

# The Administration for Community Living



The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is the **only federal agency** helping older adults and people with disabilities to maximize independence and well being. It funds local organizations to make communities safer, more accessible, and inclusive to everyone.

ACL protects the rights of older adults and people with disabilities. It supports programs for community services, education, training, and research to help individuals remain independent and connected. ACL services are available to all, including middle income Americans.



## What is community living?

Community living means that people—no matter their age or disability—can live in the setting of their choice while receiving necessary services and supports.

## Why does community living matter?\*

- Most people want to live at home
- It is a legal right
- Inclusive communities thrive

## Are ACL programs cost-effective?

Yes! ACL programs help save money for the government. They focus on:

- **Prevention**
- **Community-Based Care**
- **Self-Management** teaches people to manage their own health
- **Living at home** with support often costs less than skilled nursing care

## What is the future of the ACL?

**The Department of Health and Human Services has proposed dismantling the ACL, cutting its staff by 40% and discontinuing critical programs.** [Supplemental budget materials](#) indicate many ACL programs will move to a newly renamed Administration for Children, Families and Communities. Details are still forthcoming.

**Today, there are over 77 million people in the U.S. who are 60 or older and 61 million people with disabilities. These numbers are growing fast. By 2040, more than 80 million Americans will be over 65 years old.**

Learn more at [acl.gov](https://acl.gov)

*\*From [Centers for Independent Living Make Community Living Possible](#)*

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## Why pair aging & disability together?

Older adults and people with disabilities often need the same kinds of services, like:

- **Housing**
- **Transportation**
- **Community Support**
- **Respite Care**

Many adults develop disabilities as they age, and people with disabilities age. Supporting aging and disability together boosts efficiency and cuts costs.

## Who does the ACL serve?

The ACL serves Americans with physical, sensory, intellectual, and developmental disabilities **regardless of whether a disability is due to birth, age, or injury**, as well as older adults and caregivers.

**Call your federal legislators!  
Voice your support for ACL.**  
[www.congress.gov](http://www.congress.gov)



## What programs does the ACL administer and support?

More than 2,500 community-based organizations across the U.S. receive funding and support from the ACL. Americans benefit from the following services:

- Advocate for residents in long-term care facilities
- Adult Protective Services
- Assistance for family caregivers
- Chronic disease self-management education
- Congregate and home-delivered meals
- Ensure seamless service delivery across programs
- Expand employment and the direct care workforce
- Health promotion and disease prevention
- Increase access to assistive technology
- Health insurance counseling for Medicare beneficiaries
- Legal services
- Prevent unnecessary institutionalization
- Remove policy and program barriers to independent living
- Support transition from institutional settings to community living
- Transportation services

*The Aging & Disability Coalition*