

June 24, 2024

Dear Municipal or Senior Center Leader:

This past legislative session, the General Assembly chose to forgo formal adjustments to the state's biennium budget. Instead, the legislature re-directed more than \$370 million in unspent federal pandemic relief grants to support ongoing core programs like health care and social services ([Public Act 24-81](#)). Unfortunately, this included reducing, from \$10 million to \$6.5 million, the ARPA funds initially awarded to our agency for distribution to, and in support of, Connecticut senior centers.

To date, Connecticut Aging and Disability Services (ADS) has approved nearly \$5.3 million of this ARPA funding for senior center projects. With the remaining \$1.2 million, **we are only able to fund project submissions received through May 7, 2024, when the funding reduction became effective.** This also means **we currently do not have enough funding to support submissions received after May 7<sup>th</sup> or any statewide senior center initiatives, as originally planned.**

While ADS is disappointed with the reduction, our focus now is to implement the program within the resources we were allotted, in a manner that best delivers impact to Connecticut older adults and maximizes funding to local senior centers.

**What this means for you:**

- **If you have an executed contract:** this will be honored, and you may continue to do the approved work.
- **If you had previously received an approval for your proposal but have not yet been sent a draft beneficiary agreement:** you can expect a draft agreement to be sent to you soon for your review and signature. You must not start any projects or incur any costs prior to having an executed agreement in place.
- **If you submitted a proposal through May 7<sup>th</sup> of this year:** your submission is currently under review and if approved, will be funded in full. ADS will be in touch with you shortly regarding your proposal.
- **If you submitted a proposal after May 7<sup>th</sup> of this year:** we regret to inform you that your senior center project/s cannot be funded at this time.

Senior centers and municipalities can still submit proposals if you have yet to do so before June 28, 2024, however, the existing funding will be exhausted after awarding projects submitted on or before May 7. Should more funding become available in the future, we will try to honor these projects in the order within which they were received.



Our dedicated Senior Center Coordinator & Municipal Liaison, Claire Côté, is available to answer any questions and to support senior centers and all the extraordinary service you provide to our aging and older residents and caregivers. She can be reached at [stateunitonaging@ct.gov](mailto:stateunitonaging@ct.gov) or 860.424.4868.

Thank you for your continued work in support of Connecticut residents and being vital assets within your communities.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Amy Porter'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'A' and 'P'.

Amy Porter

Commissioner, Connecticut Aging and Disability Services