholders Involved:** Advisory committee.  
**Methods:** Quantitative analysis of data on the state of supports and services in the United States, including data on community services and supports, public and private institutions, fiscal efforts in states, and demand for services and supports.  
**Report of Findings:** Publicly available final report produced.  
**Datasets:** Final datasets produced, not publicly available.  
**Dissemination Plans:** Reports.  
**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.  
**Challenges Encountered:** Difficulties connecting with state contacts.  
**Next Steps:** None at this time. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Stakeholders Involved</th>
<th>Methods</th>
<th>Report of Findings</th>
<th>Datasets</th>
<th>Dissemination Plans</th>
<th>ACL Actions in Response to Project</th>
<th>Challenges Encountered</th>
<th>Next Steps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to Integrated Employment: National Data Collection on Day and Employment Services for Citizens with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities</td>
<td>The purpose of this project is to describe day and employment services for individuals with developmental disabilities and contribute to an understanding of the factors that influence employment at the individual, service provider, and state levels.</td>
<td>Advisory Committee, State ID/DD Agencies, Vocational rehabilitation agencies, Community-Based Organizations.</td>
<td>Longitudinal data collection from state IDD agencies, the vocational rehabilitation (VR) system, and community organizations providing employment support to people with IDD.</td>
<td>Publicly available final report produced.</td>
<td>Final dataset produced, not publicly available.</td>
<td>Presentation materials, data collection/analysis, outreach, information, or guidance documents, and reports.</td>
<td>None at this time.</td>
<td>None encountered.</td>
<td>None planned at this time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Information Systems Project (RISP)</td>
<td>The purpose of this project is to gather, maintain, and analyze longitudinal data on Medicaid funded residential and in-home supports for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).</td>
<td>Advisory Committee; state IDD agencies and facilities.</td>
<td>Annual surveys of state IDD agencies and state-operated IDD facilities serving 16 or more people.</td>
<td>Publicly available final report produced.</td>
<td>Dataset produced, not publicly available.</td>
<td>Presentation materials, data collection/analysis, and outreach, information, or guidance documents.</td>
<td>ACL will adapt Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for project.</td>
<td>None encountered.</td>
<td>None planned at this time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Living Well Evaluation

**2018–2022**

Addresses Priorities 2 and 5

**Purpose:** On behalf of AoD’s Projects of National Significance, ACL funded a cross-site evaluation of eight grantees from cohorts one and two in 2018. Each grantee has designed one or more models integrating community monitoring and capacity building with the goal of enhancing health, safety, integration, and independence of individuals with I/DD living in the community.

**Stakeholders Involved:** New Editions, Lewin Group (Contractors); Grantee states; Mission Analytics Group (TA provider).

**Methods:** Site visits, biannual reports, interviews.

**Report of Findings:** Publicly available interim report produced.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation materials and reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL may develop new demonstration grant project based on findings from cross-site evaluation.

**Challenges Encountered:** Shift away from in-person data collection due to COVID-19 pandemic.

**Next Steps:** None planned at this time.

### Community Collaboration for Employment Program Evaluability Study

**2022–Present**

Addresses Priority 2

**Purpose:** In the fall of 2021, ACL awarded seven Community Collaboration for Employment (CCE) grants through its Projects of National Significance program. The purpose of this project is to conduct an evaluability assessment of the grant program.

**Stakeholders Involved:** Lewin Group, New Editions (Contractors); CCE grantees; Projects of national significance; Disability Employment Technical Assistance Center (DETAC).

**Methods:** Interviews with ACL staff, DETAC team, CCE grantees (only 8), review of grantee logic models and summary reports and applications to ACL.

**Report of Findings:** None produced.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** At close of project, contractor to conduct full evaluation based off results of evaluability report of CCE grants.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation of the National Paralysis Resource Center (NPRC) and Performance Management Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2022–Present</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Addresses Priority 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose</strong>: The purpose of this task is a process evaluation of the NPRC and an outcome evaluation to assess whether the NPRC has (1) improved health and quality of life for individuals with paralysis of all ages, their families, and their support systems; and (2) increased awareness of services, access to services, empowerment, confidence, independence, support system strength, and community living opportunities for individuals living with paralysis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stakeholders Involved</strong>: RTI International (Contractor); NPRC Grantee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Methods</strong>: Development of a performance monitoring tool to track outputs, interviews with NPRC staff, focus groups, and surveys of program participants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Report of Findings</strong>: None produced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Datasets</strong>: None produced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dissemination Plans</strong>: Data collection/analysis and reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACL Actions in Response to Project</strong>: None at this time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Challenges Encountered</strong>: None encountered.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Center for Innovation and Partnership (CIP)  
#### CIP—Office of Healthcare Information and Counseling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Stakeholders Involved</th>
<th>Methods</th>
<th>Report of Findings</th>
<th>Datasets</th>
<th>Dissemination Plans</th>
<th>ACL Actions in Response to Project</th>
<th>Challenges Encountered</th>
<th>Next Steps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Outreach</strong></td>
<td>The project’s purpose was to gain better understanding of the most efficient and effective methods to reach the SMP program’s target audience via outreach and media activities to prevent Medicare fraud.</td>
<td>RTI International (Contractor).</td>
<td>Analysis of SMP Information and Reporting System (SIRS) data, review of Office of Inspector General (OIG) SMP reports and literature, and SME interviews.</td>
<td>Final report produced, not publicly available.</td>
<td>None produced.</td>
<td>Final report and guidance document.</td>
<td>ACL shared American Community Survey (ACS) How-To Guide with SMP grantees.</td>
<td>None encountered.</td>
<td>None planned at this time.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2020–2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Addresses Priorities 1 and 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>National Beneficiary Satisfaction Survey</strong></td>
<td>The project’s purpose is to have ACL’s OHIC work with contractors to develop National Beneficiary Satisfaction Surveys for the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program. The surveys built off of the administration of similar surveys between 2017 and 2020. The surveys are designed to assess the quality and effectiveness of the services provided by SHIP and SMP grantees.</td>
<td>RTI International (Contractor); SHIP/SMP grantees and program staff.</td>
<td>Survey of SHIP and SMP grantees and ACL.</td>
<td>Final report produced, not publicly available.</td>
<td>None produced.</td>
<td>Presentation materials and reports.</td>
<td>ACL uses information from reports to present to Congress and other stakeholders and guide change in training and technical assistance provided to SHIP/SMP grantees.</td>
<td>Shift from in-person to virtual data collection due to COVID-19 pandemic.</td>
<td>Considering ways to share project results publicly.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2020–Present</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Addresses Priorities 1 and 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MIPPA Evaluation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Purpose:</strong> The purpose of this project is to evaluate the MIPPA program from multiple lenses. It involves evaluating the program’s current state, the equity within the benefit enrollment centers (which account for 15%-20% of total program funding), equity within the entire program, and to define the program’s future state.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020–Present</td>
<td><strong>Stakeholders Involved:</strong> Community-based organizations, MIPPA grantees; Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addresses Priorities 1 and 3</td>
<td><strong>Methods:</strong> Stakeholder interviews, analysis of National Council on Aging (NCOA) data, American Community Survey (ACS) census data, and 2019 CMS enrollment data.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACL Center Partners: CPE</td>
<td><strong>Report of Findings:</strong> Interim report produced, not publicly available.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Datasets:</strong> None produced.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Dissemination Plans:</strong> Presentation materials and reports.</td>
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<td><strong>ACL Actions in Response to Project:</strong> ACL may develop action plans based on findings of the project.</td>
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<td><strong>Challenges Encountered:</strong> Project required a shift to address equity after release of Executive Order 13985.</td>
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<td><strong>Next Steps:</strong> Preparation of final report; adjustments to advertisement announcement for benefit enrollment center applications by the National Council on Aging (NCOA).</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### SHIP and MIPPA Low-Income Population Estimation Model

**2021–2022**

Addresses Priority 6

ACL Center Partners: CPE

| **Purpose:** | The purpose of this project was to estimate the gap between likely eligibility and enrollment in the LIS program so that SHIP and MIPPA funding for the states is distributed in proportion to state needs. |
| **Stakeholders Involved:** | RTI International (Contractor). |
| **Methods:** | An environmental scan of studies and other resources on estimating eligibility for a variety of entitlement programs and analysis of data from multiple sources including ACL data on SHIP outreach, survey and administrative data, state-, territory-, and county-level Medicare enrollment data, and ACS data. |
| **Report of Findings:** | Final report produced, not publicly available. |
| **Datasets:** | Final dataset produced, not publicly available. |
| **Dissemination Plans:** | Data collection/analysis. |
| **ACL Actions in Response to Project:** | ACL is using results for a more accurate computation of their program funding formulas. |
| **Challenges Encountered:** | ACS data are not sufficient to estimate resource-based eligibility for LIS, and therefore the project used a nationwide estimate from a RAND report based on 2004-2006 data, which may not be applicable to state- and county-level estimates in 2020 and beyond. Medicaid programs have expanded and changed since the RAND estimates, affecting the characteristics of the remaining non-Medicaid low-income population such as their income and asset distribution. Theoretically, resource level is correlated with the income level of the population in the non-dual category, such that people with higher income would have higher resources. States with higher MSP and Medicaid income levels would have higher income levels in the remaining non-dual population eligible for LIS, so a higher proportion of them would be ineligible based on resources. However, we do not have data that could allow us to estimate the relationship between income level and the probability of resources being above LIS program limits. |
| **Next Steps:** | New project is underway based on this work (OHIC Performance Measures and Funding Formulas). |
### OHIC Performance Measures and Funding Formulas

**Purpose:** This project supports ACL’s Office of Healthcare Information and Counseling (OHIC) in calculating the funding formulas for State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers (MIPPA), determining the denominator data for program performance measures, and documenting the assumptions and procedures for the funding formulas and performance measures.

**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor).

**Methods:** Review of the prior funding formula calculations, population data, information on the funding stream priorities (e.g., SHIP and AAAs vs. ADRC), performance measures, and other data elements used in prior calculations.

**Report of Findings:** None produced.

**Datasets:** Interim dataset produced, not publicly available.

**Dissemination Plans:** Data collection/analysis and outreach, information, or guidance documents.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** Based on formulas calculated, ACL has notified state grantees of FY2022 MIPPA funding levels for each of the three programs that receive MIPPA funds.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** Development of excel spreadsheets with calculated funding formulas and standard operating procedures for SHIP, MIPPA, and SMP.

### OHIC Profiles

**Purpose:** The purpose of this task is to (1) develop a streamlined program profile template for State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP), and Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) grants and (2) develop a dataset and dashboard template for use by ACL to share internally and with grantees.

**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor); SHIP, SMP, and MIPPA grantees.

**Methods:** Review of another program’s profiles, survey SMP, SHIP, and MIPPA grantees, and summarize information submitted in a developed template.

**Report of Findings:** None produced.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Data collection/analysis and reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** Development of grantee data collection form, Paperwork Reduction Act package for Office of Management and Budget approval, profiles for 54 states and territories, and issue briefs summarizing best practices by program grantees.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>CIP—Office of Network Advancement</strong></th>
<th><strong>Developing a Business Case for the No Wrong Door System</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2019–Present</strong></td>
<td><strong>Purpose:</strong> The purpose of this project is to conduct a set of analyses to research the association of state-level No Wrong Door (NWD) Systems, nursing facility admission rates, and overall health care costs to Medicaid and Medicare.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Addresses Priority 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Stakeholders Involved:</strong> NWD Business Case Grantees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Methods:</strong> Data collection and analysis of core outcome measures. Data and measures are identified and collected by participating grantee states.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Report of Findings:</strong> Interim report produced, not publicly available.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Datasets:</strong> Interim dataset produced, not publicly available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Dissemination Plans:</strong> Data collection/analysis and reports.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ACL Actions in Response to Project:</strong> None at this time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Challenges Encountered:</strong> Challenges with availability of state Medicaid data and turnover of key programming staff.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Next Steps:</strong> Publish peer-reviewed manuscript and disseminate to NWD grantees and federal partners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>An Analysis of Transition Activities among Centers for Independent Living (CILs)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Purpose:</strong> The purpose of this analysis was to summarize three surveys that either focused on, or included, CILs as key respondents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2020–2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Stakeholders Involved:</strong> CILs, Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), State Units on Aging (SUAs), and Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Addresses Priorities 2, 4, and 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Methods:</strong> Analysis of the Collaborative on Health reform and Independent Living Survey (2020), ACL Care Transitions Technical Assistance Team Survey (March 2021), ACL Housing Team Survey (August 2021).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Report of Findings:</strong> Publicly available final report produced.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Datasets:</strong> None produced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Dissemination Plans:</strong> Data Collection/Analysis and Reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ACL Actions in Response to Project:</strong> None at this time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Challenges Encountered:</strong> None encountered.</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Next Steps:</strong> None planned at this time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **COVID Intelligence Dashboard** | **Purpose:** The purpose of this project was to display visualizations created from a variety of publicly available sources demonstrating valuable information about COVID-19 and its impacts on hospitals, nursing facilities, and local communities. This dashboard was shared with ADRC/COVID grantees to support pandemic response efforts.  

**Stakeholders Involved:** Long-Term Services & Supports (LTSS) Contractor; ADRC/COVID grantees.  

**Methods:** Data are pulled on a weekly basis from sources such as Johns Hopkins University, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and the American Community Survey.  

**Report of Findings:** None produced.  

**Datasets:** None produced.  

**Dissemination Plans:** Data collection/analysis, planning materials, outreach, information, or guidance documents, and reports.  

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL’s ADRC/NWD technical assistance team worked closely with grantees to train them on how to use the dashboard to identify trends and strategize for outreach to hospitals, nursing facilities, and health plans.  

**Challenges Encountered:** Unreliable data sources and missing data from states due to COVID-19 pandemic.  

**Next Steps:** None planned at this time. |
| **ADRC/COVID Grant Semi-Annual Reporting Tool** | **Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to track progress of grantee goals, performance measures, and identify gaps and best practices. A version of the PRA approved No Wrong Door System (NWD) Management Tool serves as the semiannual reporting requirement for states and territories receiving ADRC/COVID grant funds.  

**Stakeholders Involved:** NWD Entities (ADRCs, AAAs, CBOs).  

**Methods:** State and territory grantees use their own data tracking systems/methods to gather the data for this reporting tool.  

**Report of Findings:** Publicly available interim report produced.  

**Datasets:** Interim dataset produced, not publicly available.  

**Dissemination Plans:** Data collection/analysis and reports.  

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL identified best practices/lessons learned based on report findings which were shared with partner organizations.  

**Challenges Encountered:** Capacity to report required data proved to be a challenge for some grantees.  

**Next Steps:** None planned at this time. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>COVID-19 Educational Resources in Languages Other Than English</strong></th>
<th><strong>2020</strong></th>
<th><strong>Addresses Priority 4</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose:</strong></td>
<td>The purpose of this project was to have a resource blog post that included COVID-19 and vaccine-related educational and outreach materials available in languages other than English.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Stakeholders Involved:</strong></td>
<td>A contractor was involved.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Methods:</strong></td>
<td>Examining federal, state, and local websites with relevant data sources for COVID outreach in different languages.</td>
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<td><strong>Report of Findings:</strong></td>
<td>Publicly available final report produced.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Datasets:</strong></td>
<td>None produced.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dissemination Plans:</strong></td>
<td>Reports.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACL Actions in Response to Project:</strong></td>
<td>ACL supported grantee technical assistance needs to increase outreach to minority/underserved populations.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Challenges Encountered:</strong></td>
<td>None encountered.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Next Steps:</strong></td>
<td>None planned at this time.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Social Care Referrals Challenge Survey</strong></th>
<th><strong>2021</strong></th>
<th><strong>Addresses Priorities 5 and 6</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose:</strong></td>
<td>The purpose of this project was to administer a survey to help expand the broader goals of the Social Care Referrals Challenge, achieving holistic health and social supports through inventive technology approaches. The answers to this survey also informed criteria and the remaining phases of the Challenge.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stakeholders Involved:</strong></td>
<td>Challenge teams were made up of aging and disability state leaders, Medicaid programs, community-based organizations, health IT developers, health plans, and other technical experts.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Methods:</strong></td>
<td>Teams completed a survey and were scored individually by multiple judges and evaluated by an expert panel.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Report of Findings:</strong></td>
<td>None produced.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Datasets:</strong></td>
<td>None produced.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dissemination Plans:</strong></td>
<td>Presentation materials.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACL Actions in Response to Project:</strong></td>
<td>Considerations were derived from the survey for common workflows and data integration to bridge the gap between referral vendors, health care partners, and community-based organizations. These considerations were incorporated into the Challenge criteria.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Challenges Encountered:</strong></td>
<td>Challenge teams were siloed, which created inefficiency in managing referrals for social services, creating duplicative workflows, and impeding opportunities to provide better support and care for people served.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Next Steps:</strong></td>
<td>None planned at this time.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Vaccine Access Bimonthly Touchpoints and Dashboard | **Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to serve as the bimonthly reporting requirement for states and territories receiving ADRC/NWD COVID-19 Vaccine Access Supplemental Funding. The project tracks uses of funds and activities supported by this grant, and to identify challenges and best practices related to COVID vaccine outreach.  
**Stakeholders Involved:** State/territory grantees.  
**Methods:** Data tracking/methods implemented by state and territory grantees to gather the data for this reporting tool.  
**Report of Findings:** Interim report produced, not publicly available.  
**Datasets:** Interim dataset produced, not publicly available.  
**Dissemination Plans:** Data collection/analysis, outreach, information, and guidance documents, and reports.  
**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL used internal summary reports to identify technical assistance needs and shared grantee best practices via blog posts to NWD technical assistance website.  
**Challenges Encountered:** Capacity to report required data proved to be a challenge for some grantees.  
**Next Steps:** None planned at this time. |
| --- | --- |
| Money Follows the Person Demonstration Legislation from 2005–2021 | **Purpose:** The purpose of this project was to create a document that summarizes and includes language from legislation pertaining to the Money Follows the Person Demonstration.  
**Stakeholders Involved:** Lewin Group (Contractor).  
**Methods:** A review of relevant legislation and documents.  
**Report of Findings:** Publicly available final report produced.  
**Datasets:** None produced.  
**Dissemination Plans:** Planning materials and reports.  
**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL identified and described the benefits that can be achieved through partnerships between the No Wrong Door (NWD) System and the Money Follows the Person Demonstration, as well as strategies for developing partnerships.  
**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.  
**Next Steps:** None planned at this time. |
| **No Wrong Door Strategic Planning Key**  
| **Informant Interviews**  
| 2022–Present  
| **Addresses Priorities 3 and 4** |

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to understand the perception and penetration of the No Wrong Door System and its guiding principles across ACL programs.

**Stakeholders Involved:** ACL program staff.

**Methods:** Key informant interviews conducted with five ACL program staff members.

**Report of Findings:** Preliminary report produced, not publicly available.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Planning materials, outreach, information, or guidance documents, and reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL broadened the NWD system’s messaging beyond grantees and cross-walked data collection efforts across ACL programs to highlight areas of alignment on NWD functions.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** None planned at this time.
### Analysis of Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS) Limited Data Set Files 2017–2022

**Purpose:** The purpose of this annual task is to combine and analyze data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services’ (CMS) Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS) Limited Data Set Files (LDS) with population estimates and projections data from the U.S. Census Bureau to produce national disability estimates for ACL’s Budget Reports. Additionally, in 2022, additional data analysis was added to examine health services utilization and stress among older adults during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Stakeholders Involved:** None involved.

**Methods:** Secondary data analyses of the CMS MCBS LDS, Census Bureau population estimates, and Census Bureau population projections.

**Report of Findings:** Final report produced, not publicly available.

**Datasets:** Final dataset produced, not publicly available.

**Dissemination Plans:** None planned at this time.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.

**Challenges Encountered:** Challenges setting up data use agreement with CMS.

**Next Steps:** None planned at this time.
### National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2003–Present</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- **Addresses Priorities 1, 2, 5, and 6**
- **ACL Center Partners:** AoA and CRO

### Purpose:
The National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants (NSOAAP) is a nationwide survey funded by Title III of the Older Americans Act (OAA) to assess the effectiveness of the Title III programs, maintain accountability, and demonstrate the program’s success in achieving legislative goals. NSOAAP is composed of six annual surveys of select Title III service areas (home-delivered meals, congregate meals, homemaker services, transportation services, case management services, and caregiver support services). The survey instruments focus on the consumers’ assessment of service quality and outcomes. The instruments also measure client characteristics such as demographics, health status, and physical and social functioning.

### Stakeholders Involved:
Technical expert panels comprising federal agency staff, nonprofit organizations, universities, state units on aging, and area agencies on aging.

### Methods:
Telephone-based survey conducted each year from May to September.

### Report of Findings:
None produced.

### Datasets:
Publicly available final dataset produced.

### Dissemination Plans:
Data collection/analysis.

### ACL Actions in Response to Project:
None at this time.

### Challenges Encountered:
None encountered.

### Next Steps:
A new rotating module for 2023 will be added.
### ACL Volunteerism Study

**2020–2022**

**Addresses Priorities 2, 5, and 6**

**ACL Center Partners:** AoA, CIP, and CRO

| Purpose: | The purpose of this study is to (a) learn more about how ACL programs focused on older adults use volunteers; (b) identify promising practices/recommendations for effective use of volunteers; (c) estimate the economic value of volunteerism to several such programs identified by ACL; and, (d) to develop a plan for future data collection activities and modeling/analysis strategies to refine the estimate of economic value and cost of volunteer labor for ACL programs. |
| Stakeholders Involved: | New Editions (Contractor); Long-term care ombudsman programs; State Health Insurance Assistance Programs; ACL program staff; ACL grantees; area agencies on aging. |
| Methods: | Analysis of OAA Title III and Title VII State Performance Report data, OAA Title VII National Ombudsman Reporting System (NORS) data, and State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) data; interviews with ACL staff, grantee programs, and volunteers. |
| Datasets: | None produced. |
| Dissemination Plans: | Presentation materials, data collection/analysis, planning materials, outreach, information, or guidance documents, and reports. |
| ACL Actions in Response to Project: | None at this time. |
| Challenges Encountered: | None encountered. |
| Next Steps: | ACL may conduct additional studies. |
## Social Determinants of Health

### 2020–2022

**Addresses Priority 6**

**ACL Center Partners:** AoA, CIP, and CRO

**Purpose:** The purpose of this contract is to begin looking at ACL’s intersection with the social determinants of health. ACL is seeking to better understand how services ACL funds under the Older Americans Act (OAA) specifically address the social determinants of health. In this vein, OPE is interested in background research in the form of a literature review identifying the SDOH and ways they might be addressed and where there may be intersection with OAA-funded programs based on a review of ACL programs and data.

**Stakeholders Involved:** Insight Policy Research, USAging, Scripps Gerontology (Contractors), ACL Office of Network Advancement and Center for Regional Offices, National Resource Center for Native American Aging, Title VI grantees, AAAs, State Ombudsmen, and National Ombudsman Resource Center.

**Methods:** Literature review and 15 interviews.

**Report of Findings:** None produced.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation materials and reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL will use this report to better inform ways to measure ACL’s impacts on social needs, social determinants of health, and future areas of research.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** Continue this project/approach with a broader swath of projects since current project only examined OAA-funded programs.

## Older Americans Act Fidelity Evaluation

### 2020–2022

**Addresses Priorities 1, 3, and 6**

**ACL Center Partners:** AoA

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to evaluation the fidelity with which ACL and its grantees under the OAA implement the required evidence-based programs.

**Stakeholders Involved:** Grantees, Area Agencies on Aging, academic partners, interest groups, subcontractors, and Subject Matter Experts at Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG).

**Methods:** Primary data collection through surveys.

**Report of Findings:** None produced.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation materials and reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** Development of guidance and support materials to improve grantee ability to select and implement evidence-based programs and inform ACL’s oversight of evidence-based programs.
| Process Evaluation of the Aging Network Structure Including Business Acumen | **Purpose**: The purpose of this project is to better understand how the Aging Network programs are structured at the state and local levels and their progress toward their goals and mission.  
**Stakeholders Involved**: Mathematica, Advancing States, USAging (Contractors); Technical Advisory Panel of state units on aging, area agencies on aging, tribal grantees, and research staff.  
**Methods**: Literature review, Survey of SUAs, AAAs, and Title VI grantees, and 9 interviews following the survey.  
**Report of Findings**: None produced.  
**Datasets**: None produced.  
**Dissemination Plans**: Data collection/analysis and reports.  
**ACL Actions in Response to Project**: None at this time.  
**Challenges Encountered**: None encountered.  
**Next Steps**: Development of data and reports. |
|---|---|
| CLAS Standards at ACL | **Purpose**: The purpose of this project is to explore the extent to which ACL grantees employ CLAS Standards (National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services) in their service delivery processes, particularly their responsiveness to DEI priorities, cultural practices, language and communication needs, and health literacy.  
**Stakeholders Involved**: RTI International (Contractor); ACL staff; ITACC/NACDD (service contractor for ACL); Generations United; National Disability Rights Network; Justice in Aging; NCOA; MIPPA Resource Center; Center for Healthy Aging; Advancing States; Diverse Elders Coalition; SAGE; USAging; National Hispanic Council on Aging.  
**Methods**: Environmental scan and ACL staff interviews.  
**Datasets**: None produced.  
**Dissemination Plans**: Outreach, information, or guidance documents, and reports.  
**ACL Actions in Response to Project**: None at this time.  
**Challenges Encountered**: Delays in the timeline due to additional unplanned interviews, slow interview participant recruitment, and multiple unplanned rounds of review.  
**Next Steps**: Development of three final deliverables for this project – a final report, (3) Promising Practices Profiles (PPPs), and a recommendations memo. |
| **2020 SPR Supplemental Funds** | **Purpose:** This project supports ACL’s congressionally mandated performance reporting, which involves coding and reporting on the state/territory supplemental funding data using a template developed by ACL.  

**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor).  

**Methods:** Quantitative and qualitative review of state/territory State Performance Report (SPR) data from NAPIS-CARD system related to use of supplemental COVID-19 funds in 2020.  

**Report of Findings:** Final report produced, not publicly available.  

**Datasets:** Final dataset produced, not publicly available.  

**Dissemination Plans:** Data collection/analysis and reports.  

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL requested a How-To Guide to be developed for states/territories in future data collection periods.  

**Challenges Encountered:** With no data validation, data was inconsistent or complete. ACL communicated with Regional Administrators to address issues with state data, some of which could not be resolved for the aggregate report/summary analysis.  

**Next Steps:** None planned at this time. |
| --- | --- |
| **Disabilities and HCBS** | **Purpose:** The purpose of this task is to provide ACL with additional insight into home and community-based services (HCBS) and Older Americans Act (OAA) services utilization and needs among those aging into disability and those aging with a disability. This information will enable ACL to better understand demand and ultimately target OAA programs and services based on the unique long-term supports and services needs of their clients.  

**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor).  

**Methods:** Analysis of Health and Retirement Study (HRS) data, literature review, key informant interviews.  

**Report of Findings:** None produced.  

**Datasets:** None produced.  

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation materials and outreach, information, or guidance documents.  

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.  

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.  

**Next Steps:** None planned at this time. |
### Design Project for Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center

**2021–2022**

Addresses Priorities 2, 3, and 6

**Purpose:** The purpose of this task is to develop a Center design plan which outlines the possible structure, functions, and expectations of the Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center for the Aging Network established under the 2020 reauthorization of the OAA.

**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor).

**Methods:** Environmental scan.

**Report of Findings:** Interim report produced, not publicly available.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation materials and outreach, information, or guidance documents.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL hopes to use roadmap as a guide to inform ACL staff on OPE’s research, demonstration, and evaluation activities.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** None planned at this time.

### Title VI 2020 Data Review

**2022**

Addresses Priority 2

**Purpose:** The purpose of this task is to review Title VI 2020 COVID supplemental reports to summarize and report on COVID spending.

**Stakeholders Involved:** RTI International (Contractor).

**Methods:** Analysis of 2020 Title VI Grantee COVID Spending, Thematic Analysis of 2020 Qualitative PPR Data.

**Report of Findings:** Final report produced, not publicly available.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Outreach, information, or guidance documents.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** None at this time.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** None planned at this time.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Stakeholders Involved</th>
<th>Methods</th>
<th>Report of Findings</th>
<th>Datasets</th>
<th>Dissemination Plans</th>
<th>ACL Actions in Response to Project</th>
<th>Challenges Encountered</th>
<th>Next Steps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Services Utilization and Stress Among Older Adults During the Covid-19 Pandemic</td>
<td>The purpose of this study is to examine the health services utilization and stress among older adults during the COVID-19 pandemic.</td>
<td>None involved.</td>
<td>Secondary data analyses of 2019 MCBS and 2021 NSOAAP.</td>
<td>None produced.</td>
<td>None produced.</td>
<td>Presentation materials and reports.</td>
<td>None at this time.</td>
<td>Challenges setting up data use agreement for MCBS data.</td>
<td>None planned at this time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Addresses Priority 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NSOAAP Covid Analysis</td>
<td>To better understand how the pandemic has disrupted and changed the service delivery of six OAA programs and the lives of program clients.</td>
<td>RTI International (Contractor); Westat (Subcontractor).</td>
<td>Analysis of NSOAAP COVID-19 module data.</td>
<td>Report produced.</td>
<td>Dataset produced.</td>
<td>None planned.</td>
<td>None at this time.</td>
<td>None encountered.</td>
<td>Report and dataset to be produced in 2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022–Present</td>
<td>Addresses Priority 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ACL Center Partners: AoA and CRO</td>
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### Project Generations Crossing

**2020–Present**

Addresses Priority 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Center for Regional Operations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose</strong>: The purpose of this project is to bridge the gap between caregivers and local educators on behalf of the children they mutually love. Over time the project has broadened to look at the caregivers’ and children’s needs beyond education-related needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stakeholders Involved</strong>: Region II Offices of Federal Agencies; New York State Office for the Aging; New York City Department for the Aging; Community-based Organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Methods</strong>: One-on-one telephone interviews were conducted with seven older relative caregivers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Report of Findings</strong>: Interim report produced, not publicly available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Datasets</strong>: None produced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dissemination Plans</strong>: None planned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACL Actions in Response to Project</strong>: None at this time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Challenges Encountered</strong>: Limited input from caregivers due to Paperwork Reduction Act, and challenges scheduling interviews.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Next Steps</strong>: None at this time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Meta-Analysis of NIDILRR’s Evaluation Work

**2022**

**Addresses Priorities 5 and 6**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to compile all the findings and recommendations from evaluation reports that have been done in the past to promote improved data-driven and decision-making/policy-making, agency, and grantee performance.

**Stakeholders Involved:** Abt Associates (Contractor).

**Methods:** The mixed methods meta-evaluation is structured around two stages: A review of previously funded NIDILRR reports and qualitative interviews with NIDILRR staff.

**Report of Findings:** Preliminary report produced, not publicly available.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation materials and reports.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL will likely take actions based on findings/recommendations in report.

**Challenges Encountered:** None encountered.

**Next Steps:** Contractor will engage NIDILRR staff in presentation and discussion of findings and recommendations from the project.

### Multi-Year Citation Analysis

**2022**

**Addresses Priorities 5 and 6**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this project is to track the impact, influence, and quality of NIDLRR’s citation data over multiple years.

**Stakeholders Involved:** Abt Associates (Contractor).

**Methods:** Analysis of NIDILRR APR database; Analysis of additional citation data from EndNote Google Scholar data using SERP API.

**Report of Findings:** Preliminary report produced, not publicly available.

**Datasets:** None produced.

**Dissemination Plans:** Presentation materials.

**ACL Actions in Response to Project:** ACL will likely take actions based on findings/recommendations in report.

**Challenges Encountered:** Difficulty accessing publication information without subscription access to Web of Science. This prevented the completion of Citation Network Analysis and more complex biometric methods, which rely on richer data sets.

**Next Steps:** None at this time.
### NIDILRR’s Social Media Presence: A Pilot Study

2022

Addresses Priorities 5 and 6

| Purpose: | The purpose of this project is to examine NIDILRR’s social media presence to better reach persons with disabilities and their family members. |
| Stakeholders Involved: | Abt Associates (Contractor). |
| Methods: | Analysis of administrative data on NIDILRR grantees and Twitter that use #NIDILRR in their message. |
| Datasets: | None produced. |
| Dissemination Plans: | Presentation materials and reports. |
| ACL Actions in Response to Project: | ACL will likely take actions based on findings/recommendations in report. |
| Challenges Encountered: | Out-of-date information in administrative dataset of grantee social media presence necessitated new data collection on grantee social media presence. |
| Next Steps: | Contractor will engage NIDILRR staff in presentation and discussion of findings and recommendations from the project. |
APPENDIX B: DATA COLLECTION HOW-TO GUIDE

**ACL Research & Evaluation—Biennial Report Data Capture Effort**

This form includes questions about your Center’s/Office’s projects and may require you to prepare some information ahead of time. This document is intended to serve as a quick guide to help you prepare that information. The table below lists the types of questions asked and pieces of information you may need to have handy before completing the form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What we will ask about</th>
<th>What we need from you</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project name</td>
<td>Any official or unofficial names for the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project dates</td>
<td>Approximate start and end dates of the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project purpose</td>
<td>Description of the project’s purpose.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACL priorities</td>
<td>Identify which ACL priorities were addressed by the project. You will be asked to select from the list of ACL priorities which the project addresses. You will be able to select more than one.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder involvement</td>
<td>Were any stakeholders involved in the project? If stakeholders were involved, you will be asked to include a brief description of who was involved. Stakeholders may include other Centers/Offices within ACL, other Divisions within HHS, or nonfederal partners, such as states or tribes, community-based organizations, and universities. Examples may include Office of External Affairs, contractors such as RTI International, Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) interviewed, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data sources</td>
<td>Types of data sources used. You will be asked about the data being collected or analyzed as part of the project. For example, as part of the project, a contractor did a literature review, conducted interviews, and reviewed annual program performance report data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report of findings</td>
<td>Were any preliminary, interim, or final report of findings produced? If a report of findings was produced and is publicly available, you will be asked to upload available file(s). For example, a project produced annual interim reports and a final report at the end of the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Datasets produced</td>
<td>Were any preliminary, interim, or final datasets produced from this project? If publicly available, you will be asked to share links to them. For example, an entirely new dataset such as the AGing, Independence, and Disability (AGID) Program Data Portal was produced to be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissemination Plans</td>
<td>What are the dissemination plans for this project, beyond any already noted reports and data sets? You will be asked to describe any dissemination plans beyond the reports and datasets shared above, such as other types of reports, outreach or guidance documents, planning materials, data collection/analysis, or presentation materials. For example, ACL presentations at conferences, blog posts, and peer-reviewed journal article publications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACL Actions</td>
<td>Describe any ACL actions taken as a result of this project. You will be asked to describe and provide examples of actions ACL has taken because of any project activities or results. One example may be creating a new research agenda based on project findings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Challenges encountered</td>
<td>Describe any challenges encountered during this project. Projects face challenges, and often they will face multiple challenges. Here you are being asked to describe major challenges that impacted the project. Examples may include the COVID-19 pandemic’s impact on data collection efforts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX C: DATA CAPTURE FORM

Thank you for taking time to enter your Center/Office’s information into this data capture form!

The information you provide will be used to inform the development a public-facing biennial research and evaluation report that will summarize and showcase ACL’s recent research and evaluation projects. The biennial research and evaluation report will ultimately help bring ACL in accordance with HR 4174, Foundations for Evidence-based Policymaking Act, which requires federal agencies to develop evidence-based policy and evaluation plans.

We understand your time constraints and want to be cognizant of your multiple obligations. Therefore, we ask that you:
• Submit information on projects that are currently underway;
• Enter your Center/Office’s information as you are able (i.e., you do need to enter information for one project during each session but you do not need to enter all of your Center/Office’s projects all at once);
• Return to the form as many times as needed during the form’s 2-week open window to add information about additional projects;

If you have questions at any time, you may reach out to BiennialREReportTeam@rti.org. We will do our best to respond in a timeline manner.

We look forward to highlighting your Center/Office’s research and evaluation projects!

Participant Information

Please enter your first and last name.

Please enter your email address.

Please enter your phone number.

What ACL Center are you associated with?
Note: This question may not apply to some staff. Please select “N/A” if that is the case.
  ○ Administration on Aging (AoA)
  ○ Administration on Disabilities (AoD)
  ○ National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR)
  ○ Center for Innovation and Partnership (CIP)
  ○ Center for Policy and Evaluation (CPE)
  ○ Center for Regional Operations (CRO)
  ○ N/A

What ACL Office are you associated with?
Note: This question may not apply to some staff. Please select “N/A” if that is the case.
  ○ Office of Supportive and Caregiver Services
  ○ Office of Nutrition and Health Promotion Programs
  ○ Office of Elder Justice and Adult Protective Services
Project Questions

1. Please enter the name of this project.

2. Please select the approximate start date of this project.

3. Please select the approximate end date of this project.
   Note: For projects that are ongoing or do not have an estimated end date, leave this field blank.

4. Please briefly describe the purpose of this project.

5. Which of the following ACL priorities were addressed by this project?
   For additional information, please refer to the ACL FFY 2022 Evaluation Plan and the DHHS FY 2022 Evaluation Plan.
   Please select all that apply.
   □ Efficiency and Effectiveness: What is the efficacy and effectiveness of ACL programs and initiatives?
   □ Promotion of aging and disability programming: What are states funded by ACL doing to enhance and promote aging and disability services and programs?
   □ ACL staff preparation: How does ACL prepare its staff to better support the aging and disability networks?
   □ Collaboration and coordination between aging and disability networks: What are the current avenues for collaboration and coordination between the aging and disability networks that ACL works with?
   □ Emerging areas from the field: What new research and information are being generated, by both ACL and in the field, on aging and disability? How is ACL implementing it, and how can ACL better implement it?
   □ Knowledge gaps: What are the knowledge gaps between ACL, research, and stakeholders? How can ACL close the knowledge gaps?
   □ Unsure
6. Were any stakeholders involved in the development or implementation of this project?
Stakeholders may include other Centers/Offices within ACL, other Divisions within HHS, or nonfederal partners, such as states or tribes, community-based organizations, and universities. Examples may include Office of External Affairs, contractors such as RTI International, Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) interviewed, etc.
   ○ Yes
   ○ No
   ○ Unknown

6a. Please briefly describe the stakeholders involved in the development or implementation of this project.
Stakeholders may include other Centers/Offices within ACL, other Divisions within HHS, or nonfederal partners, such as states or tribes, community-based organizations, and universities. Examples may include Office of External Affairs, contractors such as RTI International, Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) interviewed, etc.

7. Please briefly describe the data sources used to conduct this project.
For this question, we want to understand where the data came from and how the data were collected. Examples may include focus groups, interviews, surveys, administrative data, literature reviews, environmental scans, and meta-analyses. Please include the type/name of data source, data collection period, and other relevant information.

8. Was a report of findings produced from this project?
Examples may include chart books, memos, policy briefs, results summary reports, and manuscripts.
   ○ Yes
   ○ No
   ○ Unknown

8a. Is this report preliminary, interim, or final?
   ○ Preliminary
   ○ Interim
   ○ Final
   ○ Unknown

8b. Is this report publicly available?
   ○ Yes
   ○ No
   ○ Unknown

8c. If available, please upload any publicly available report(s) of findings for this project.
9. Were any datasets produced from this project?
Examples of datasets may include the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) Outcome Evaluation Data Set.
   ○ Yes
   ○ No
   ○ Unknown

9a. Are these datasets preliminary, interim, or final?
   ○ Preliminary
   ○ Interim
   ○ Final
   ○ Unknown

9b. Are these datasets publicly available?
   ○ Yes
   ○ No
   ○ Unknown

9c. If available, please paste below any links to publicly available datasets for this project.


10. What are the dissemination plans for this project, beyond any already noted reports and datasets?
   □ Reports (e.g., Interim Memos, Concept Papers, Recommendations for Future Activities)
   □ Outreach, Information, or Guidance Documents (e.g., Information Sheets, Manuscripts, How-to Guides, Data Standard Operating Procedures [SOPs])
   □ Planning Materials (e.g., Logic Models, Funding Planning)
   □ Data Collection/Analysis (e.g., Information/Data Capture Tools, Profiles or Snapshots, Data Visualizations/Dashboards, Data Review/Aggregation, Tables)
   □ Presentation Materials (e.g., Abstracts, PowerPoint Slides, Posters)
   □ Other
   □ N/A

10a. Please briefly describe any “other” dissemination plans for this project.


11. Did ACL take any action as a result of this project?
Examples may include recommendations stemming from an evaluation that were used to improve a program’s performance or new models of program delivery were implemented. 
Note: This question may not be applicable based on the current state of the project.
12. Did you encounter any challenges while conducting this project?
Examples may include slow PRA processing times or COVID-19 related challenges (e.g., shifting from in-person to virtual data collection).

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

12a. Please briefly describe the challenges encountered with this project.

13. Please briefly describe any planned next steps for this project outside of any already discussed dissemination plans.
Note: This question may not be applicable based on the current state of the project.

14. Please add anything else you would like to share about this project.

Thank you!
Thank you for entering information into this form which will help inform RTI’s data capture efforts. For each research or evaluation project, we request you complete and submit a separate copy of this form. Once you click “Submit”, you will be rerouted to the start of the form to complete for another project. If you do not have any additional projects to report on, after clicking “Submit,” you can close out of the form.