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 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	**5 day operation (Section 500; Subsection 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 W. 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.
A waiver of the 5 day operation of the wellness center. At this time, the provider does not posess adequate funds from sources to operate a 5th day for this wellness center. This would increase administrative and transportation costs. The provider will strive to explore new sources of funding through grant writing, fundraisers and advocacy efforts with local elected officials and community leaders to increase funding to meet this standard.

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
Increased Salary costs Increased fuel/maintenance costs Increased operating costs Presently overserving transportation units annually Client preference Reductions in local matching funding Reduction in agency revenue from other sources - SCHHDS CLTC Public auditoruim - often rented	**A) Substantial increased salary costs: weekly hours would increase for 6 part-time employees. Additional hours would require agency to reclassify 4 of these employees as full time employees thus eligible for benefits (health insurance & retirement) under the SC PEBA plan document and agency's retirement policy. B) Increased fuel/maintenace costs: an average of 571 miles would be added each Friday to serve the agency's wellness centers resulting in increased fuel and maintenance costs. To ensure access to nutritional services for low income seniors, last year alone, agency**

	overserved transportation by 26,000 units. **C) Increased operating costs: Cost of utilities, janitorial supplies would increase.** **D) Due to the lack of affordable public transportation, especially in the rural areas of the county, the agency is projected to over serve transportation units for each wellness center again this year.** **E) Client preference: Of the wellness center clients surveyed at each center, an overwhelming majority favored a four day operation** **F) Reductions in local matching funding from Williamsburg County Government ($97,500 in 2009/2010 to present $86,282.50 in 2012/2013)** **G) Reduction in agency revenue from SCDHHS Community Long-term Care Contract ($169,824 in 2009/2010 to $126,383 in 2011/2012)** **H) Center meets in the lobby of a public (County owned) auditorium. Very often facility is rented on the weekends including Fridays. Agency would have to seek another location.** **Given the current level of funding, lack of private resources and reductions from other sources and the reasons listed above, operation of a five day schedule for this wellness center at this time would be financially prohibitive for the provider.**

What do you anticipate the positive results or benefits of the waiver will be if granted?
Waiver will allow agency to serve low income seniors in the very rural areas of Hemingway, Nesmith, Morristown and Bloomingvale.
What do you anticipate the negative consequences of not granting the waiver will be?
Further reduction in transportation available to clients. Reduction in attendance. Increased operation and administrative costs would possibly result in center closing or consolidation.

How will you determine if this waiver will lead to service or programmatic improvements?	**PSA will follow the attendance and satisfaction levels of clients at this rural center as well as the level of meaningful programming.**

	We will work with the contractor in any additional local fundraising activities to increase service levels.
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 throughout 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.