



Meeting the needs of a Growing Aging Population in Baltimore City

Seniors and Housing Collaborative


Maryland Philanthropy Network

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BaltimoreHealth 

health.baltimorecity.gov

Division of Aging and CARE Services

Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for Baltimore City, mandated by the *Older Americans Act* - system of services to help older adults age in place in the homes and communities of their choice.

Vision: An enhanced quality of life for older City residents.

Mission: Supports older adults in their aspirations to remain independent, healthy and in their own homes, and with the ability to participate in the life of their communities.



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Aging Services

Over 30 programs to help older adults age in place

- **Access to Services**
- **Senior Centers**
- **Support the most vulnerable**



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Trends and Demographics

Residents aged 60 and over



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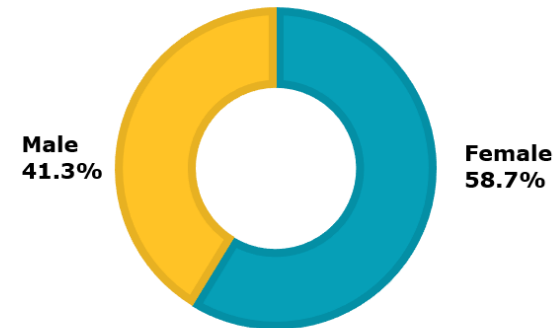
Overall Population

Year	Population aged 60 and over
2010	106,454
2019	125,057

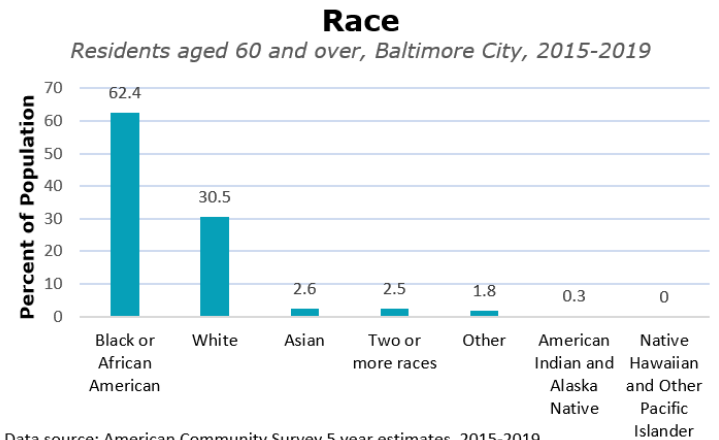
Data source: American Community Survey 1-year estimates, 2010 and 2019

There was a 17.5% increase in the Baltimore City older adult population (60 and over) between 2010 to 2019

Sex
Residents aged 60 and over, Baltimore City, 2015-2019



Data source: American Community Survey 5 year estimates, 2015-2019



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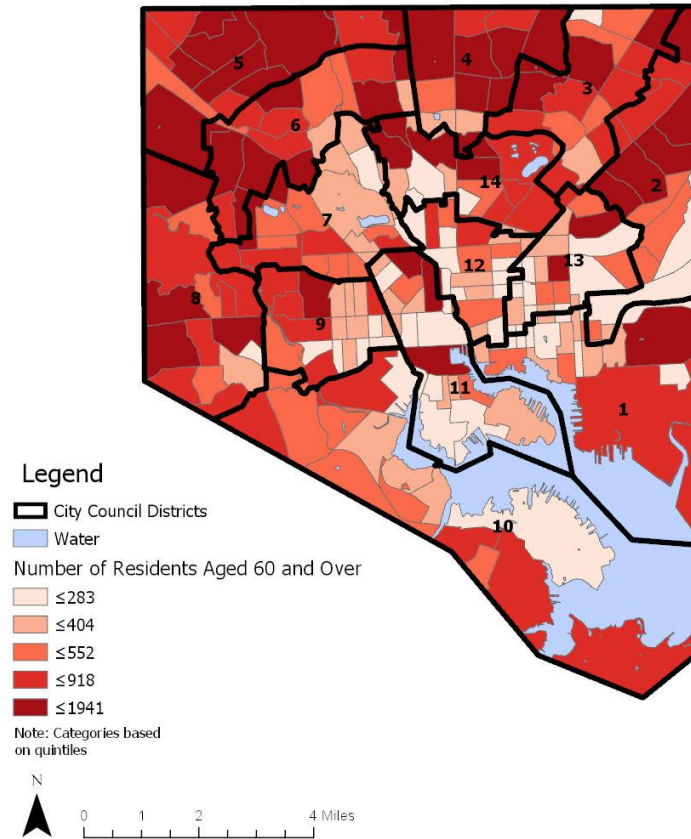


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Overall Population

Number of Residents Aged 60 and Over by Census Tract, Baltimore City, 2014-2018



Data source: American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (2014-2018).
Map prepared by Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD), January 21, 2020.



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Life Expectancy

Life expectancy (years) for Baltimore City residents by race and sex, Maryland Department of Health, 2010 and 2019 Vital Statistics Annual Report

Year	All races	Black or African American	White
2010	73.3	71.5	76.5
2019	72.8	70.8	76.2

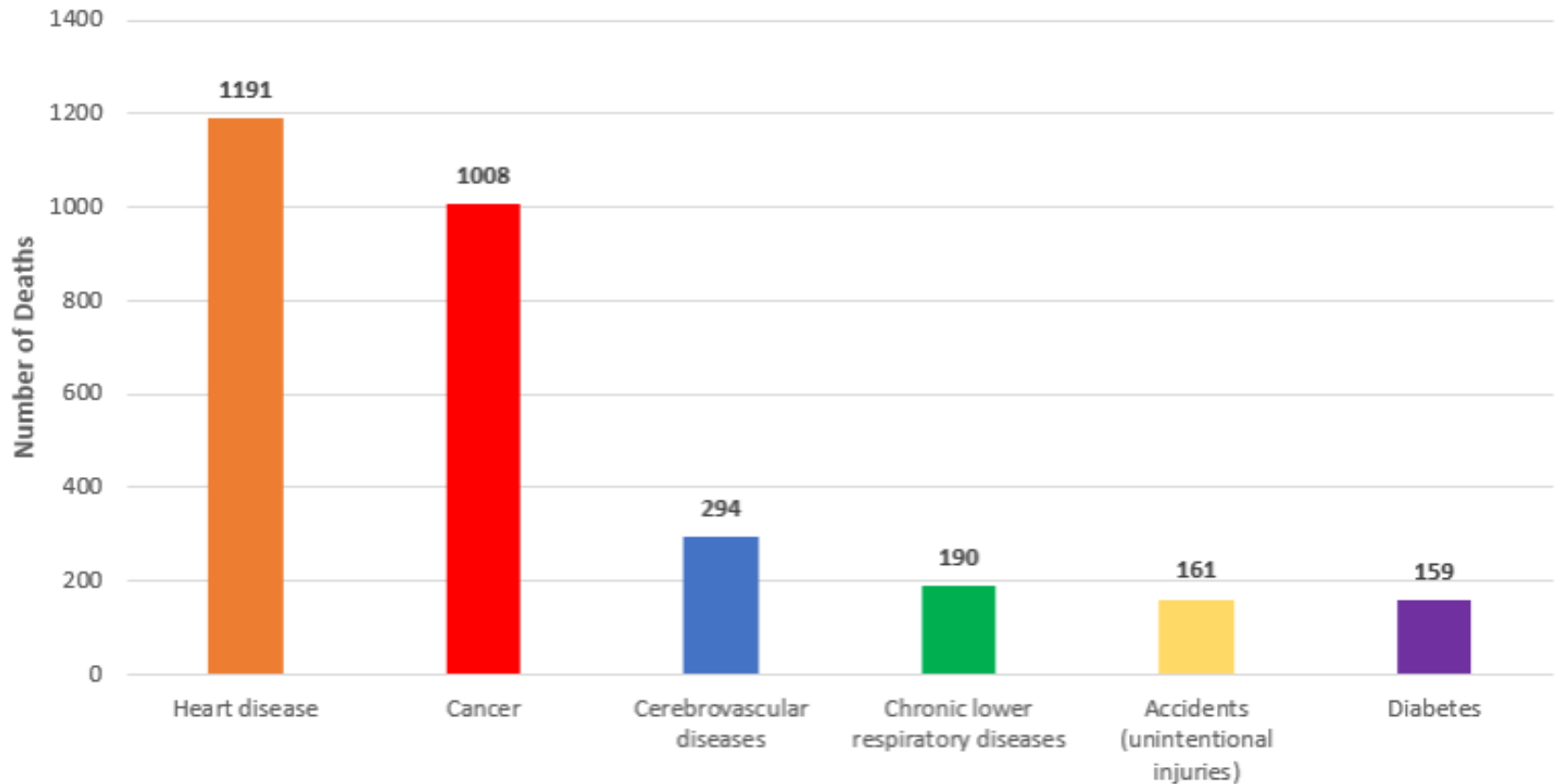


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Leading Causes of Death

Leading Causes of Death for Residents Aged 60 and Over, Baltimore City, 2019



Data source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, WONDER Online Database, Underlying Cause of Death 2019

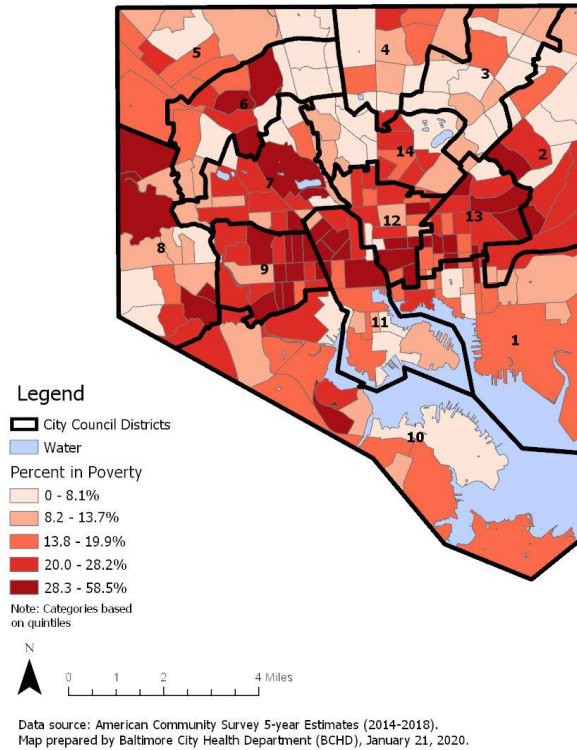


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Poverty

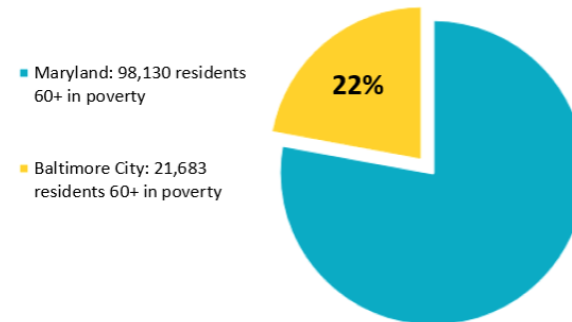
Percent of Residents Aged 60 and Over with Income Below the Poverty Line by Census Tract, Baltimore City, 2014-2018



19.1% of the Baltimore City population aged 60 and over was living in poverty in 2019, compared to **18.4%** in 2010

Data source: American Community Survey 1-year estimates, 2010 and 2019

22% of Maryland residents aged 60 and over with income below the poverty line live in Baltimore City



Data source: American Community Survey 5 year estimates, 2015-2019

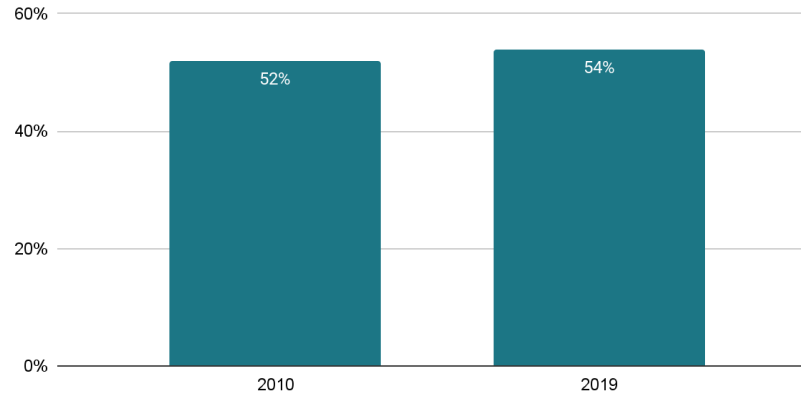


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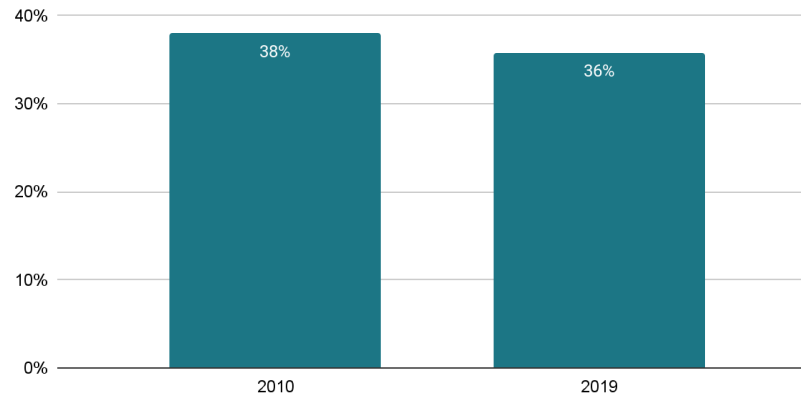


Living Alone and Disabilities

Percent of Baltimore City residents aged 60 and over living alone, 2010 and 2019



Percent of Baltimore City residents aged 60 and over living with any disability, 2010 and 2019



Data source: American Community Survey 1-year estimates, 2010 and 2019

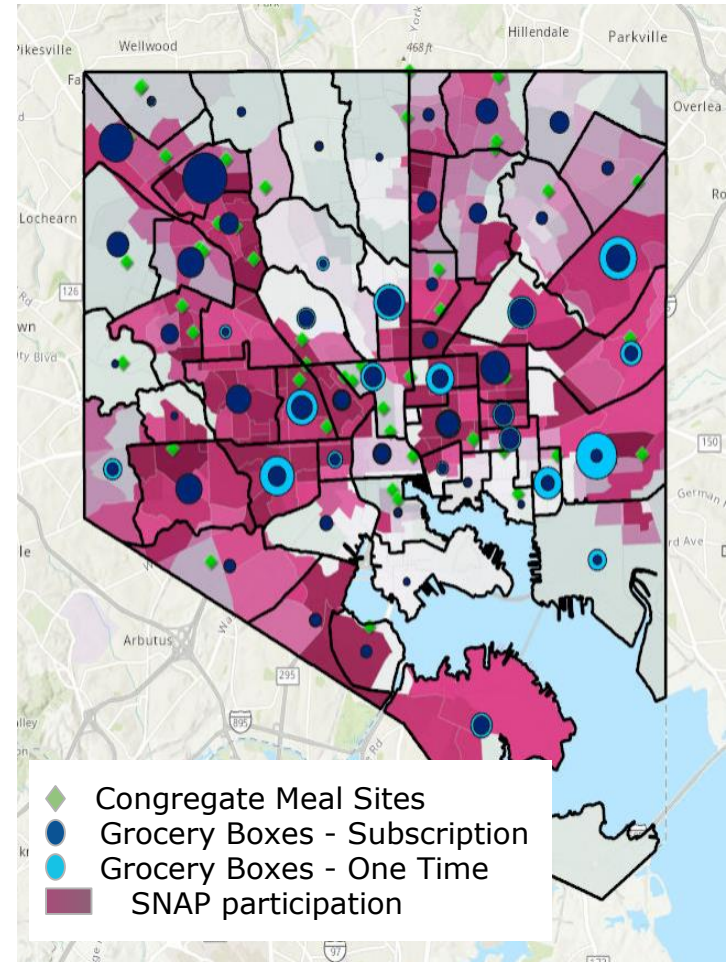
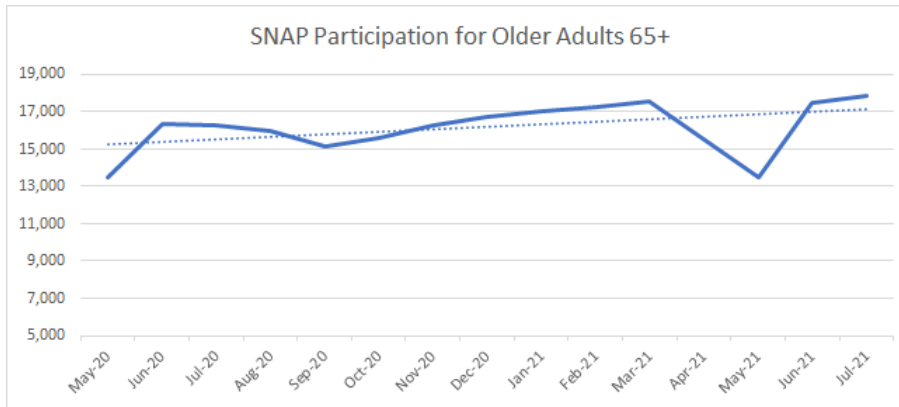


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Food

- At least 1 in 14 older adults are food insecure¹
- SNAP participation has increased by 1,500 over the past year
- ~1,000 residents receive home delivered meals
- 1,400-2,000 home delivered grocery boxes requested per month



¹Ziliak, J., Gundersen, C. (2021). *The State of Senior Hunger in America in 2019: An Annual Report*. Feeding America. <https://www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/2021%20-%20State%20of%20Senior%20Hunger%20in%202019.pdf>



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Other trends

COVID-19 cases, deaths, and rates for Baltimore City residents 60 years of age or older, Baltimore City COVID-19 dashboard, as of October 31, 2021

Age (years)	Cases	Cases per 1,000 residents	Deaths	Deaths per 1,000 residents
60-69	5,974	90.0	276	4.2
70-79	2,924	83.9	325	9.3
80+	1,797	89.9	404	20.2
Total	10,695	88.2	1,005	8.3



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Care Coordination

- Community Health Workers supported with funding from Baltimore Health Corp
- Linkages to care via the Maryland Access Point
- Approximately 78,000 calls since March 2020
- Top 5 areas of service:
 - Medicare enrollment
 - Food access
 - In-home care services
 - Housing support
 - Healthcare needs



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Key Accomplishments and New Initiatives



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Expanded ecosystem and care coordination efforts

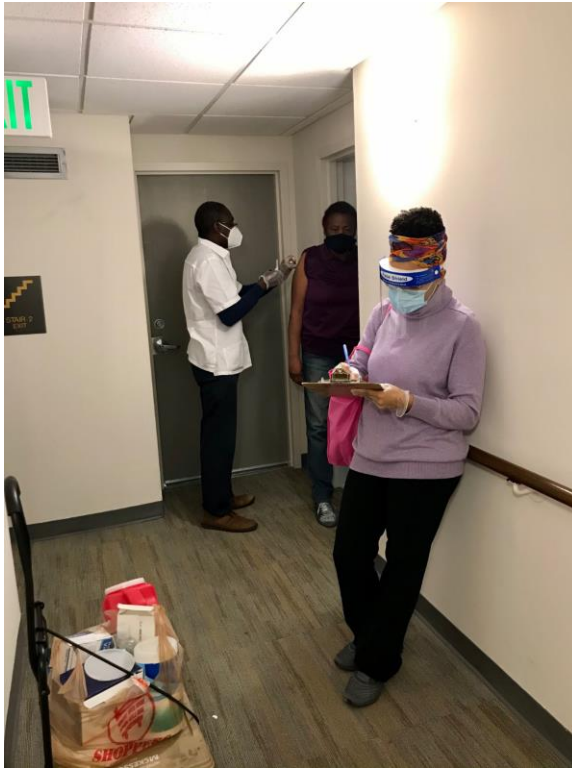
- Partnership with 2-1-1 Maryland at United Way of Central Maryland.
- Coordination of Maryland Access Point and 2-1-1 to streamline access to services by older adults and their families
- Development of new data system to enable MAP to track referrals to agency partners.
- Increased staffing by Community Health Workers to address greater need for services during the pandemic including access to food, housing, and vaccines.



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Door to door vaccinations



- BCHD has held 111 COVID-19 vaccine clinics at senior housing buildings and 71 clinics at assisted living facilities
- BCFD and the National Guard have administered 553 doses of COVID-19 vaccines through the in-home vaccination program from May 11-Oct 29
- MAP has reached out to over 600 people requesting an in-home vaccination and 406 have been referred to BCHD's clinical partners



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Older Adult Vaccine Coverage

- 102,672 residents 60 and over have received a first/single dose of the vaccine (as of 10/31/2021)
 - 82.1 % first/single dose vaccination coverage
 - First age group to surpass the city-wide goal of 80% vaccination coverage!
- 91,771 residents 60 and over are fully vaccinated (as of 10/31/2021)
 - 73.4% full vaccination coverage



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Senior Centers

All City sites currently open 3 days per week for regular programming

- Boxed meal service
- Variety of activities offered at each site
 - Learning, recreation, spiritual, health
- Fostering partnerships in each community to connect with new residents
- Serving as immunization and testing sites as needed



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Brain health

- Brain health is a growing issue for older adults and their family caregivers.
- Alzheimer's Association data indicates that older African-Americans are twice as likely to develop dementia than their white counterparts.
- Formed a partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, Johns Hopkins, and the BDS Healthy Aging Network to address this disparity.
- Received a grant from the Alzheimer's Association/National Association of County Health Officials to implement a pilot project addressing the need for staff training on brain health issues.



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Access HEARS

We Hear You Baltimore

- A new health initiative that provides older adults with age-related hearing loss affordable hearing health care
- Offers older adults a hearing evaluation and low-cost, over-the-counter hearing devices and Medicaid covered hearing aids for eligible participants
- Provides free case management services to clients so that they have assistance throughout every step of their hearing health care journey
- MAP has made 132 referrals to the Hearing Health Navigator to date



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Protecting the Rights of Vulnerable Older Adults



- The LTC Ombudsman responded to 848 complaints from nursing home and assisted living residents and their families.
- Provided support and care to 192 guardianship clients annually
- Provided legal service to 400 older adults annually



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