

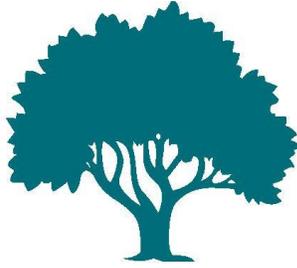
Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Purpose & Mission

The Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging’s purpose by statute is to “advise the Governor, Legislature and all State Departments which the Council deems necessary on all matters and issues relating to aging, including the administration of the State Plan on Aging.” The Council’s mission is “to enhance the quality of life for older Arizonans.” The Council advises policy makers and state agencies, and works with local communities, non profit organizations, private enterprises and older adults across Arizona to fulfill its purpose and accomplish its mission.



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

C.T. Wright, 2013 Chair

Becky Brimhall-Lepire, 2013 Vice Chair

January 8, 2014

Dear Governor Brewer, Speaker Tobin, Senate President Biggs & older Arizonans:

On behalf of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, I present you with our 2013 Annual Report.

We are pleased to provide this report outlining the efforts of our Council members, liaisons, volunteers and staff who continue to advocate and work to enhance the quality of life for older Arizonans.

A highlight of the Advisory Council's achievements this year is Senior Action Day held in communities throughout Arizona offering an opportunity for older adults to engage in a dialogue with the Council, Legislators and local officials on issues of importance to them. Information collected by the Council from the events is used to develop priorities and is shared with state agencies for planning purposes. To ensure a broad base of input this year, the Council collected information through an online stakeholder survey as well as from older constituents and advocates who attended the eleven (11) events. The responses reflect a wide range of concerns from around the state but a common desire to be able to age in place and shared apprehension about access to affordable healthcare and transportation options.

The ongoing work of the Advisory Council included support for education around fall prevention, hearing loss, oral health, lifespan respite, the work of the Arizona Caregiver Coalition and resources on the Arizona Mature Worker Website. The Council also continued to support the work of the Arizona Alzheimer's Task Force – an initiative launched through the Governor's Office on Aging focused on addressing the growing human and financial impact of dementia on our state.

The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging remains dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for older Arizonans, and we ask for your continued support in 2014 to truly make a difference.

Sincerely,

C.T. Wright, 2013 Chairman

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging 2013 Roster

Becky Brimhall-Lepire, Vice Chair

Maricopa County
(Carefree)

Charles E. Brown

Cochise County
(Sun Sites)

George A. Evanoff

Pima County
(Tucson)

Joy P. Grainger

Maricopa County
(Surprise)

Bernadine Hoffman

Maricopa County
(Scottsdale)

Diane Joens

Yavapai County
(Cottonwood)

Deborah M. Lavinsky

Maricopa County
(Phoenix)

Doyle Meredith, Secretary

Yavapai County
(Prescott Valley)

Anne Morrison

Pima County
(Tucson)

Lisa M. O'Neill

Pima County
(Tucson)

Allison Perrin, M.D.

Maricopa County
(Glendale)

Teresa Ramirez Lopez

Maricopa County
(Phoenix)

Trudy W. Schuett

Yuma County
(Yuma)

Tonya L. Watson

Coconino County
(Flagstaff)

C.T. Wright, Chairman

Maricopa County
(Fountain Hills)

The Council wishes to thank our agency liasions:

Melanie Starns
DES

**Vanessa Deatherage &
Ted Evertsen**
Attorney General's Office

**Wayne Tormala
& Babak Nayeri**
ADHS

Jay Dunkleberger
AHCCCS

Dana Kennedy
Arizona Association of Area
Agencies on Aging

Phyllis Antone
Arizona Indian Council on
Aging

Cydney DeModica
ADOT/MVD

Eric Coleman
Arizona Dept. of Veterans'
Services - Phoenix

Council Responsibilities

The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is a special purpose Council authorized under Laws 1980, Chapter 150, and covered by A.R.S. §§ 46-183, 46-184, Chapter 6, Laws 2010 and provisions of the Older Americans Act of 1965, P.L. 89-73, 87 STAT. 30, 42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq. and C.F.R. 1321.47 (as amended) promulgated pursuant to the Act.

Arizona has also designated the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging as its State Advisory Council on Aging, as set forth in the federal Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended (45 CFR §1321.47). In accordance with federal regulations, more than 50 percent of the appointed members must be at least 60 years of age and include: (1) persons with greatest economic or social need, and (2) participants under the Older American Act. In this role as the State Advisory Council, the body advises the federally designated State Unit on Aging (the Division of Aging and Adult Services within the Department of Economic Security) on the development and implementation of the State Plan on Aging, and in the development and operations of policies and programs for older adults.

The Advisory Council has four (4) Standing Committees:

- The Executive Committee;
- The Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee;
- The Mature Workforce Committee; and
- The Social, Health and Alzheimer's Committee.

Goals of the Advisory Council are largely accomplished through the work of these committees. Ad hoc committees are also created for special purposes and projects. Ad hoc committees this year included the Older Driver Safety Report Review Committee and the newly-created Ad Hoc Committee on Review and Revitalization & Public Relations.

The Council's primary roles and responsibilities include:

- Review and approve the State Plan on Aging; monitor and evaluate implementation of the State Plan.
- Discuss and recommend actions to all state agencies on program and policy which affect the Arizona senior population.
- Develop legislative priorities and advocate for such, both in respect to the Council's short-term and long-range plans and goals on aging.
- Submit a written report of its recommendations regarding the State Plan on Aging as well as the Council's accomplishments and future goals to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

- Promote public understanding and acceptance of programs and services relating to the well being of the state's senior population.
- Be the official advocate for the seniors in the state and actively promote policies to further the well being of state's seniors.

2013 Accomplishments

The following are highlights of the Advisory Council on Aging's 2013 activities.

1. Monitored the State Plan on Aging

As part of its statutory purpose, the Advisory Council continued to work with the DES Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) and the Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging to monitor activities established in the State Plan on Aging as required by federal law. DES/DAAS staff provided updates on the plan during report backs at the Council's meetings. Members of the Advisory Council provided assistance in organizing locations for statewide focus groups held by DES/DAAS to collect input for the next State Plan on Aging. In addition, the Advisory Council continued to support the Governor's Office on Aging's partnership in the Arizona Alzheimer's Task Force and efforts to address the growing human and financial cost of Alzheimer's and related disorders in Arizona through objectives and strategies linked to the goals of the State Plan on Aging. Recommendations forthcoming from the Task Force will be linked to the goals of the 2015-2018 State Plan on Aging.

2. Provided Opportunities for Older Arizonans and Legislators to Share Information

In keeping with the Council's biennial commitment, eleven (11) Senior Action Days were held around the state in 2013 that offered opportunities for older Arizonans and advocates to share viewpoints and exchange input with their legislators and local elected official. In addition, a stakeholder survey was developed and distributed ahead of the events seeking input from a wide array of service providers and advocates statewide. All of the input gathered has been shared with legislative leadership, legislators participating in the events and with members of the Governor's staff. Direct input collected at the events and through the stakeholder survey has prompted the Advisory Council to dedicate 2014 to a strategic process, a review and revitalization of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, its committees and the work of its initiatives.

3. Promoted Transportation Coordination/Mobility Management

At the request of the Council, the Coordination and Mobility Manager for ADOT provided an update on coordinated mobility efforts in Arizona and the Human Services and Special Projects Manager at Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), presented an update on a toolkit developed to assist local governments in meeting the needs of older adults which includes transportation. The Council continues to gather and disseminate information on local, regional and statewide mobility plans that promote and support independence in later life.

4. Finalized Recommendations on Older Driver Safety

Based on recommendations resulting from the work of the Older Driver Safety Report Review Committee, (ODSRRC) the Advisory Council on Aging voted to support and endorse the older driver safety protocol offered through the Arizona Department of Motor Vehicles as well as the fact sheet created by the Ad Hoc group for medical providers to reference when reporting unsafe drivers. The ODSRRC endorsed revisions to the Grand Driver brochure produced by the Arizona Department of Transportation that include additional consumer-focused resources.

5. *Provided the Legislative Update Email Newsletter*

The Advisory Council continued to monitor state and federal legislation that impacts older adults and report it through the electronic, non-partisan *Legislative Update*. The intent of the email newsletter is to inform readers about the state and federal legislative process and help older Arizonans and aging advocates formulate their own opinions and ensure their voices are heard.

6. *Offered Consumer Education and Training*

The Council supported the Governor's Office on Aging's sixth co-sponsorship of the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium Event with members volunteering to assist at the event. Through the Committee and Council meetings, members and consumers were offered a wide variety of education and training opportunities in 2013. Topics included:

- Updates from Dr. Eric Reiman, Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium
- Arizona Caregiver Coalition and the Lifespan Respite Program
- Arizona Alzheimer's Task Force and the National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA)
- G-60 Trauma Services program at John C. Lincoln North Mountain
- Maricopa Association of Government – updates to *Planning for the Next 100 Years* including a toolkit for local governments to develop aging friendly communities
- Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence College of Nursing and Health Innovation at ASU
- Workplace Flexibility: Creating Engagement for All Generations
- National Indian Council on Aging Senior Community Service Employment Program
- Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program
- Workforce Education Development Office at the University of Arizona - Workplace Employability Skills Project
- AARP Foundation - Back to Work 50+ Program
- Arizona State University MSW Program - Bullying in Later Life
- Arizona State Braille and Talking Book Library
- Oasis Institute of Tucson
- Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Arizona State University
- LeadingAge Arizona - Trends in Continuum of Care Retirement Communities
- Arizona Health Care Association - Specialty Care in Assisted Living & Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Mobility Management; Coordinated Mobility
- Problem Gambling and Seniors
- Arizona Legislative Council
- Goodwill Industries Programs
- Plus 50 Encore Completion Program
- Mature Worker Importance

7. *Awarded Mature Worker Friendly Certification to Arizona Employers*

The Advisory Council continued to promote mature worker friendly work environments by awarding employers with the Mature Worker Friendly Employer (MWFE) certification and recertification. The certification training process was updated to include aspects of the

multigenerational workplace. The first “Featured Employer” award was given to a certified employer now highlighted on the www.azmatureworkers.com website.

8. Enhanced Resources Offered on the Mature Worker Job Bank and Resource Website

The Arizona Mature Worker Website hosted by Jobing.com received continuously updates with new resources for mature job seekers, employers and professionals seeking to connect older works with employers who value them. The website features blogs about laws affecting mature workers by ASU law students. In partnership with the City of Phoenix, Council staff helped plan and coordinate training opportunities and a job fair for mature job seekers, and resource materials from the website were distributed to the attendees.

9. Continued to Review Oversight of In-Home Services by Direct Care Workers

The Advisory Council continued to monitor challenges around oversight of in-home service workers in Arizona through updates from state agency liaisons and staff participation in the Arizona Caregiver Coalition’s Voucher Program and Registry work groups.

10. Supported Education and Outreach Efforts

The Advisory Council continued to support the efforts of the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing to disseminate resources that support educational outreach efforts on hearing loss aimed at educating both service providers and older consumers. The Advisory Council staff serves on the Steering Committee of the Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition and Council members participated in the National Fall Prevention Awareness event. The Advisory Council continued to support the efforts of the Arizona Caregiver Coalition in development of the Voucher Program and Registry. The Council provided a letter of support to the Arizona Department of Health Service, Office of Oral Health for a funding application to develop a plan for oral health surveillance on older adults.

11. Ensured Continuing Education Opportunities for Council Members

Educational presentations and training opportunities continued to be a part of the Advisory Council’s meetings in 2013. Training is focused on helping build awareness or enhancing Council members’ knowledge of aging related issues. For the benefit of new members and as a refresher for others, Council leadership discussed protocols by reviewing the Council’s by-laws, open meeting law materials, and discussing the meeting agendas and information contained in the Council’s operations manual.

As part of continuing education options, Council members had an opportunity to tour the Banner Research Center in Sun City, Arizona.

Mentoring opportunities were created by the Executive Committee providing back up for Committee Chairpersons and helping ensure new members have the opportunity to become engaged in the work of the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging early in their appointments.

12. Provided Input to the Governor and Legislature on Aging Issues

In accordance with its purpose, the Advisory Council continued to offer recommendations and input to the Governor and Legislature on the needs and interests of older Arizonans. This year’s input included a summary report of feedback received during the 2013 Senior Action Day cycle

and information collected through an online stakeholder survey. The responses reflect a wide range of concerns from around the state but a common desire to be able to age in place and shared apprehension about access to affordable healthcare and transportation options. The summary of input received from both the 2013 Senior Action Days and the Stakeholder Survey is provided as an addendum to the report.

2014 Future Directions

With the input collected from the Senior Action Day events and the stakeholder survey, the Council on Aging has committed to an internal review and revitalization process in 2014. An Ad Hoc Committee has been established to formally assess where the Council is now using the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis, to develop a blueprint for strategic action for the Council in the coming decade and to determine ways to identify and leverage the value of the Council and its work.

In 2014, the Council will continue to execute their statutory obligations through the on-going work of the four Standing Committees. As part of its statutory obligation, the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging remains committed to leveraging essential resources and building partnerships in order to accomplish its goals. The following remain priorities for 2014.

- ***Monitor the State Plan on Aging***

As part of its statutory purpose, the Advisory Council will continue to work with the DES Division of Aging and Adult Services and the Association of Area Agencies on Aging to monitor activities established in the State Plan on Aging as required by federal law and to help ensure those results are in line with established plans and fiscal priorities.

- ***Provide the Legislative Update Email Newsletter***

The Advisory Council will continue to monitor state and federal legislation that impact older adults and report it through the electronic non-partisan *Legislative Update*. The intent of the email newsletter is to inform readers about the state and federal legislative process and help older Arizonans and aging advocates formulate their own opinions and ensure their voices are heard.

- ***Offer Consumer Education and Training***

In partnership with state agencies and community partners, the Advisory Council will continue to offer education and training through collaborative efforts that result in workshops, summits, special sessions or conferences focused on older adults.

- ***Support Education and Outreach Efforts***

The Advisory Council will continue to support the efforts of its partners and community stakeholders. The Council will support the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing's efforts to disseminate resources that support educational outreach efforts on hearing loss aimed at educating both service providers and older consumers. The Advisory Council will continue to support the mission of the Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition to promote evidence-based fall prevention approaches that can enhance quality of life for older adults as well as the efforts of the Arizona Caregiver Coalition that advocates for family caregivers in Arizona. The Council will continue to work with community partners and employers who value mature workers.

- ***Ensure Continuing Education Opportunities for Council Member***

Educational presentations and training opportunities will continue to be a part of the Advisory Council's meetings in 2014. Training is planned that will help build awareness or enhance Council members' knowledge of aging related issues.

- ***Provide Input to the Governor and Legislature on Aging Issues***

In accordance with its purpose, the Advisory Council will continue to offer recommendations and advice to the Governor and Legislature on the needs and interests of older Arizonans. From budget priorities to elders' perspectives on any type of legislation, policy makers can benefit from utilizing the Advisory Council as a single, non-partisan voice on matters that affect our state's older citizens.

Conclusion

We are grateful to the dedicated Council members, liaisons, community partners and staff who support the purpose and mission of the Council and engage in the work of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The Advisory Council is honored to serve as an internal, non-partisan sounding board for the Governor and the Legislature on all matters related to aging.

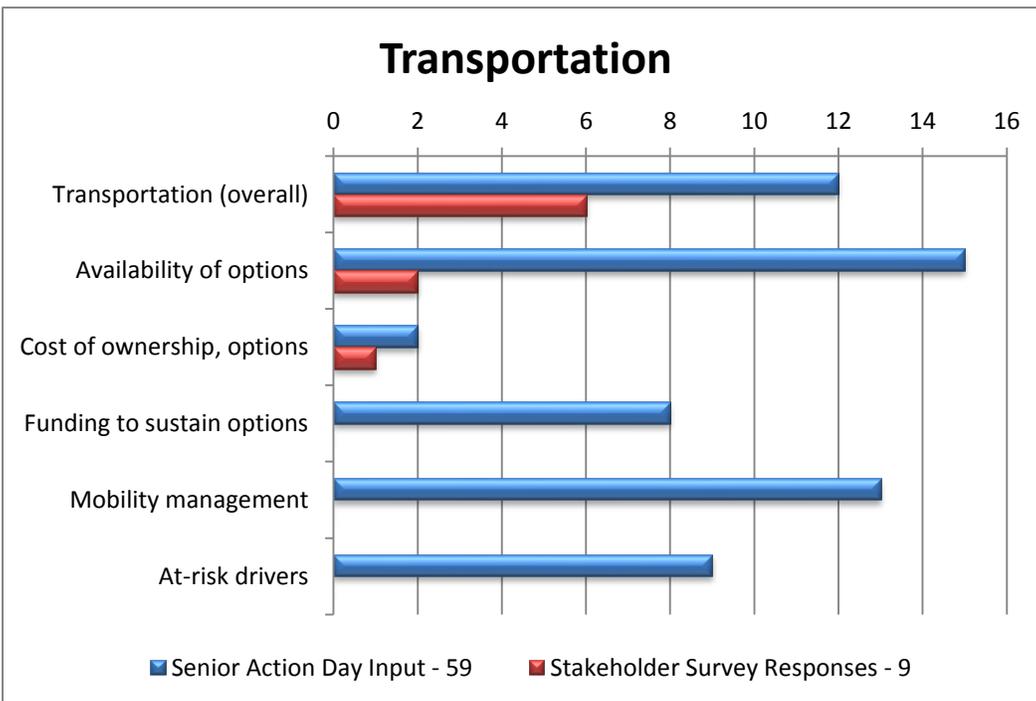
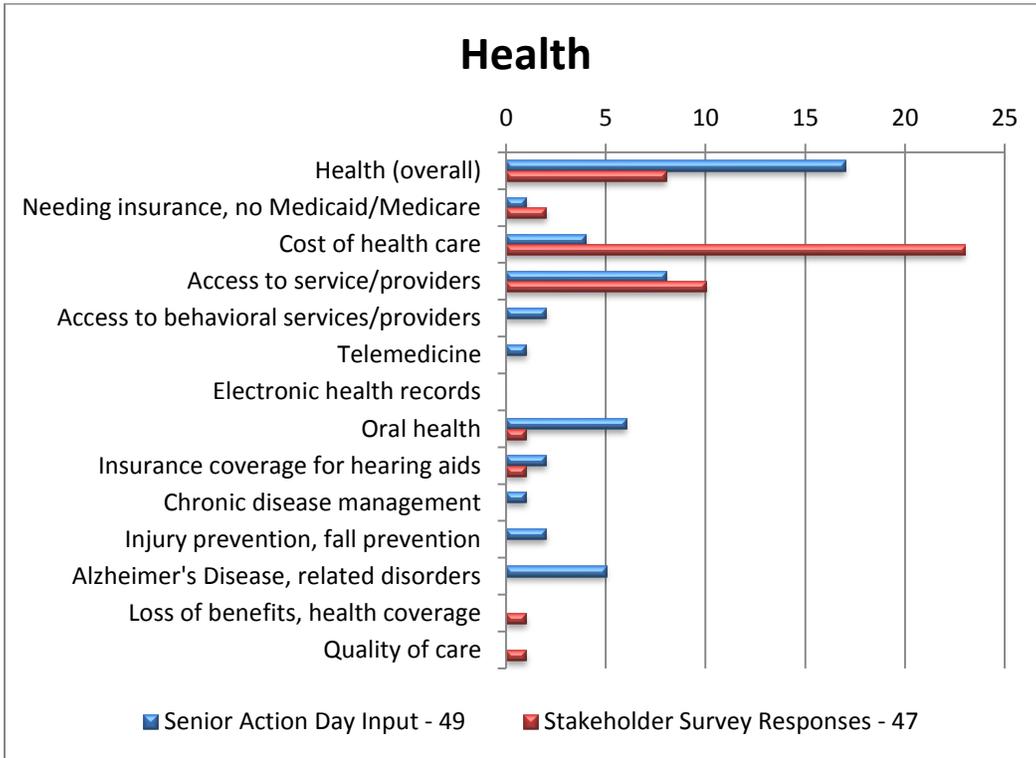
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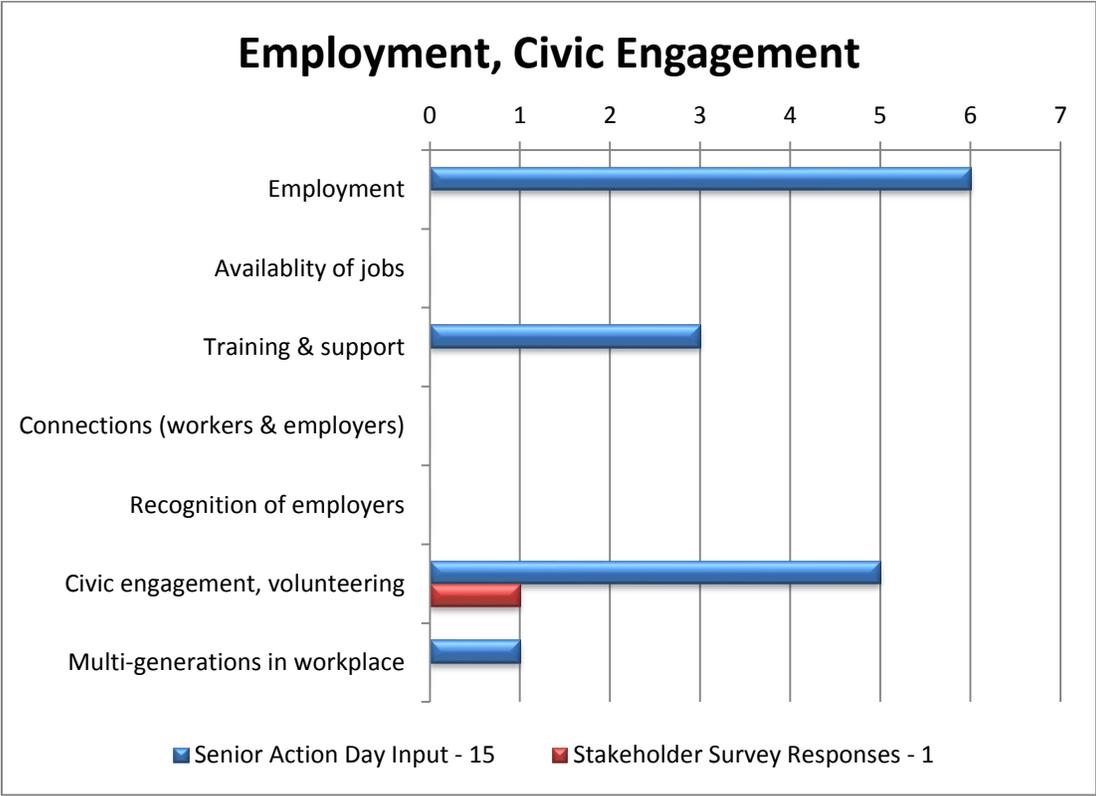
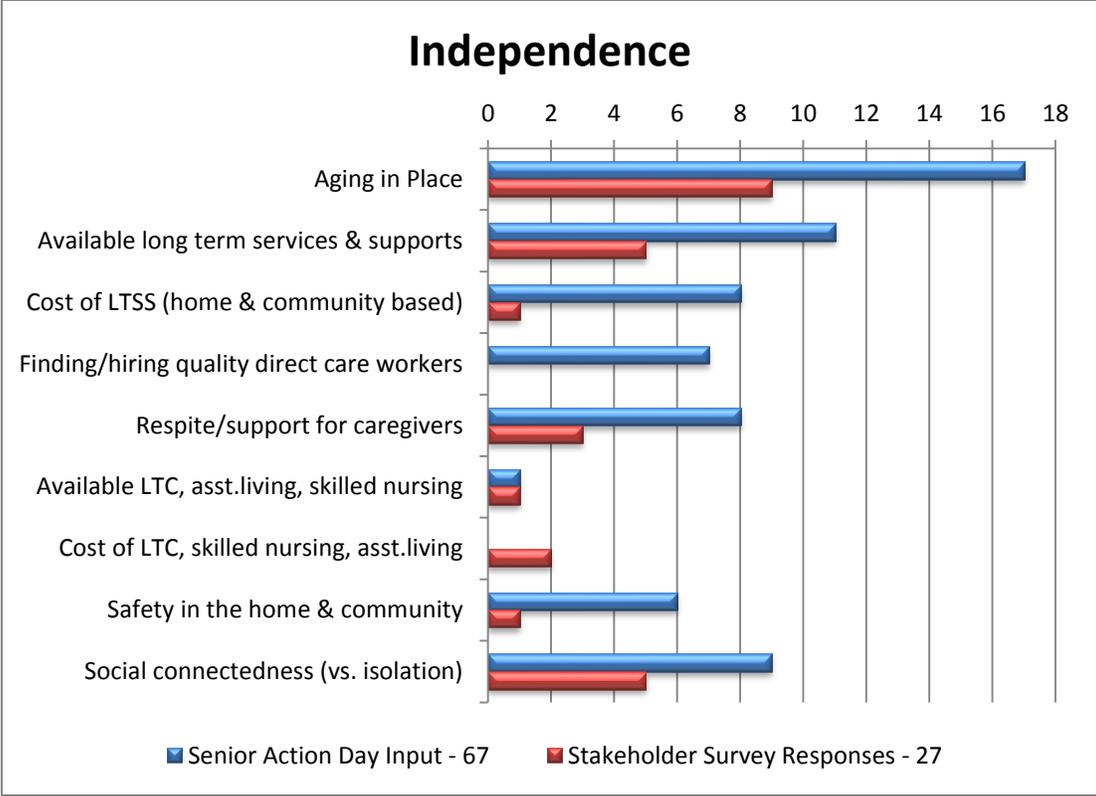
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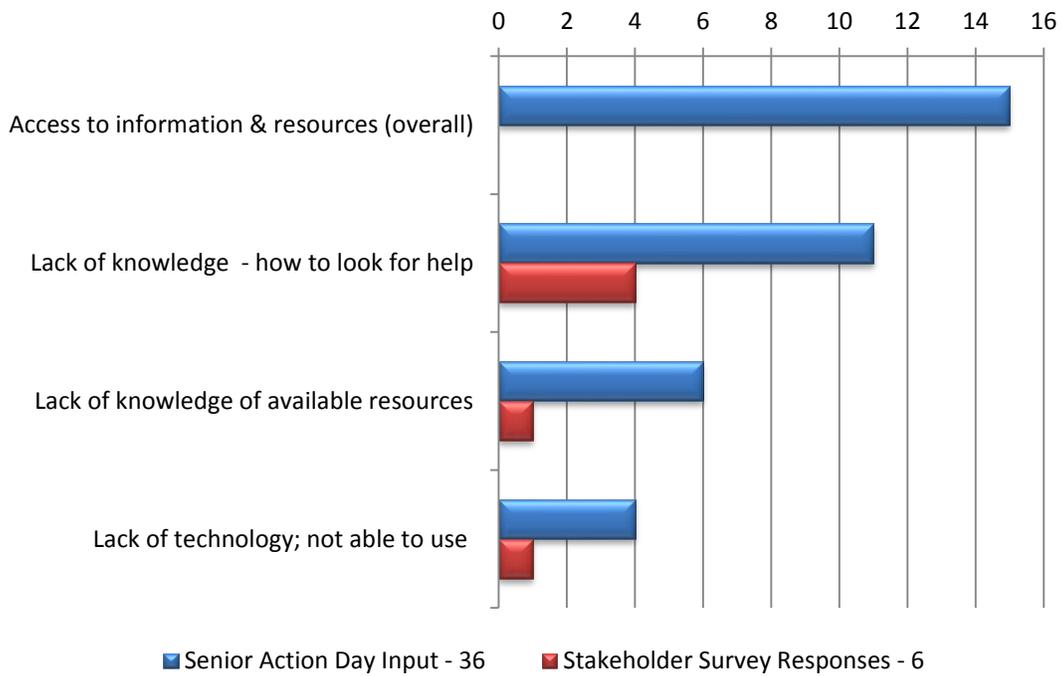
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**Summary of 2013 Senior Action Day Input & Stakeholder Survey Responses
Top Concerns of Older Arizonans**

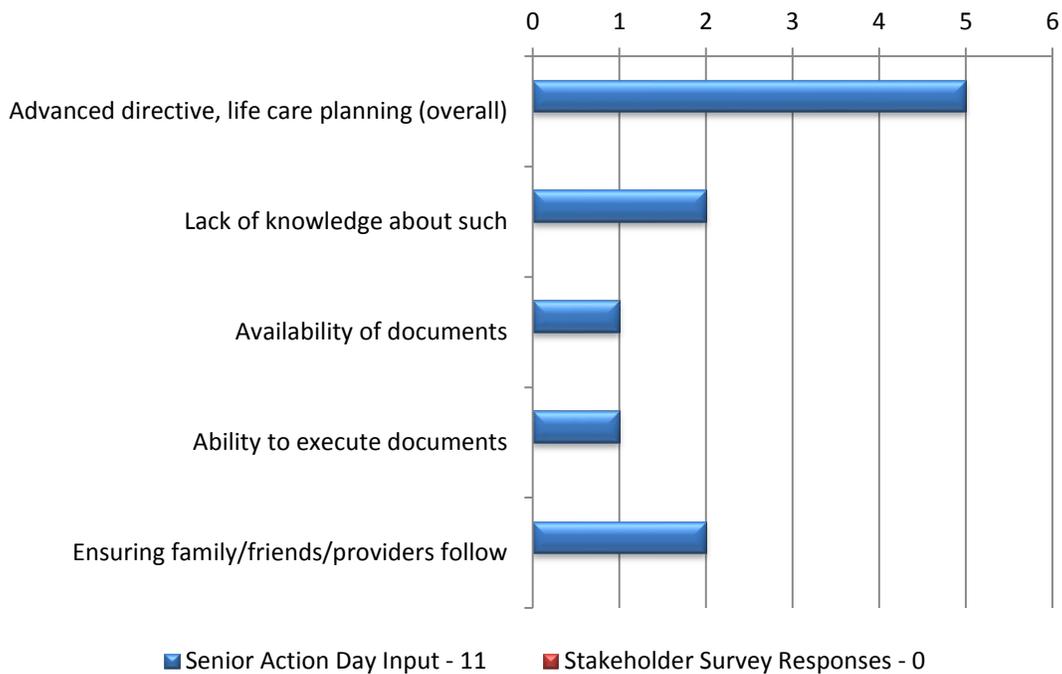


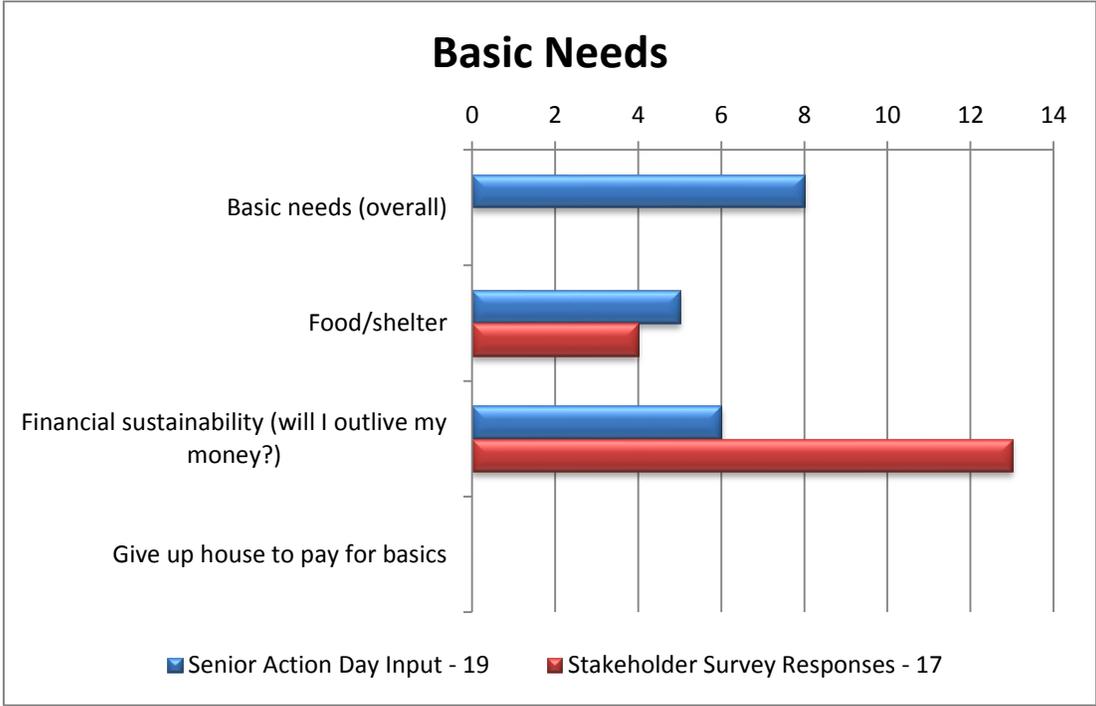
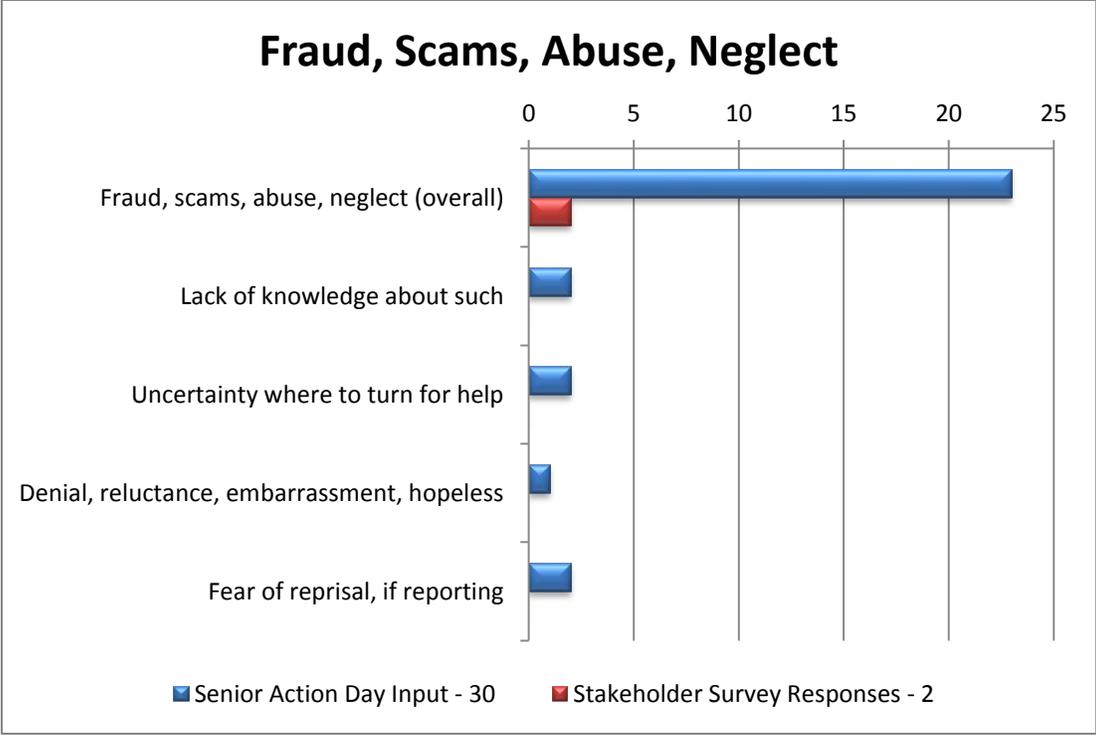


Access to Information & Resources



Advanced Directives, Life Care Planning





Other Top Concerns from the Stakeholders Survey - 2

Legislators unable to pass legislation that would enhance quality of life	1
Advocacy	1