



# COUNCIL on AGING

YOUR SOURCE AND VOICE ON SENIOR ISSUES

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The mission of Council on Aging is to transform Charlotte-Mecklenburg into a *senior-friendly*\* community through education and advocacy.

## ADVOCACY ALERT!

### ISSUE: EMERGENCY FUNDING NEEDED FOR OLDER AMERICANS ACT (OAA) PROGRAMS

The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee is scheduled to begin consideration of a supplemental appropriations bill targeted to jump start the ailing economy and meet the increased demand for safety net supports. The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) is advocating for much-needed emergency funding for Older Americans Act programs, which provide home and community-based services for older adults and caregivers, to be included as part of the second economic stimulus package. Your advocacy is critical in the shared success! **Please partner with Council on Aging and advocate for YOUR *senior-friendly* future today!**

To review the n4a's *Advocacy Alert* in its entirety, click [here](#).

DATE: July 2008

TIME FRAME: **Please act now!**

### SUGGESTED ACTION:

- **Call Congress.** Call 202-224-3121 to connect to the U.S. Capitol Switchboard and then ask for your Representatives/Senators by name. (To find information for their Washington, DC offices, visit: [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) or [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)). **Ask them to ensure that emergency OAA funding for aging programs is part of any economic stimulus bill Congress considers.**
- **Put the need in writing.** Customize this [sample letter](#) and send it to your Representatives and Senators' DC offices via fax (on your agency's letterhead) or email. This step is even more important than calling, as you are providing the Member's office with a written record of the need in your community and a suggested response.

- **Motivate others.** Ask others to advocate also! Urge colleagues, advisory board members, volunteers and clients to make calls and send faxes/emails to their Senators. Print and share this advocacy alert!
- Read [Council on Aging's letter](#) to U.S. Congress and Senators representing North Carolina.
- Contact Council on Aging to request a presentation and advocacy update for your organization, club or community, [Kellie Visker](#) or 704-391-5216 ext. 204.

*\*A senior-friendly community allows aging adults to maintain independence, dignity and quality of life.*