

Mission:

Through advocacy, programs and community partnership, we empower older Rhode Islanders and adults living with disabilities to age healthfully, happily, and safely.

Philosophy:

People come first. Our efforts will continue to be informed by reliable data and the lived experience of Rhode Islanders.

Vision:

All Rhode Islanders are aging strong.

Priorities & Desired Impact:

Promote Choice

- People know where to go for information and help
- People are connected to the best support for them and are satisfied with the quality of our service

Create Connections

- People are active and connected to their community
- Our work is coordinated with broader State efforts

Pursue Equity

- Our investments are aligned with social needs
- People feel included and have their needs met

Ensure Safety

- People know their rights and feel safe; they know where to go for help, if that changes
- Our efforts help decrease incidents of maltreatment, self-neglect and financial exploitation

Inspire Performance

- Our team and partners feel supported, successful, and part of a healthy agency
- Shared goals are clearly established and achieved



40

listening sessions held to inform strategic plan development.

5

pillars focus work and set a clear, actionable framework.

18

focus areas reflect our goals and people's lived experience.

72

SMART goals set collaboratively for achievement through 2023.

The Office of Healthy Aging, formerly known as the Division of Elderly Affairs, is Rhode Island's State Unit on Aging. We connect Rhode Islanders to information and resources that help them age strong – and advocate for laws and policies that protect their rights and agency. Our work is guided by a robust strategic plan designed to strengthen our programs and operations while evolving the conversation on aging in Rhode Island.

Learn more about our work at:
www.oha.ri.gov



@HealthyAgingRI

Helping Rhode Islanders to age strong.

We envision a Rhode Island that embraces aging. Through advocacy, programming and partnership, the Office of Healthy Aging empowers older Rhode Islanders and adults living with disabilities to age healthfully, happily, and safely.

Access



Are you 55 years of age, an adult living with a disability, or a caregiver? Curious about opportunities available to you? Call or visit the Point to speak with a specialist and get connected to resources in your area – free of charge. Explore options for healthcare, employment, and more. Get help with applying to public and private programs. Call 401-462-4444 or 2-1-1 anytime or visit one of our six Point offices statewide during standard business hours. Learn more at www.oha.ri.gov/point.

Connect



We offer a wide range of programs and opportunities that promote health and nurture connection. At the same time, we work at the systems level to make Rhode Island more age- and life-friendly through investments in infrastructure, workforce, and community networks. Contact OHA Deputy Director Michelle Szylin at Michelle.Szylin@oha.ri.gov for more information about our work to #EmbraceAgingInRI. Available programs include:

- At-home companionship for people age 55 or older with limited mobility
- Chronic-disease management education
- Family supports, including respite care
- Community and home-delivered meals
- Free healthcare insurance counseling
- In-home and day-care cost assistance
- Free and reduced legal services
- Prescription drug cost assistance
- Transportation assistance
- Mental health/substance use support
- Senior and community center programs

Protect



Too often older adults and people living with disabilities become victims of financial and/or physical abuse. Our office works to ensure people are safe, whether they live in a long-term care facility or in their own home. All Rhode Islanders are mandatory reporters; to report suspected abuse or exploitation of an elder, call 401-462-0555. Contact OHA Elder Rights & Safety Director Mary Ladd at Mary.Ladd@oha.ri.gov for more information about our work to keep Rhode Islanders safe.

- Elder protective services
- Guardianship assistance
- Long-term care ombudsman program
- Medicare fraud protection assistance