



Fast Facts on Funding:

- Medicare and Medicaid are entitlements. That means that eligible individuals have a legal right to receive covered services.
- Older Americans Act (OAA) programs are NOT entitlements.
- Medicare, other insurance providers, and Medicaid cannot require nor direct that an individual must be given services funded by the OAA.
- If there are other sources available to cover needed services (such as Medicare or other insurance, or Medicaid), area agencies on aging (AAAs) and other direct service providers should use those funds before using discretionary OAA funds.

Because OAA funded services are not entitlements, good stewardship of OAA funds means that these limited funds are targeted to older adults in the greatest need of services. When targeting funds, AAAs can consider whether there are other available funding sources. Such consideration is not means-testing, which is prohibited under the OAA. Rather, it is a prudent way of using all available funding sources to help older adults.

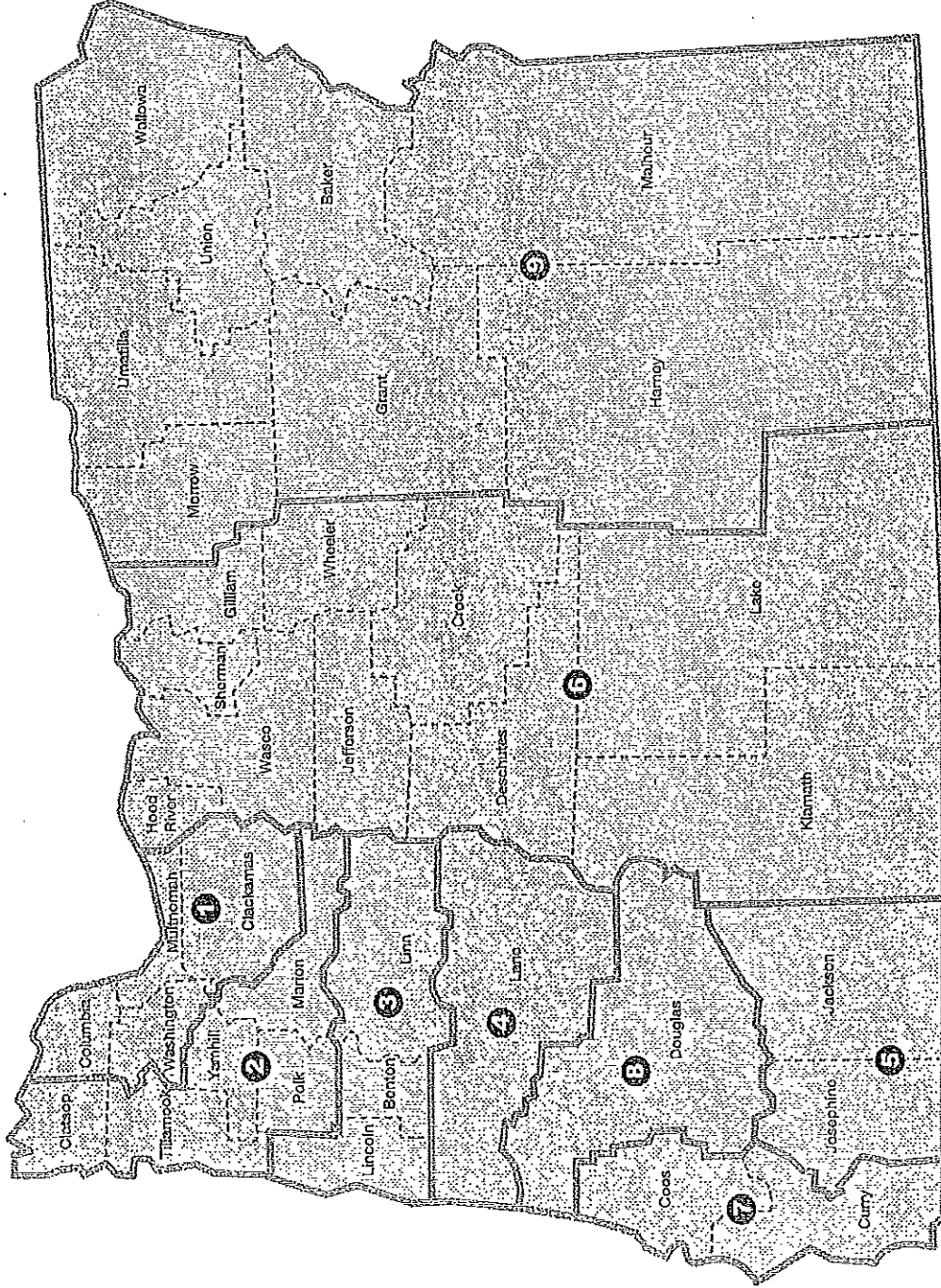
If there are other sources available to cover needed services (such as Medicare or other insurance, or Medicaid), AAAs and other direct service providers should use those sources before using discretionary OAA funds. The OAA does not include a legal requirement (entitlement) to finance services for any individual. Eligible individuals aged 60 and over may receive services under Title III where resources are available and targeted to them, but this availability and targeting varies from state to state and locale to locale within a state.

Even though the OAA should be the funding source that is used after all entitlement sources are used, we do not use the term “payer of last resort” when referring to the OAA. Because OAA programs are not legally liable to provide or pay for services, State Medicaid agencies cannot require that such programs provide or pay for services. There is nothing that prohibits an individual who is eligible for (entitled to) Medicaid services to be receiving those services and also Title III services; however, the State Medicaid agency cannot require that Title III programs fund (and provide) services that can be funded by Medicaid.

For Medicare and other insurance that older adults may have, the same reasoning applies. Medicare providers and other insurance providers also cannot require nor direct that an individual must be given services funded by the OAA.

Oregon's ADRCs

Aging and Disability Resource Connection



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- 7 Coos and Curry
- 8 Douglas
- 9 Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Baker, Grant, Harney and Malheur

