

Minnesota Board on Aging: Senior Nutrition Program

Performance Audit

Released November 13, 2023

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Senior Nutrition Program Overview

- Federal program
- Meals to individuals age 60 or older
- Delivered to homes or served in a group setting
- In 2022:
 - 3.1 million meals
 - 40,013 program participants

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State of Minnesota
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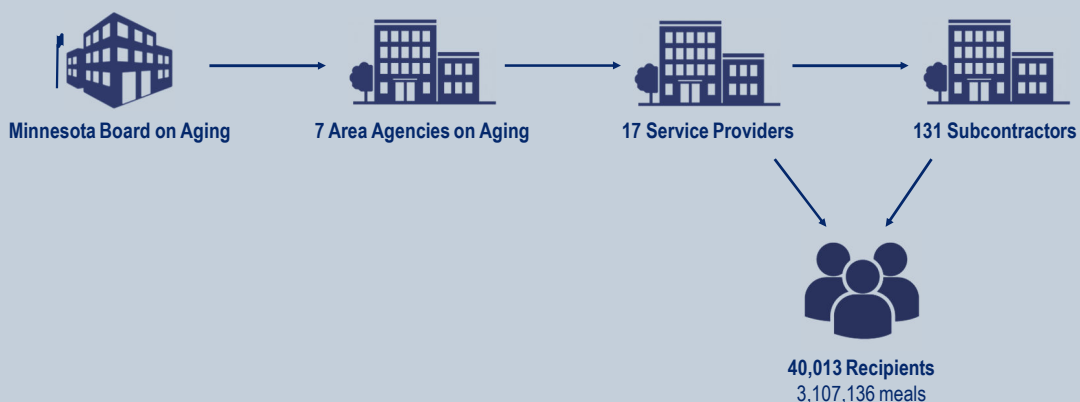
Audit Objectives and Scope

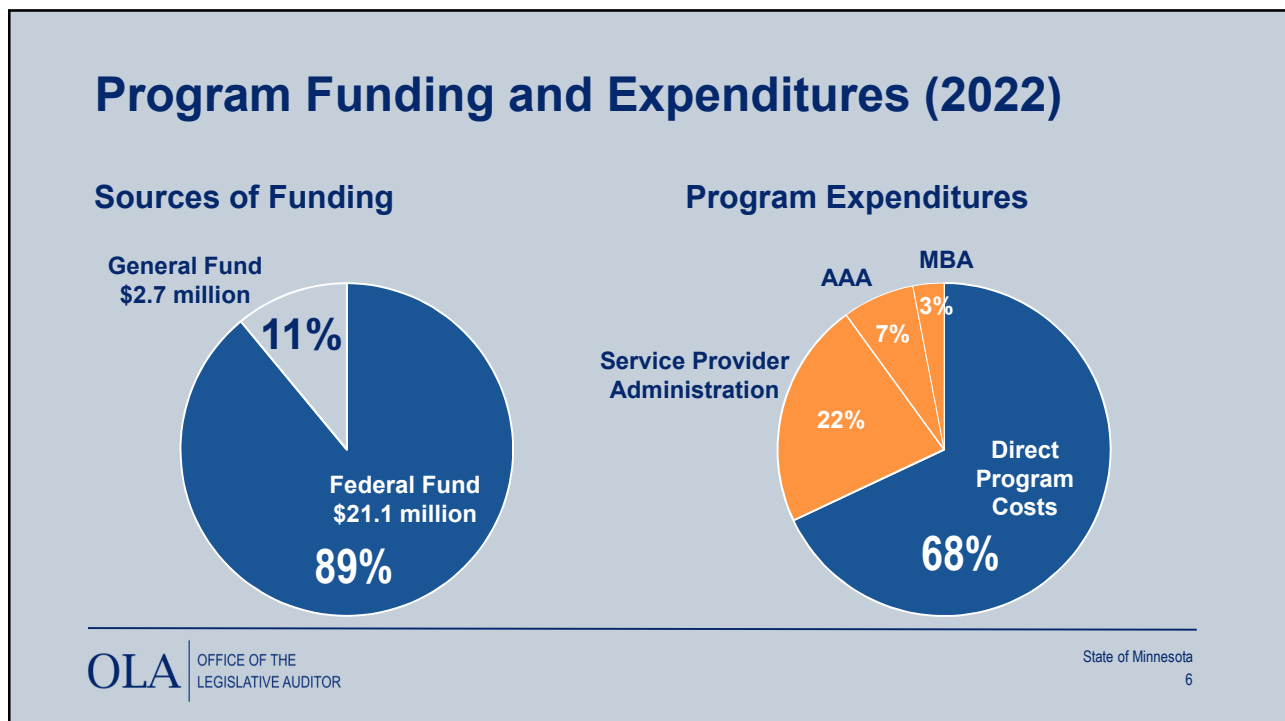
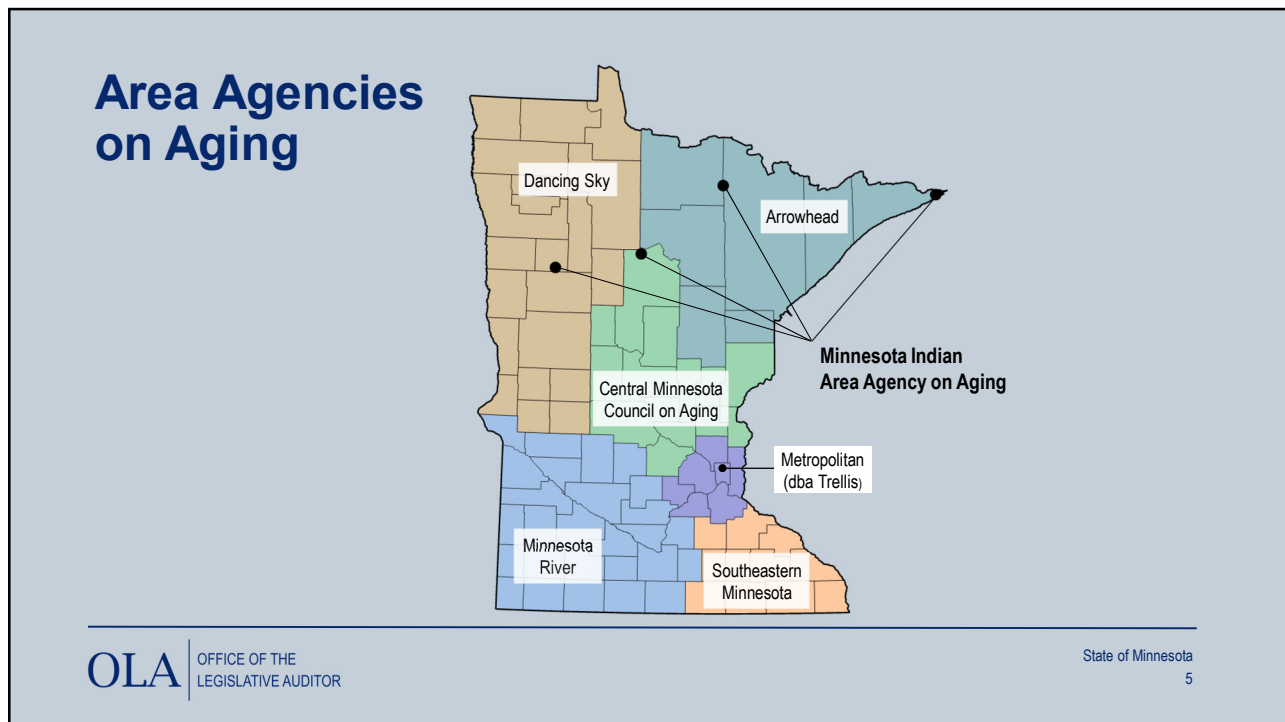
Objectives:

- How well did the Minnesota Board on Aging and local Area Agencies on Aging administer the program?
- Did the Minnesota Board on Aging and local Area Agencies on Aging comply with significant program requirements?

Scope: January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

Program Administration





Reimbursement for Program Services

Area Agency on Aging	Lowest Rate	Highest Rate
Arrowhead	\$6.08	\$ 7.42
Central Minnesota Council on Aging	4.82	8.50
Dancing Sky	4.75	6.50
Metropolitan (dba Trellis)	6.91	11.72
Minnesota Indian	4.65	30.37
Minnesota River	5.30	8.65
Southeastern Minnesota	7.23	8.40

Audit Results

Findings span almost all areas of responsibilities:

- Documentation
- Monitoring
- Contract oversight
- Recertification of program participants
- Quality of program participant data

Problems with Participant Recertification

Requirement:

- Enroll before receiving first meal
- Recertify annually

Result:

- 296 out of 581 forms missing or inaccurate data

Minnesota Board on Aging Conducted No Monitoring

Requirement:

- Financial reconciliations and closeout evaluations
- Site visits every other calendar year

Result:

- No monitoring since 2017

Area Agencies on Aging Conducted Inconsistent Monitoring

Requirement:

- Onsite monitoring visits
 - Eligible individuals
 - Nutritional meals
 - Safe and clean environment

Result:

- 6 of 7 either did not complete any site visits or did not complete the required number

Participant Survey Identified Areas of Concern

10% of mailed surveys returned as undeliverable

Respondents:

- 13% received a different service
- 19% did not receive meals
- 37% required to pay for at least some meals

Recommendations

Minnesota Board on Aging

- Provide clear guidance
- Provide oversight

Area Agencies on Aging

- Comply with requirements of program
- Provide consistent oversight

Legislature

- No specific recommendations

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