

# Record Group 33: Senior Programs and Services

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## SENIOR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, HISTORY (RG33)

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The Older Americans Act of 1965 created networks at the federal, state and local levels to administer programs that help the elderly maintain their health and independence in their homes and communities.

The Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services is part of this National Network on Aging. It includes the Administration on Aging in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 57 State Agencies on Aging, 670 Area Agencies on Aging and some 27,000 local service provider organizations under contract to the area agencies.

In 1974, the Westchester County Office for the Aging was designated by the New York State Office for the Aging as the Area Agency on Aging to serve all persons 60 years of age and older in Westchester. In March 2001, the Westchester County Office for the Aging became the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services.

The department's mission is to identify and prioritize the needs of the elderly in Westchester; to create comprehensive and coordinated plans to meet those needs; and to advocate for responsive policies, programs, actions, legislation and resources on behalf of the elderly.