Area Plan Budget Training & June AAA Input Session

June 9, 2025

DARS | Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
DIVISION FOR AGING SERVICES

Today's Agenda

- Welcome
- Federal Budget: Update
- Area Plan Budget Training
  - Estimated Allocations
  - Navigating the Budget Companion Manual
    - Completing the Area Plan Budget
    - Summary
    - Requirements
    - Services
    - Transfers
  - Steps in Budget Review
- NCI-AD: Update
- State Plan for Aging Services: Update
- Looking Ahead

Federal Budget Update

FY 2026 Presidential Proposed Budget

- ACL moves under the newly named Administration for Children, Families and Communities (ACFC).

- HHS has not yet released the detailed budget justification yet.

- At this time, proposed funding levels appear to remain stable for many aging and disability programs, including OAA programs & Social Services Block Grant (SSBG).

- But it's not all good news: Eliminates funding for SCSEP, LIHEAP, CSBG, CDSME, White House Conference on Aging, Section 202 & 811 Housing Vouchers, Limb Loss & Paralysis Resource Centers, and Voting Access for People with Disabilities.

Budget Reconciliation Status

- The House of Representatives passed a budget reconciliation bill ("One Big Beautiful Bill Act") on May 22 by a vote of 215-214.
- The bill is now in the hands of the Senate
- The bill makes changes to Medicaid and SNAP, among other programs and federal government initiatives
- A CBO Score was released last week that estimated the bill would:
  - Reduce insurance coverage by 10.9 million
  - Increase the deficit by $2.4 trillion
- There are reports that some Senators may be looking to Medicare cuts to reduce the fiscal impact
  - Target could be reductions in payments to Medicare Advantage Plans
- Evolving situation that changes each day…

AAA Input Session

NCI-AD: Next State Plan

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Scope	**NCI-AD**	VCoA	State Agency Reports	Products
State Plan for Aging Services	Sampling of AAA Clients	VCoA Listening Sessions VCoA Trends in Data & Reporting	Engage with Other Agencies by Soliciting State Agency Reports	NCI-AD Report VCoA Report State Agency Reports

NCI-AD

- National Core Indicators for Aging and Disabilities (NCI-AD)
- Initiative from ADvancing States and the Human Services Research Institute (HSRI)
- You can learn more about NCI-AD here: https://nci-ad.org/
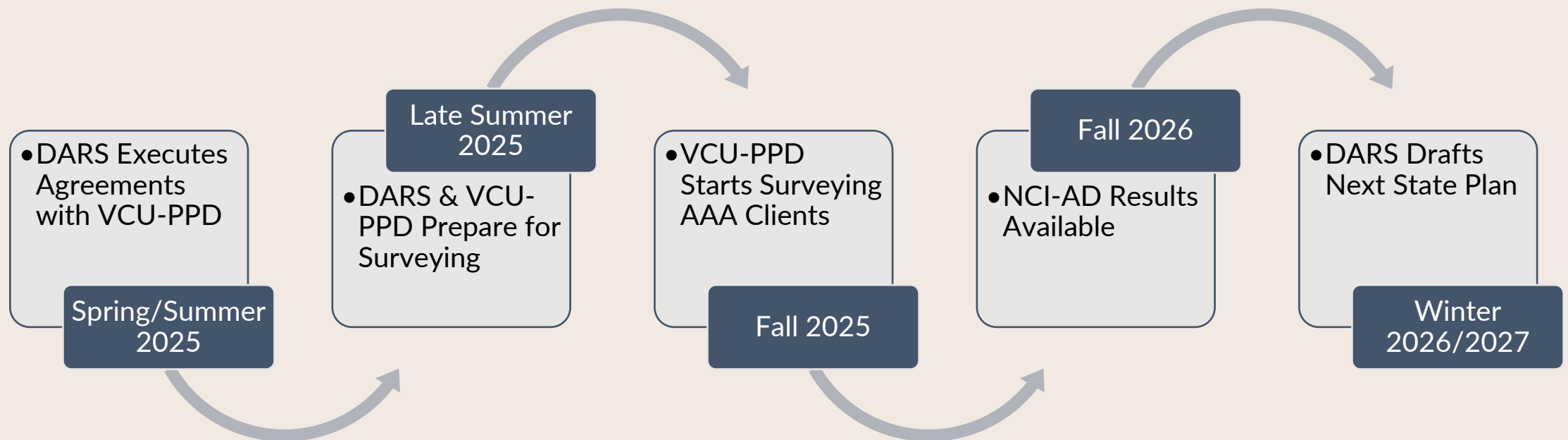
NCI-AD and Medicaid

- NCI-AD is used by the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) for the CCC Plus Waiver
  - DMAS also uses the NCI-Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (NCI-IDD) for the DD Waivers
  - DMAS partners with Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. (HSAG), the External Quality Review Organization (EQRO), and the VCU Partnership for People with Disabilities (VCU-PPD) to implement NCI-AD and NCI-IDD

- The CMS Medicaid Access Final Rule requires State Medicaid Agencies to collect data on the experience of care and pre-established measures for Medicaid services
  - CMS has approved the NCI-AD, NCI-IDD, HCBS CAHPS and POM as approved data collection tools for these purposes

CASOA v. NCI-AD

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CASOA	NCI-AD
More expensive	Less expensive
Random sampling of older Virginians	Random sampling of AAA clients
No connection to DMAS	Alignment with DMAS
Focuses more on general population needs	Focuses more on service satisfaction and client needs
Flexible timeline for implementation	Structured timeline for implementation
Has an option to add extra questions	Has an option to add extra questions
Statewide and AAA-level data	**For this cycle: Only state-level data** ⬅
Benchmark comparisons available	Benchmark comparisons available

NCI-AD Timeline

NCI-AD has a 15-18 month start-to-finish implementation timeline

- DARS Executes Agreements with VCU-PPD

Spring/Summer 2025

Late Summer 2025

- DARS & VCU-PPD Prepare for Surveying

- VCU-PPD Starts Surveying AAA Clients

Fall 2025

Fall 2026

- NCI-AD Results Available

- DARS Drafts Next State Plan

Winter 2026/2027

NCI-AD: Expectations

DARS' Role & Expectations

- Contract with and Pay VCU-PPD for NCI-AD Survey
- Coordinate the Exchange of Data with VCU-PPD
- Develop Materials & Messaging to Help Promote Survey Participation

AAAs' Role & Expectations

- Maintain Up-to-Date Client Data in PeerPlace
  - Phone Numbers & Addresses
- Identify an AAA Staff Contact to Liaison with DARS
- Provide Survey Credibility and Promote Survey Participation with AAA Clients

State Plan for Aging Services Update

- DARS received positive feedback from our ACL Regional Administrator
  - She did not request any changes to the Draft Amended Plan
- DARS declined to make any changes to the Draft Amended Plan as a result of the public input process
  - However, comments received will be considered during the development of the next State Plan for Aging Services
- DARS has received approval for the Final Plan from the Office of Regulatory Management (ORM)
- DARS is now working to secure approval for the Final Plan from the Secretary of Health and Human Resources and the Governor's Office
- DARS expects to meet the July 1 submission deadline

Looking Ahead

Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

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- **Next AAA Input Session:** July 16th from 3pm-4pm

- Stay Tuned for:
  - Corrective Action Plan (CAP) Development Updates
  - Updated DARS Policies & Procedures