

Division of Aging and Adult Services Updates- May 2025

I. May is Older Americans Month

- A. Governor Hobbs has proclaimed May as Older Americans Month in Arizona

II. FFY27-28 State Plan on Aging

1. DAAS has engaged Myers & Stauffer to develop the State Plan on Aging for October 2026 - September 2028.
2. Current community engagement and stakeholder participation include:
 - a) Online survey for older Arizonans, caregivers, and their families
bit.ly/AZStatePlanonAging
 - b) Individual interviews and small focus groups with key stakeholders
 - (1) GACA's interview was completed on May 2nd
 - c) Regional Forums (virtual/hybrid) scheduled for July 2025
 - (1) One, possibly two, will be hosted in person
 - (2) 6 or 7 will be hosted virtually, and the vendor is working with the AAAs to coordinate gathering spaces where the virtually and physically present people can participate together

III. DES World Elder Abuse Awareness Day conference -June 16, 2025

- A. Conference Theme: *Arizonans United Against Elder Abuse: It takes a Village*
- B. Expecting ~300 participants
- C. des.az.gov/WEAADAZ
- D. A recorded message from Governor Hobbs will close the conference

IV. The Long Term Care Ombudsman Program will be returning to DES in June, will be within the Director's Office of Community Engagement

V. Adult Protective Services

- A. Arizona APS was selected to present at the national APS conference on our Advanced Investigations unit, which focuses on repeat perpetrators and has a strong partnership with the Attorney General's Elder Affairs unit
- B. Arizona APS presented at the inaugural Tribal Elder Justice Summit on March 27-28 . APS presented an APS overview and how Arizona APS partners with Tribes
- C. March 31, 2025- Final piece of HB2764 regarding the use of the APS registry took effect.

1. Beginning January 1, 2025, verify that a potential employee is not on the adult protective services registry pursuant to section 46-459. If a potential employee is found to be on the adult protective services registry, the residential care institution, nursing care institution or home health agency may not hire the potential employee.
2. On or before March 31, 2025, verify that each employee is not on the adult protective services registry pursuant to section 46-459. If an employee is found to be on the adult protective services registry, the residential care institution, nursing care institution or home health agency shall take action to terminate the employment of that employee.
3. Beginning March 31, 2025, annually reverify that each employee is not on the adult protective services registry pursuant to section 46-459