

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program



OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Aging Services
Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman

Aging Services

Definition of Ombudsman

The Ombudsman Program serves older residents in Oklahoma long-term care facilities including nursing homes, assisted living, and residential care facilities. An Ombudsman helps improve the quality of life and the quality of care available to the residents.

A long-term care Ombudsman is a person who receives complaints from residents of long-term care facilities, their friends or relatives and attempts to resolve those complaints within the facility. The Ombudsman has the authority to explore problems and recommend corrective action.

Nature of the Program

The Ombudsman Program is supported by local staff and volunteers committed to improving and enriching the lives of institutionalized older persons. One goal of the Ombudsman Program is to have volunteers at each facility in the state to work with the facility and surrounding community. The Area Agency on Aging provides local supervision and support for the volunteers, and additional support is provided by the state Ombudsman office staff. Training in skills such as problem-solving and communication, the processes of aging, and long-term care facility regulations is provided by the Ombudsman Program for volunteers.

Legal Authority

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is administered by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services Aging Services under the authority of the Older Americans Act and the Oklahoma Long-Term Care Ombudsman Act.

Information for Volunteer Applicants

To be a volunteer in the Ombudsman Program, the applicant must:

- have a concern about older people and their needs and the ability to see each as an individual;
- be able to work with many types of people without being judgmental;
- be responsible; be willing and able to follow problems to their resolution;
- be able to accept training and supervision;
- be able to spend at least two hours a week in the program;
- be free from conflicts of interest; and
- pass an OSBI background check.

If you would like to become an Ombudsman volunteer, or if you have any questions about the program or wish to make a complaint, please call (405) 521-6734 or write:

Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Aging Services, 2401 NW 23rd St., Ste 40, Oklahoma City, OK 73107

or contact your Area Agency on Aging Ombudsman Supervisor (AAA list on back) at **1-800-211-2116**

For more information on Ombudsman and other services for Older Oklahomans, visit www.okdhs.org and click on Aging Services.

Area Agencies on Aging

Listed by Planning and Service Areas

Senior Info-Line 1-800-211-2116 reaches the Area Agency on Aging office for your area.

Area 1: Grand Gateway Area Agency on Aging

333 S Oak, PO Drawer B

Big Cabin, OK 74332-0502

918-783-5793/1-800-482-4594

Craig, Delaware, Mayes, Nowata, Ottawa, Rogers and Washington counties

Area 2: EODD Area Agency on Aging

EODD Building, 1012 N 38th St., PO Box 1367 Muskogee, OK 74402-1367

918-682-7891

Adair, Cherokee, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Sequoyah and Wagoner counties

Area 3: KEDDO Area Agency on Aging

Vo-Tech Admin. Addition, 1002 Hwy 2 North, Wilburton, OK 74578-3607 918-465-2367/1-800-722-8180 (TDD) Choctaw, Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore, McCurtain, Pittsburg and Pushmataha counties

Area 4: SODA Area Agency on Aging

2704 North 1st St.

PO Box 709

Durant, OK 74702-0709

580-920-1388

Atoka, Bryan, Carter, Coal Garvin, Johnston, Love, Marshall, Murray and Pontotoc counties

Area 5: COEDD Area Agency on Aging

400 N. Bell, PO Box 3398 Shawnee, OK 74802-3398 405-273-6410/1-800-375-8255 Hughes, Lincoln, Okfuskee, Pawnee, Payne, Pottawatomie and Seminole counties



Area 6: INCOG Area Agency on Aging

2 West 2nd Street, Ste 800 Tulsa, OK 74103-3116

918-584-7526

Creek, Osage and Tulsa counties

Area 7: Long-Term Care Authority of Enid*

202 W. Broadway, Ste. A

Enid, OK 73701-4048

580-234-7475

Alfalfa, Blaine, Garfield, Grant, Kay, Kingfisher, Major and Noble counties

* Interim Administrative Organization

Area 8: Areawide Aging Agency Inc.

4101 Perimeter Center Drive, Ste 310 Oklahoma City, OK 73112-5910

405-942-8500

Canadian, Cleveland, Logan and

Oklahoma counties

Area 9: ASCOG Area Agency on Aging

802 Main St., PO Box 1647

Duncan, OK 73534-1647

580-252-0595/1-800-658-1466

Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Grady, Jefferson,

McClain, Stephens and Tillman counties

Area 10: SWODA Area Agency on Aging

Sherman Industrial Air Park

Building 420 – Sooner Dr., PO Box 569

Burns Flat, OK 73624-0569

580-562-4882/1-800-627-4882 (TDD)

Beckham, Custer, Greer, Harmon, Kiowa,

Jackson, Roger Mills and Washita counties

Area 11: OEDA Area Agency on Aging

330 Douglas Ave., PO Box 668

Beaver, OK 73932-0668

580-527-1007/1-800-658-2844

Beaver, Cimarron, Dewey, Ellis, Harper, Texas,

Woods and Woodward counties

DHS Pub. No. 87-82 Revised 7/2014

This publication is authorized by Oklahoma Department of Human Services Director Ed Lake and printed by DHS in accordance with state and federal regulations at a cost of \$92.03 for 3,044 copies. Copies have been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. DHS offices may request copies on ADM-9 (23AM009E) electronic supply orders. Members of the public may obtain copies by calling 1-877-283-4113 (toll free), by faxing an order to (405) 962-1741, or by downloading a copy at www.okdhs.org/library.