

The Arkansas State Office on Aging and Adult Services was initially established by a Governor's Proclamation in 1966. The Arkansas Legislature statutorily established the State Office on Aging in 1971 (Ark. Stat. Ann. 5-912 (1976 Repl.)) in accordance with provisions of the Older Americans Act (42 USC 3001). The Office on Aging is one of seven Divisions of the Department of Human Services, the umbrella agency for most of Arkansas' human services programs. DHS is a cabinet - level agency with the Director appointed by and reporting directly to the Governor. The Directors of each DHS division are immediately under the Director of DHS and are also appointed by the Governor. The Office on Aging was originally part of the DHS Division of Social Services, however, in 1977 the Office was made a separate Division within DHS by the Legislature.

The Office on Aging has responsibility for advocating, planning and developing programs for older persons and from time to time the promulgation of rules and regulations to accomplish its objectives. The organizational chart (see attached) indicates there are four main sub-divisions all under the direct supervision of the Director. The four sub-divisions are: fiscal, research and training, programmatic and technical assistance, and advocacy assistance.

The Office on Aging and Adult Services channels monies from multiple funding sources to eight Area Agencies on Aging who are responsible for the provision of services in their multi county districts. The Area Agencies on Aging are private, nonprofit corporations.

If there are any questions, R. Bryan Tilley at 371-2441 is available to answer any questions.