

Director chairs the Interagency Committee on Aging Services. The Director also serves as advocate for the elderly at all levels of government.

The Office on Aging has five divisions: Client Services and Long-Term Care; Housing Services; Management; Nutrition and Community Services; and Planning and Evaluation. The Office is aided by the Commission on Aging and the Financial Review Committee (Code 1957, Art. 70B).

COMMISSION ON AGING

William Bechill, *Chair*, 1999

The Commission on Aging advises the Director on Aging about the work of the Office on Aging. The Commission's thirteen members are named to four-year terms by the Governor who chooses the chair (Code 1957, Art. 70B, sec. 3).

FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Frederick M. Hudson, *Chair*, 1998

The Financial Review Committee was created in 1985 (Chapter 752, Acts of 1985). At the request of the Office on Aging, the Committee evaluates the financial condition of providers of continuing care who are experiencing financial difficulty. The Committee then recommends what action the Office should take.

The Committee's seven members are appointed to three-year terms by the Director on Aging (Code 1957, Art. 70B, sec. 17A).

CLIENT SERVICES & LONG-TERM CARE DIVISION

LaVerne Naesea, *Chief*
(410) 767-1074

The Client Services and Long-Term Care Division was organized in 1995 to direct the programs previously administered by the Nutrition and Community Services Division and the former Housing and Continuing Care Division.

The *Senior Care Program* helps fund and arrange services, such as home delivery of meals, house cleaning, transportation, and day care. The Program thus enables seniors with medical disabilities to stay in their own homes.

Senior Advocacy Programs protect vulnerable or at-risk older persons living at home or in institutions through a system of coordinated services. Programs concern Senior Legal Assistance, Senior Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Public Guardianship, Elder Abuse Prevention, and Senior Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy.

HOUSING SERVICES DIVISION

Ilene W. Rosenthal, *Chief*
(410) 767-1118

The Housing Services Division began as the Housing and Continuing Care Division. When it

was assigned functions of the former Long-Term Care Division in 1993, it was renamed the Housing and Long-Term Care Division. In 1995, it became the Housing Services Division.

The Division administers Senior Assisted-Housing which combines housing with support services for frail residents of senior apartment projects and group homes. The Division also regulates continuing-care retirement communities which provide housing and health-related services for the payment of an entrance fee and a monthly service fee.

MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Bernard Popick, *Chief*
(410) 767-1064

The Management Division is responsible for budgeting, financial management, personnel, staff development, procurement, general administration, and auditing. The Division also administers the *Senior Community-Service Employment Program*. The Program arranges part-time paid employment for older persons who wish to improve their job skills or learn new skills. Seniors work for nonprofit or government agencies giving service to the community through schools and hospitals, senior citizen and day care centers, literacy and nutrition programs, and conservation and beautification projects. Skills learned on the job are supplemented by quarterly training classes given by the Office. The Program offers job counseling and helps in finding unsubsidized work. Enrollment is limited to persons, age 55 years and older, who meet low-income eligibility requirements. The Program is partly funded by the federal Older Americans Act of 1965, Title V (P.L. 94-135).

NUTRITION & COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

Joanne M. Keiser, *Chief*
(410) 767-1094

The Nutrition and Community Services Division was renamed the Community Services and Nutrition Division in 1994. In 1995, it resumed its original name. The Division directs the local administration of programs and services for the elderly. These include nutrition, transportation, senior information and assistance, health promotion, physical fitness, and senior center operations and construction.

The Division monitors and technically aids a network of nineteen area agencies on aging. These local agencies receive grants of federal and State funds from the Office on Aging to serve the elderly in their geographic areas. Area agencies encompass all counties and Baltimore City. Funding sources for grants include the federal Older Americans Act (Title III); the federal Food and Agriculture Act (sec. 700); and State General Funds.