



OADS provides programs and services that help older adults and adults with disabilities remain independent and in the home/ community of their choice



COLORADO
Department of Human Services

Office of Adult, Aging and Disability Services
FY 2022-23 - Joint Judiciary Committee SMART Act Hearing

Office of Adult, Aging and Disability Services (OAADS)

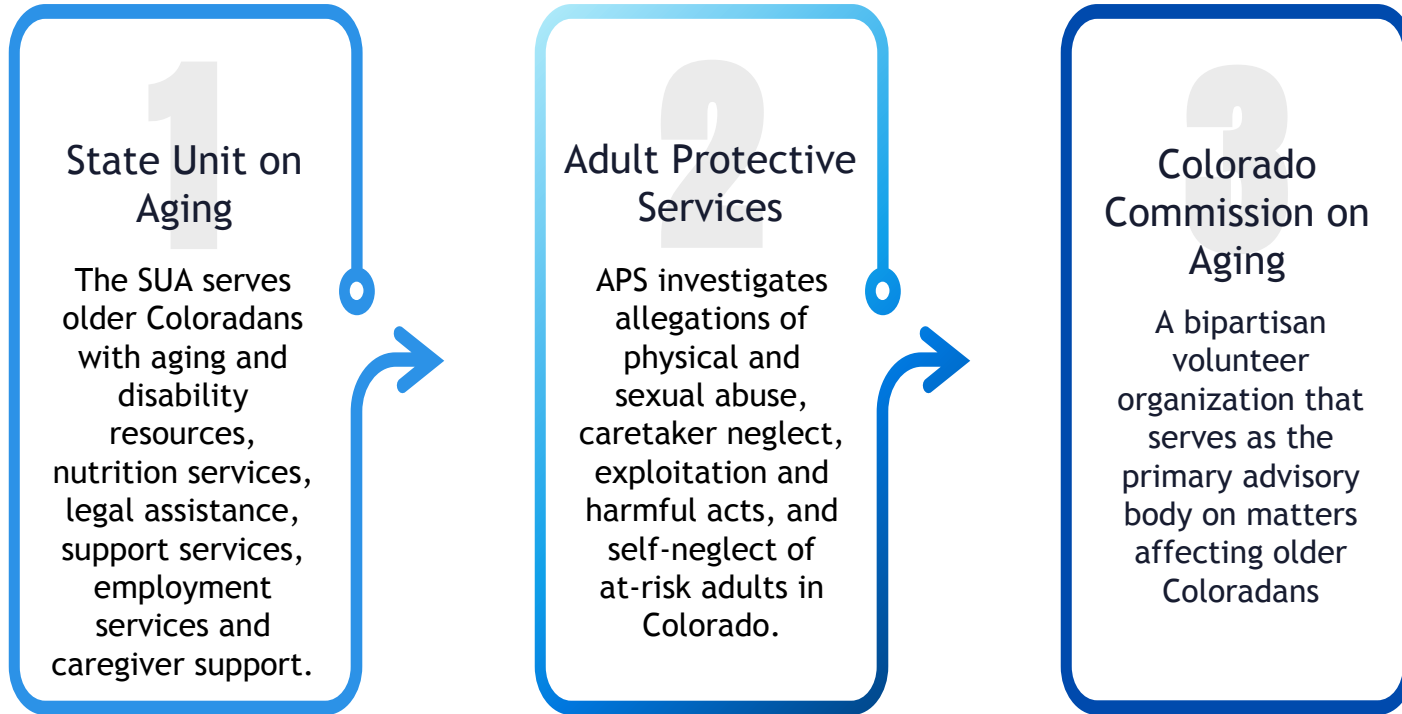
Divisions:

- Aging and Adult Services
- Disability Determination Services
- Division of Regional Centers
- Veterans Community Living Centers

Programs:

- Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deafblind
- MINDSOURCE Brain Injury Network

Division of Aging and Adult Services



Colorado Commission on Aging

Improve Prison Release Outcomes Senate Bill 21-146

Report and Recommendations



Senate Bill 21-146: Improve Prison Release Outcomes

A section of this bill directed the Colorado Commission on Aging (CCOA) to study and make recommendations to ensure that people 65 or older can access health insurance after release from prison.

Key Findings

1. Navigating health insurance plans are challenging.
2. Use of federal dollars are limited for healthcare.
3. Older prisoners being released will need health care coverage.
4. Medicare and Social Security is complex.

Key Findings (continued)

5. A Benefits Acquisition Program is in the works.
6. Colorado is a Group Payer State versus Part A Buy-In State.
7. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is implementing a Special Enrollment Period.
8. There are cost savings options.

Recommendations

1. A Medicare Part A Buy-in agreement between the Department of Healthcare Policy and Finance and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that would allow for enrollment outside of defined January 1 through March 31 enrollment period.
2. Collaborating with the Colorado Division of Insurance and the Colorado Department of Corrections to advocate for CMS to create a special enrollment period for those being released from prison at age 65 or older.
3. Advocating for continued support of a robust benefit acquisition process within CDOC.
4. Support for the Governor's FY 22-23 funding request: Long Term Compassionate Care Project
5. Expanding and publicizing the already-established Take Care Health Matters website that is a project of the Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition.

Next Steps

- Continue to monitor older adults' benefit acquisition as they enter and leave incarceration
- Support the completion of a study and cost-benefit analysis with appropriate state agencies
- Advocate for the creation of Special Enrollment Periods