

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:**  
[communications@elderaffairs.org](mailto:communications@elderaffairs.org)  
850-414-2142

## **Florida Department of Elder Affairs Sees Big Gains for Aging Services and Programs as Governor DeSantis Signs 2021-2022 Budget**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – Under the leadership of Governor Ron DeSantis, Florida’s Aging Network is leading the nation with positive actions for seniors as Florida moves forward following the impacts of COVID-19. Governor DeSantis allowed data to drive informed policies prioritizing our state’s most vulnerable by putting Seniors First and keeping our society functioning.

“This funding will enhance the lives of thousands of older adults and their caregivers,” **said DOEA Secretary Richard Prudom.** “Our mission has been, and continues to be, to ensure seniors may live well and age well in place. It is important to allow these individuals to remain at home or with loved ones for as long as possible. These significant funding increases will help us improve the lives of over 5.5 million older adults in our state by focusing on innovative programs designed to increase access to care for older Floridians.”

- **\$14 million increase for Community Care for the Elderly (CCE) and the Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative (ADI)**
  - **An increase of \$6.7 million is provided for the ADI program**
  - **An increase of \$7.2 million is provided for the CCE program**

The Florida Department of Elder Affairs received significant increases for both Community Care for the Elderly (CCE) and the Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative (ADI). Combined, these two programs represent an increase of nearly \$14 million.

ADI provides training and services to meet the changing needs of individuals, families, and caregivers living with Alzheimer’s disease and similar memory disorders. Services include respite care for those who have been diagnosed as having probable Alzheimer’s disease or other related memory disorders where mental changes appear and interfere with the activities of daily living. Additionally, the CCE program serves individuals age 60 and over by providing community-based services organized in a continuum of care to help functionally impaired older adults live in the least restrictive yet most cost-effective

environment suitable to their needs. Both ADI and CCE provide Florida seniors and their caregivers the opportunity to remain in the community of their choosing in favor of a long-term care facility.

When investments are made in Florida's most vulnerable populations, including older adults, there is an overall benefit for all individuals and an increased capacity for communities to achieve healthier outcomes and societal contributions.

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***About the Florida Department of Elder Affairs***

The Florida Department of Elder Affairs, the State Unit on Aging, helps Florida's elders to remain healthy, safe, and independent. The Department provides most direct services through its Division of Statewide Community-Based Services, which works through the state's 11 Area Agencies on Aging and local service providers to deliver essential services to a vital segment of the population. For more information, please visit [www.elderaffairs.org](http://www.elderaffairs.org).