Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging
State Waiver Form
Waiver: W-001

By signing the Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging's (LGOA's) State Waiver Form, the

Waccamaw Area on Agency on Aging and Disability Resource Center
Planning and Service Area

has determined that there is a need within its planning and service area to waive an existing LGOA policy and procedure to better serve the needs of its region.

Older Americans Act (OAA) Section 305(a)(1)(C) authorizes the LGOA to set policies to deliver aging services in South Carolina and states that the LGOA "be primarily responsible for the planning, policy development, administration, coordination, priority setting, and evaluation of all State activities related to the objectives of this Act." The OAA and the South Carolina Code of Laws are the foundation of the aging service delivery system across the State.

In accordance with the OAA, the LGOA has established written policies and procedures to administer aging services and programs in South Carolina. The procedural protocols set by the LGOA to deliver aging services are based on Federal and State Law. However, the LGOA acknowledges that the Planning and Service Area (PSA) could determine that there may be an extenuating circumstance regionally which results in a PSA generating a waiver.

State Waivers, which allow the PSA to operate outside the written policies and procedures of the LGOA, will not be accepted if it is determined that the waiver conflicts with the OAA or South Carolina law. A State Waiver is for up to a one-year period, terminating on June 30th. The LGOA reserves the right to invalidate waivers that amend its policies and procedures at any time.

The PSA and its Executive Director assume all legal responsibility and liability for the procedural and operational practices associated with this waiver, and will be held accountable for any consequences that might result from this waiver being enacted. The multiple parties associated with the State Waiver are required to follow all established LGOA policies and procedures for data collection in order to accurately track and record client data. The PSA will be responsible for fulfilling all other areas of LGOA policies and procedures operations not covered by this waiver.

The LGOA will not reimburse the PSA for unearned funding: Performance outcome requirements set through contractual agreements in the planning and service area are the legal responsibility of the PSA. The PSA is responsible for ensuring that its service providers/contractors earn their funding in accordance to the OAA and LGOA policies and procedures. If it is determined that funding is not being earned, or that data is not being accurately tracked, the PSA will be expected to execute a thorough review of the service provider's/contractor's operations which could result in a thirty (30) day Corrective Action Plan to bring the multiple parties into OAA and LGOA compliance.

PSA Requesting Waiver:	**Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments**
Type of Waiver Requested	**25 or less meals a day (Section 500; H)**
Date the Waiver is Requested to cover:	07/01/13 - 06/30/14

Is this a waiver consideration on behalf of the PSA or the Provider/Contractor?	**Both**
Name of Provider/Contractor Director if appropriate:	**Vital Aging of Williamsburg County, Inc., Robert Welch, Executive Director**

Name of site for waiver consideration if appropriate:	**Hemingway Wellness Center 500 West Broad Street Hemingway, S.C. 29554**
Provider/Contractor contact information if appropriate:	**Vital Aging of Williamsburg County, Inc. P.O. Box 450 Kingstree, S.C. 29556**

What type of waiver is being requested? Please specify what action plans and protocol steps the PSA has taken to assist the Service/Provider Contractor to comply with the requirements of the OAA, AoA and LGOA and the duration of the assistance given.

The provider is requesting a waiver of the 25 meal a day requirement for the Hemingway Wellness Center. For the vast majority of the year, the agency has an adequate number of clients enrolled at this center and is able to maintain and exceed the 25 meals a day requirement. However, it is difficult to guarantee high attendance on a daily basis. Due to the frailty and various medical conditions of the senior clients, there are certain circumstances that may result in low attendance such as rainy weather, cold winter months, and on occasion the death and funeral service of a fellow client. Agency transportation requires an early morning start for those seniors living in the farther rural areas of the county, often resulting in them staying home because they don't feel like traveling out so early in the day. The agency has implemented tighter telephone call instructions/procedures in this wellness center and issued a memorandum to clients asking for more affirmative responses regarding their attendance. Agency will continue to promote attendance through outreach services to clients, churches, advertising, senior housing complexes, civic groups etc. Agency will also promote attendance through in center events such as "bring a friend day", fashion shows, etc.

Please state what specific challenges the PSA and Service Provider/Contractor encountered and why they were unable to successfully perform the requirements of the PSA, AoA, OAA and LGOA which necessitated the need for this waiver.

Challenges	Reason Unable Perform the Requirement
Health Conditions of Seniors Weather-related conditions Large, sparsley-populated county Limited inadequate transportation funding.	**Due to the health conditions of clients and weather-related conditions, the agency is unable to guarantee client attendance of 25 a day. In colder winter months, wellness center clients may**

Lack of affordable transportation providers and local routes.	**not be able to come to the wellness center even when they affirmed attendance the previous day. Williamsburg County is large (934 square miles) and sparsely-populated. Other than the agency, clients have little access to affordable transportation providers. Due to the large area of the county, clients in the rural areas are generally live miles apart. To ensure proper nutrition for low income seniors, the agency has traditionally overserved transportation units (last year 26,000 units were overserved -not reimbursed). The local public transportation provider, Williamsburg County Transit Authority, primarily provides transportation to coastal regions of the state for employment purposes.**

What do you anticipate the positive results or benefits of the waiver will be if granted?
Increased client attendence.
What do you anticipate the negative consequences of not granting the waiver will be?
There will be occassions when the agency may not meet the required meal orders of 25 or more. This will reflect negatively when the agency's overall performance is evaulated.

How will you determine if this waiver will lead to service or programmatic improvements?	**Center attendance will be monitored on a monthly basis by the PSA. Outreach efforts will be closely followed.**
What steps will the PSA take to ensure that the Provider/Contractor adheres to the contracts signed with the PSA to provide services, functions, and activities required for OAA and LGOA funding, in addition to this waiver?	
As required, all monitoring procedures will be followed thoughout the contract year to assure compliance.	

Additional comments or information needed to support waiver request:

By signing this document, I certify that the waiver will be implemented as described above in this State Waiver Form.

Planning Service Area Director

8/20/13
Date

Tony Kester
Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging Director

✓ Approved

_____ Not Approved

8-30-13
Date

The waiver form should be sent to:

Gerry Dickinson, Policy Manager
Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging
1301 Gervais Street, Suite 350
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

All Approved State Waivers will be listed on the LGOA website, per Section 210 of the South Carolina Aging Network's Policies and Procedures Manual regarding State Waivers.