

# Area 1 Agency on Aging

2007-2008 Annual Report



Promoting Independence for a Lifetime

# Who We Are

The Area 1 Agency on Aging (AIAA) prepares to enter its 29<sup>th</sup> year of service to the senior populations of Humboldt and Del Norte counties. As we look to the future, those who have been part of its staff, those who have served on the Boards of Directors and Advisory Councils guiding and informing the work of the Agency, the thousands who have been active in volunteer efforts facilitated by the Volunteer Center of the Redwoods and RSVP, and those who have supported the work of the Agency through the generous application of time, energy, and funding can take pride in its long and rich tradition of excellence.



Tom Rowe, President, Board of Directors and  
Cindy Denbo, Executive Director

This Annual Report celebrates the successes of the past year as well as the accomplishments of staff, boards, councils, volunteers and community members that provide the foundation for future programs, services and partnerships.

The challenges of today are clear. Amidst economic uncertainty and increasing need, the Area 1 Agency on Aging is committed to addressing them. We will continue to advocate for our growing senior population, to support those in need of assistance, to develop and enhance the services we provide to the oldest and most frail and fragile among us.

The challenges of tomorrow are undeniable. Funding continues to decline as the senior population continues to increase. The fastest growing segment of our national, state and county populations is our senior population. The fastest growing segment of the senior population is the oldest--those over 100 years of age, the oldest of the old. The Boomer generation, now 31% of the population, is beginning to enter the network of services for the aging. The work of this agency is increasingly important, ever more vital, compellingly relevant. We will continue to strengthen our partnerships, develop our programs, and refine and enhance our services as we re-affirm our commitment to the people of Humboldt and Del Norte counties: to assist our seniors to preserve their health and independence and to age with grace and dignity.

We thank the many who share our commitment and the organizations that support our mission. Their vision, dedication and generosity will be of increasing importance as we prepare for our fourth decade of service.

*Tom Rowe, Board President  
Cindy Denbo, Executive Director*



## Area 1 Agency on Aging Board of Directors

Front row: Sharon Mellett, Joan Rainwater-Gish, Doris Whalen, Dianne Bennett. Second row: Karen Suiker, Nancy Gregory, Jim Pedrotti. Back row: Scott Sattler, M.D., Tom Rowe.  
Left inset: Victoria Onstine. Center inset: Steve Beckman.  
Right inset: Sharon Hunter .

Cover photo of 102 year-old Ruth Colwell of Garberville, California was taken by Brown W. Cannon III of Cannon Photography, LLC. The photo was featured in the July 2008 issue of Sunset Magazine and is reprinted with the permission of the photographer.

# Our Services

# HICAP

The Area 1 Agency on Aging Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) provides counseling and assistance to over 26,000 Medicare beneficiaries in Humboldt and Del Norte counties. HICAP Counselors assist older adults through the complexities of information-gathering and decision-making concerning Medicare benefits and rights, changes in Medicare, Medigap, prescription drug plans and long-term care insurance. HICAP staff members organize and present informational programs to community groups and are regular contributors to print and on-air media. They provide demonstrations on the effective use of Medicare online tools to compare Medicare prescription drug plans to assist beneficiaries and their caregivers in choosing plans. This increasingly essential service is provided by expert and experienced counselors and trained volunteers. As the number of seniors continues to grow in Humboldt and Del Norte counties, we anticipate increasing need for the clear and accurate information available through HICAP.

*HICAP Manager Martha Johnson*



HICAP staff: Robert Nelson, Martha Johnson, Becky Kurwitz, Bonnie MacGregor. Top inset: Maren Rose. Bottom inset: NiCole Rogers (Del Norte).



## HICAP Accomplishments:

- ∞ Provided over 3,700 hours of counseling and assistance to local Medicare beneficiaries
- ∞ Conducted 35 public health insurance presentations to inform 1,050 residents of Humboldt and Del Norte counties
- ∞ Number of people assisted through counseling and telephone contacts: 5,433
- ∞ Dollar value of savings to beneficiaries: \$320,514

*“At a time in life where things often get much more confusing, we are grateful for the help your agency gives the elderly.” HICAP Client*

*“I want to thank you so much for the work, time and most of all kindness you gave us... you shine in our eyes!” HICAP Client*



Debby Krzesni,  
Registered Dietitian

## Consulting Dietitian

AIAA provides \$614,000 in funding for the senior nutrition, congregate and home-delivered meals programs in Humboldt and Del Norte counties. Our registered dietitian provides nutritional and safety oversight for four programs that serve over 68,000 congregate meals and over 77,000 home-delivered meals annually.

# Senior Information & Assistance and Caregiver Services

The Senior Information and Assistance Program (I&A) is the gateway for information and referrals to resources and services for seniors, people with disabilities, service providers, caregivers, and families in Humboldt and Del Norte counties. Professional Resource Specialists are available for in-person and telephone interviews, and accessible through Internet and e-mail. I&A program staff compile and publish an Information Directory for Seniors, Caregivers, and Disability Services and maintain a comprehensive, current database of local and national resources.

*Information & Assistance and Caregiver Services Manager Tom Collins*

## In 2007-2008, I&A Staff:

- ∞ Responded to over 7,000 requests for information and assistance
- ∞ Distributed over 5,000 Senior Information Directories
- ∞ Facilitated Franchise Tax Board Home Owners and Renters Assistance Program training for volunteer tax preparers that resulted in the return of over \$1.5 million to low-income individuals and families
- ∞ Provided comprehensive information, assistance, and advocacy services to Native American Elders and tribal offices
- ∞ Provided community presentations attended by more than 2,000 people in Humboldt and Del Norte counties

The Caregiver Services Program maintains a registry of caregivers, all of whom have completed a 33-hour in-home caregiver training course coordinated by the AIAA Caregiver Services Program and the Public Authority of Humboldt County. Trained Resource Specialists provide services to care recipients, professional and family caregivers, and service providers. The Caregiver Services Program provides those needing in-home care with a list of trained caregivers available for private hire or employment through the Humboldt County Public Authority's In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS).

## In 2007-2008, Caregiver Services Program:

- ∞ Responded to over 2000 requests for caregiving information and assistance
- ∞ Made over 1,200 referrals of caregivers to both IHSS and private hire clients
- ∞ Conducted six 33-hour training sessions for in-home caregivers and graduated over 100 care providers
- ∞ Published The Caregiver Quarterly
- ∞ Coordinated Caregiver Celebrations and Caregiver Resource Fairs
- ∞ Hosted monthly "Chow & Chat" lunches and information sharing for caregivers and clients in the Willow Creek area



Senior Information & Assistance and Caregiver Services Staff: Michelle Guthrie, Tom Collins, Teresa Christian, Vicki Okey, Suzy Smith. Inset left: Michele Swift (Willow Creek). Inset right: Beth Moore (Del Norte).

# Volunteer Center of the Redwoods & RSVP

The Volunteer Center of the Redwoods (VCOR) is a place where people of all ages and abilities can discover fulfilling opportunities to give back to their communities. The Volunteer Center promotes the importance and value of volunteering by connecting people to their communities. It supports community agencies by providing assistance and training in recruiting, managing and retaining volunteers. Volunteer programs include: RSVP, focusing on volunteers age 55 and over; Drop of a Hat Brigade, providing one-time, short-term volunteer opportunities; DOORS, focusing on volunteers of all ages with disabilities; SHARE, providing school and after-school programs; the F.U.N. Play Center, offering nutritional and play activities for grandparents raising grandchildren; Flex Your Power, promoting energy savings; and multiple craft groups including Craf-T-Crafters, Katie's Krafters, Loose Ends, and Woodcrafters.

*Volunteer Services Manager Todd Metcalf*

*“One of the great secrets of life is that all that is really worth doing is what we do for others.” Lewis Carroll*

## Volunteer Center Accomplishments:

- ∞ Referred more than 350 people to volunteer opportunities
- ∞ Enrolled over 200 new volunteers
- ∞ Supported more than 1,300 volunteers of all ages
- ∞ RSVP volunteers contributed over 135,000 hours of service in Humboldt and Del Norte counties
- ∞ Dollar value of RSVP volunteer service contributions: nearly \$3,000,000
- ∞ More than 300 non-profit organizations, schools and governmental agencies benefited from volunteer time

Day of Caring volunteers Francine Sanchez and Anne Thompson remove non-native plants at Little River State Beach



*“I’m such a big fan of all you do and the opportunity it’s given me to meet amazing people and build relationships within the community!” Dana Hope, Drop of a Hat Brigade Volunteer*



VCOR Staff: Stacy Becker, Todd Metcalf, Bonnie Finley (Del Norte), Marlaire Florencio, Martha Hunkins. Inset: Brett Broomall (F.U.N. Play Center).

## Volunteer Center & RSVP Advisory Council

### **Humboldt County Representatives:**

Kari Love, Maura Eastman, Paul Rex, Lynne Sarty, Kay Sennott, Bill Shapeero

### **Del Norte County Representatives:**

Albert A. Halls, John Ging, Virginia Hinkley, Kelley Nolan

# Financial Management

The Area I Agency on Aging is a 501(c)(3) organization responsible for the stewardship of public and private funds. The Agency receives federal, state, county and city dollars to fund its work. Grants and contributions are received from foundations, private donations, fundraising, membership fees, school districts and community underwriting. The Agency also benefits from investment income.

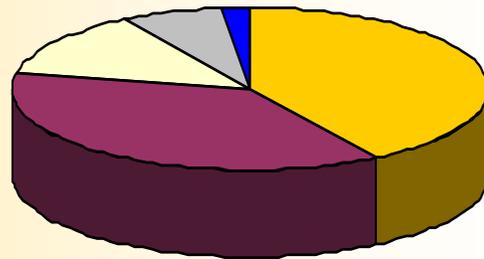
During fiscal year 2007-2008, the Area I Agency on Aging administered \$2.4 million in operating revenues. Eighty-seven percent of the agency's total expenditures were used to fund vital services that help seniors remain independent and that support volunteer recruitment and management.

*Director of Finance Elaine David*

## 2007-2008 Operating Revenues

**\$2,418,000**

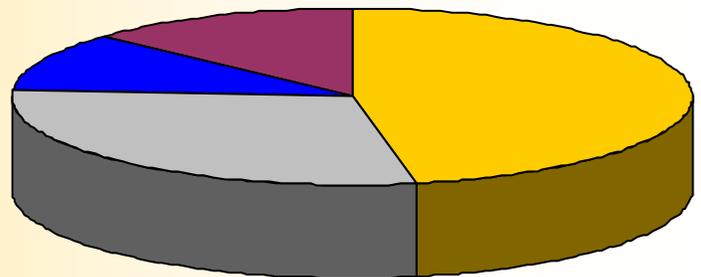
Federal Funds	41%	
State Funds	37%	
Support from Counties	13%	
Grants, Contracts & Contributions	7%	
Support from Cities	2%	



## 2007-2008 Operating Expenditures

**\$2,563,000**

Senior Support Programs	47%	
Senior Nutrition Programs	29%	
Volunteer Programs	11%	
Administration & Fundraising	13%	



## Statement of Financial Position

	<u>As of 6/30/08</u>	<u>As of 6/30/07</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$807,867	\$725,638
Investments	932,225	1,225,852
Other Assets	345,748	278,257
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$2,085,840</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,229,747</u></b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	\$135,904	\$162,906
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted	1,903,123	1,966,532
Temporarily Restricted	46,813	100,309
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b><u>\$1,949,936</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,066,841</u></b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b><u>\$2,085,840</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,229,747</u></b>



Fiscal Staff:  
Elaine David, Laura Rhinehart, Suzanne Timek

# The Gift...



In August 2008, the Area I Agency on Aging became co-owners of the building at 434 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Eureka. This is an excellent office building that will satisfy the facility needs of the Agency and its clients for many years to come.

Originally located in a suite of offices on Glenwood Street in Eureka, by 2008 the Agency was providing programs, offices and services in four separate locations in Eureka, each of them miles from the others. As the responsibilities and the mission of the Agency grew in the years after its creation in 1980, it became increasingly apparent that to best serve the senior populations of Humboldt and Del Norte counties, the Agency would need to provide services in an accessible building...a facility on city bus lines, with adequate parking...a building in which Agency offices would be easily and comfortably visited by seniors, people with disabilities, their families and caregivers, volunteers...a facility in which the Agency would realize economies of staffing, transportation, operational costs, information technology and administration.

Now, after years of planning and searching for a new home, the Area I Agency on Aging has consolidated its Eureka services, offices and programs in a single, centrally-located facility. A page has been turned on a new chapter in the history of this venerable and accomplished organization. This consolidation was made possible through the generosity of the late Jacob Czerwieniec. His estate's gift to the Area I Agency on Aging allows this organization to serve the seniors of Humboldt and Del Norte counties in an appropriate and accessible facility, a building that reflects the respect and regard we have for our seniors and one in which services and programs are offered efficiently and effectively to our public.

We are grateful for Jacob's gift—a contribution that enriches and benefits us all.



**Jacob Czerwieniec**  
(1923 - 1999)

Jacob Czerwieniec, the son of immigrant Polish parents who spent his youth in Wisconsin, was a man of Humboldt County. He worked in the woods around Bridgeville as a young man, supplementing his income during the off-season with employment at the Bridgeville General Store. In 1956, he purchased the Loleta Grocery Store and eventually became the owner of several apartment buildings, storefront buildings on Main Street in Loleta, and the Loleta Water Works, for which he personally provided most of the maintenance and repair work necessary to keep in good working order. Those who knew him, his friends and neighbors in the Eel River Valley, held his strong work ethic, honesty, community spirit and gentle manner in high regard. Jacob was a social man who loved to cook and who took pleasure in sharing his recipes. He was a straight-forward and steadfast friend. "You knew where you stood with Jacob," his friends say when they remember this self-made man who built his estate through hard work, business acumen and a sense of the possible.

Self-educated, an avid reader, and a man with a strong and generous sense of civic involvement, Jacob arranged for the eventual use of his assets to benefit local nonprofit organizations. After his death in 1999, the Czerwieniec Estate Trustees carried out these wishes and the Jacob Czerwieniec Endowment Fund for the Area I Agency on Aging was created. This extraordinary gift from the estate of Jacob Czerwieniec has now enabled the Area I Agency on Aging to provide an appropriate facility in which the seniors of Humboldt and Del Norte counties will be served; it will provide continuing support for the provision and maintenance of quality programs for our growing population of seniors.

Jacob Czerwieniec's generosity, his vision and his sense of community have combined to leave a powerful legacy to the people of Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

# Contact Us

## Our Mission:

To provide leadership and guidance in supporting an older person's ability to lead a dignified, safe, healthy and independent life; and provide leadership and resources to support volunteers as they make positive changes in our community.



### A1AA Advisory Council

Chris Jones, Thea Gast, Barbara Walsler, Sharon Allen, Jamie Kerr, Supervisor Leslie McNamer, Jackie Glenn, Nancy Wilson. Inset top: Supervisor John Woolley. Inset center: Dorothy Lincoln. Inset bottom: Jeff Davis.



Administration Staff: Cindy Denbo, Suzy Smith, Marianne Nix, Mary Jo Gonzalez, Sean Ennis.

## Area I Agency on Aging

434 7th Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

(707) 442-3763

administrator@a1aa.org

www.a1aa.org

## Senior Information and Assistance Program

434 7th Street, Eureka

Humboldt: (707) 442-9591

Del Norte: (707) 464-7876

Toll Free: 1-800-408-4636

infodirector@a1aa.org

## Caregiver Services Program

434 7th Street, Eureka

Humboldt: (707) 443-4363

Eastern Humboldt: (530) 629-1139

Toll Free: 1-877-977-1604

caregiver@a1aa.org

## Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP)

434 7th Street, Eureka

Humboldt: (707) 444-3000

Del Norte: (707) 464-7876

Toll Free: 1-800-434-0222

hicap@a1aa.org (Humboldt)

dnhicap@a1aa.org (Del Norte)

## Area I Agency on Aging — Del Norte

550 East Washington Blvd., Suite 200

Crescent City, CA 95531

(707) 464-7876

dnseniorinfo@a1aa.org

www.dninfocenter.org

## Volunteer Center of the Redwoods/RSVP

Humboldt: 434 7th Street, Eureka

(707) 442-3711

Del Norte: 550 East Washington Blvd.,

Suite 200, Crescent City

(707) 464-7876

volunteer@a1aa.org

www.a1aa.org

### Special Projects and Collaborative Programs:

Disability Outreach Offering Resources Through Service (DOORS) • Senior Farmers Market Vouchers • Better Balance Classes for Balance and Mobility • Blue Lake Rancheria Title III & Title VI Collaboration • Del Norte Community Health Fair • Minor Home Modification (Humboldt) • Homeowners/Renters Forms Assistance • Senior Information Directory • Distribution of Rx Check Up Booklets • A Guide to Vision Loss Services Booklet • Community Collaboration on Medicare Part D • Caregiver Celebrations and Resource Fairs • Volunteer Managers Brown Bag Lunches • Day of Caring •