

## **ADVOCACY ALERT!**

### **ISSUE: PROJECT 2020**

The U.S. [Administration on Aging](#) (AOA) and other government agencies has begun to develop long-term care initiatives to address the healthcare needs of an increasingly aging population and generate savings in Medicare and Medicaid. One such initiative, Project 2020, could help the aging network be more consumer-centered and have cost effective long-term care strategies, ultimately working to improve the quality of life for older adults.

If implemented across the nation, the Project 2020 program is estimated to have a gross federal savings of \$2.7 billion. States will also experience significant savings.

### **Project 2020 Components:**

- Person-Centered Access to Information
  - Connecting older adults, caregivers and people with disabilities to information, resources, benefits and services.
- Evidence-Based Disease Prevention and Health Promotion programs
  - Providing effective interventions that have demonstrated to improve the health and well being of an aging population.
- Enhanced Nursing Home Diversion Programs
  - Targeting those individuals who are at risk of spending down their assets to qualify for Medicaid;
  - Providing community-based services, such as home delivered meals, homemaker services or medical transportation to enable people to remain at home instead of being placed in nursing facilities.

**DATE: June 2009**

**TIME FRAME: Act Now!**

### **SUGGESTED ACTION:**

- Help Council on Aging raise awareness about Project 2020. Print and share this information with family, friends and your community!
- Read the Emerging Issue [Status Report](#).
- For more detailed Project 2020 information, click [here](#).
- Contact your [elected officials](#) and tell you support Project 2020 because home and community based services can help older adults stay healthy and independent in their communities!