

# Age-Friendly Programs – Minnesota Department of Commerce

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#### AGE FRIENDLY minnesota

# Current policies and programs that highlight Age-Friendly

Commerce currently has several programs focused toward the needs of older Minnesotans.

- 1. Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
- 2. Energy Assistance Program (EAP)
- 3. Telecommunications Programs
  - A. Telephone Assistance Program (TAP)
  - B. Telephone Access Minnesota (TAM)
    - a) Telephone Equipment Distribution (TED)

b) Relay

4. Safe Senior Financial Protection Act (Senior Safe)



#### State agency or other government partners

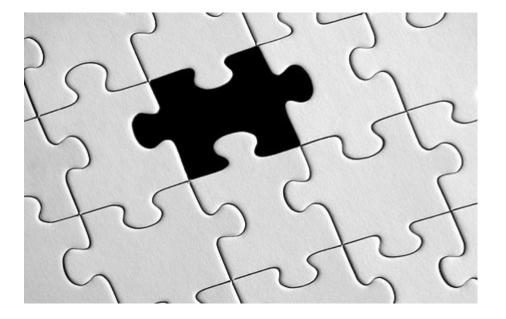
Minnesota's programs for older Minnesotans are enhanced by funding from and/or relationships with governmental entities and other organizations. Below is a list of the partners who share in the success of our programs.

- 1. The Weatherization Assistance Program is funded by the United States Department of Energy. Many organizations have contracts with Commerce to distribute the funds to contractors and inspectors.
- 2. The Low Income Energy Assistance Program is funded by the United States Departments of Energy and Human Services. The programs funds are distributed by many partner organizations and agencies.

#### State agency or other government partners (con't)

- 3. Commerce's Telecommunications programs have various partners. TAP is a joint Commerce and MN Public Utilities Commission program that dovetails with the FCC's Lifeline program. TED is administered by the Minnesota Department of Human Services. MN Relay is a program required by the FCC.
- 4. Our Safe Seniors Act program is a partnership with securities licensees who report to us. During our investigations we partner with the federal, county and city law enforcement agencies and officials. Victims are referred to victim services advocates such as the Minnesota Elder Justice Center and other such resources.

# Gaps/Opportunities in programs



Commerce has identified some gaps which could improve its programs.

1. Weatherization Assistance Program

**2.** EAP

- 3. Telecommunications Programs
- 4. Senior Safe

# Highlight a data/report that would inform an Age-Friendly Council



Commerce collects data about those who utilize its various programs.

- WAP We have data for all households receiving program funds.
- 2. EAP: Commerce has program data.
- 3. Telecommunications: program databases for users of the programs.
- 4. Senior Safe: Investigative data is compiled on all referrals which are primarily Minnesotans over 65 years of age.

### Age-Friendly Matrix



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# Thank You!

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