

Thing You Need to Know Right Now

April 15, 2016



At the Center of it All

1. **MCOA Membership was successful with the second step of our campaign to raise the Formula Grant to \$10/elder/year. The HWM proposal includes sufficient funds to accomplish our goal. Please thanks of members of the House since each had direct input in making this happen. Now onto the Senate. Contact your Senators and say "Match the House in Line Item #9110-9002".**
2. **7 floor amendments: As we go to print we have been asked to support 7 floor amendments to the FY17 HWM Budgets details online. We need to help our partners in the elder care continuum.**
3. **Present, Nominate, Join- more info at www.mcoaonline.com**
 - a. **Call for Presentation to Fall Conference October 26-28 at Sea Crest Resort Deadline: May 13th**
 - b. **Call for Nominations Awards Deadline: May 6**
 - c. **Call for Participation: Join MCOA's Leadership Team Deadline: May 6**
4. **MMAHSC formerly LOHSC is also looking for nominations for the Peter Kirwan award for contact Cynthia Wallquist at the New Bedford Human Services at 508.997.4893**
5. **MGA (MA Gerontological Association is looking for nomination for the Louis Lowy Award for "an individual who has made a significant contribution in the field of aging". Details at www.massgeron.org/lowry.html**
6. **3 websites to visit weekly**
 - a. **www.mcoaonline.com All things COA/Senior Centers and lots of Consumer info as well**
 - b. **<https://mahealthyagingcollaborative.org> funded by Tufts Health Plan Foundation this site includes the Community Profile, up to date info on the Health Aging and Age Friendly Communities initiatives as well as an excellence interactive discussion group where you can learn about new programs and seek answers to your implementation questions**
 - c. **<http://www.healthyliving4me.org> all about CDSMP and more**
7. **Dues Increase for FY17- Remember: MCOA Membership voted last November to increase the dues effective July 1st 2016. Attached is the break out sheet that you guide you with budgeting.**
8. **Annual Meeting June 3rd Fort Devens: Speakers Secretary Alice Bonner, House Chair of Elder Affairs Denise Garlick and Rev. Liz Walker as well as MCOA Awards and Election of Leadership Team.**
9. **Personnel Update: Brenda Griffin, MCOA Grants Manager and Office Manager has retired and has been replaced by Shari Cox. Shari has been onboard since Thanksgiving and her resume includes a degree in bookkeeping and many years of employment in Human Services.**
10. **Personnel Update II- Through an increase in our SIG Grant, MCOA was able to hire a second Director of Technical Assistance, Training and Special Events. Donna Popkin has joined our staff after 10 years at the Billerica COA and many more at North Shore Elder Services.**
11. **House Elder Affairs Chair Denise Garlick has conducted over 20 district visits to inform consumers and elected officials about the impact of the Boomers on the elder care continuum. By all accounts these visits are highly worth while and enjoyable. Your local Representative of the Massachusetts House can invite Rep Garlick to conduct a visit onsite at your Senior Center. A very good keynote/ volunteer recognition speaker as well.**
12. **MCOA would like to thank Representatives Betty Poirier and Jay Barrows for convening a forum on the Protective Service Program. Bristol County DA Thomas Quinn, Elder Affairs Secretary Alice Bonner and EOEAs newly hired PS Program Director Alec Graham were in attendance along with COA staff, Fire Department personnel and representatives from several local municipalities as well as David P. Stevens and Kathleen Bowler from MCOA. Concerns were outlined including training, communication and the lack of coordination between agencies. MCOA continues to welcome feedback from the field. Sent your thoughts and comments directly to me at david@mcoaonline.com**

MCOA FY17 Dues Proposal

Board Recommendation for Nov. 20, 2015 Membership Meeting

Approved at Milford COA

The Massachusetts Association of Councils on Aging relies on voluntary membership dues to operate and to fulfill the goals and objectives set by our members. For the last two decades the dues rate has been established as 2% of the Formula Grant award with minimum and maximum thresholds set by a formal membership vote. Traditionally it has been implemented for the fiscal year following the enactment of any increased funding.

On our Members behalf, MCOA lobbied to raise the Formula Grant from \$8/elder/YEAR to \$9/elder for FY16-roughly a 12% increase in the allocation. The legislature approved and the Governor signed that increase. Members should have budgeted for that higher allotment and should soon be receiving funding from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. We have previously notified MCOA Members that if that increase occurred for FY16, it would automatically trigger a full membership vote to increase MCOA dues in FY17. Thus the Board of Directors recommends increasing MCOA Dues according to the chart below. On November 20, 2015 at our regularly scheduled membership meeting, at the Ruth Anne Bleakney Senior Center at Milford COA the following motion was discussed and voted on.

MOTION: The Board of the Massachusetts Councils on Aging recommends increasing MCOA Dues rate from \$0.16/elder to \$0.18/elder and thereby stay with the 2% level in FY17 (with minimums and maximums). The chart bellows details this recommendation.

# Adults Age 60 and above the US 2010 Census	Previous FY14-15 rate @\$8/elder Formula Grant	Existing FY16 rate@ \$9/elder Formula Grant	Proposed FY17 Rate@ Based on \$9/elder Formula Grant
0-500 minimum rate*	\$150	\$150	\$168
501-1100 minimum rate	\$175	\$175	\$196
1100-12,000= 2% of FG	\$0.16/elder	\$0.16/elder	\$0.18/elder
12,001-15,000 maximum rate	\$2000	\$2000	\$2240
15,001-20,000 maximum rate	\$2500	\$2500	\$2800
20,001-30,000 maximum rate	\$2750	\$2750	\$3080
30,000+ maximum rate	\$3000	\$3000	\$3500
*Minimum allocation rose from	\$4000/COA	\$4500	\$4500

EXAMPLE: The 'median' Massachusetts town with a population of 18,654 has approximately 3628 older adults (age 60+). MCOA's advocacy effort increased its local Formula Grant funding from \$29,024/year (\$8/elder) to \$32,652(\$9/elder) an increase of \$3628. MCOA dues request for this median town went from \$580.48 in FY16 to a proposed FY17 rate of \$653.04, an increase of \$72.56 (2%).

BACKGROUND: The Formula Grant increase is part of our five-year campaign to raise the Formula from \$8 to \$12/elder by 2020. Join us in our efforts. Plan your legislative event to take place before February 15, 2016 and ask your legislators to support an increase Line Item #9110-9002 to \$14.3 million so the Formula Grant can rise to \$10/elder in FY17. Go www.mcoaonline.com for details.

Membership Approval November 20, 2015