

LB856

Allow disability partners that provide services through the ADRCs to be directly reimbursed for those services from DHHS

Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) Background

Aging and Disability Resource Centers help seniors and individuals with disabilities and their family members access services, make sound decisions, find reliable service providers, meet complex needs, stay in their communities and avoid higher, more costly levels of care.

In fiscal year 2020, the ADRCs recorded 8,254 unique contacts regarding 4,948 different individuals [1]. Additionally, ADRCs have been successful in helping Nebraskans consider options which are cheaper and less burdensome than nursing home care. In the first year of the program, ADRCs created a projected \$4,552,926 in cost savings by helping individuals avoid higher cost nursing home placements [2].

What do ADRCs offer?

ADRCs are one-stop shop information and assistance centers that aid individuals with disabilities and the aging. These services are open to individuals and family caregivers across all income levels.

The ADRC sites offer four tiers of service to those looking for assistance:

- Basic Information - Response to simple requests for information require no referrals or counseling.
- Information and Referral - Response to a request for information about services and assistance in contacting service providers.
- Options Counseling - Intermediate service for those who may have multiple needs that require assistance from several agencies resulting in a standardized written plan that identifies the individual's person-centered goals and the actions steps necessary to meet those goals.
- Enhanced Options Counseling - A more intensive service that includes options counseling, but requires ongoing monitoring based upon the complexity of the service plan and consumer needs.

What LB856 Does

Administratively, ADRCs are a partnership between the state's Area Agencies on Aging, and organizations that serve the disability community. As currently laid out in statute, the reimbursement process is from DHHS to the individual Area Agency on Aging, and then from the Area Agency on Aging to the disability partner that works with the AAA.

LB856 would adjust this process so the disability partners could be directly reimbursed by HHS. Under LB856, the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care State Unit on Aging would still provide oversight, technical assistance, reimbursement, and grant management of these programs' involvement with ADRCs. Since this reimbursement is already provided indirectly, LB856 has no fiscal note.

[1] ADRC 2020 Annual Report, <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Reports/ADRC%20Report%20-%202020.pdf>

[2] Nebraska's Aging and Disability Resource Center Pilot Final Evaluation Report

, https://nebraskalegislature.gov/FloorDocs/105/PDF/Agencies/Health_and_Human_Services__Department_of/615_20181130-142200.pdf

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 AAA & ADRC ★
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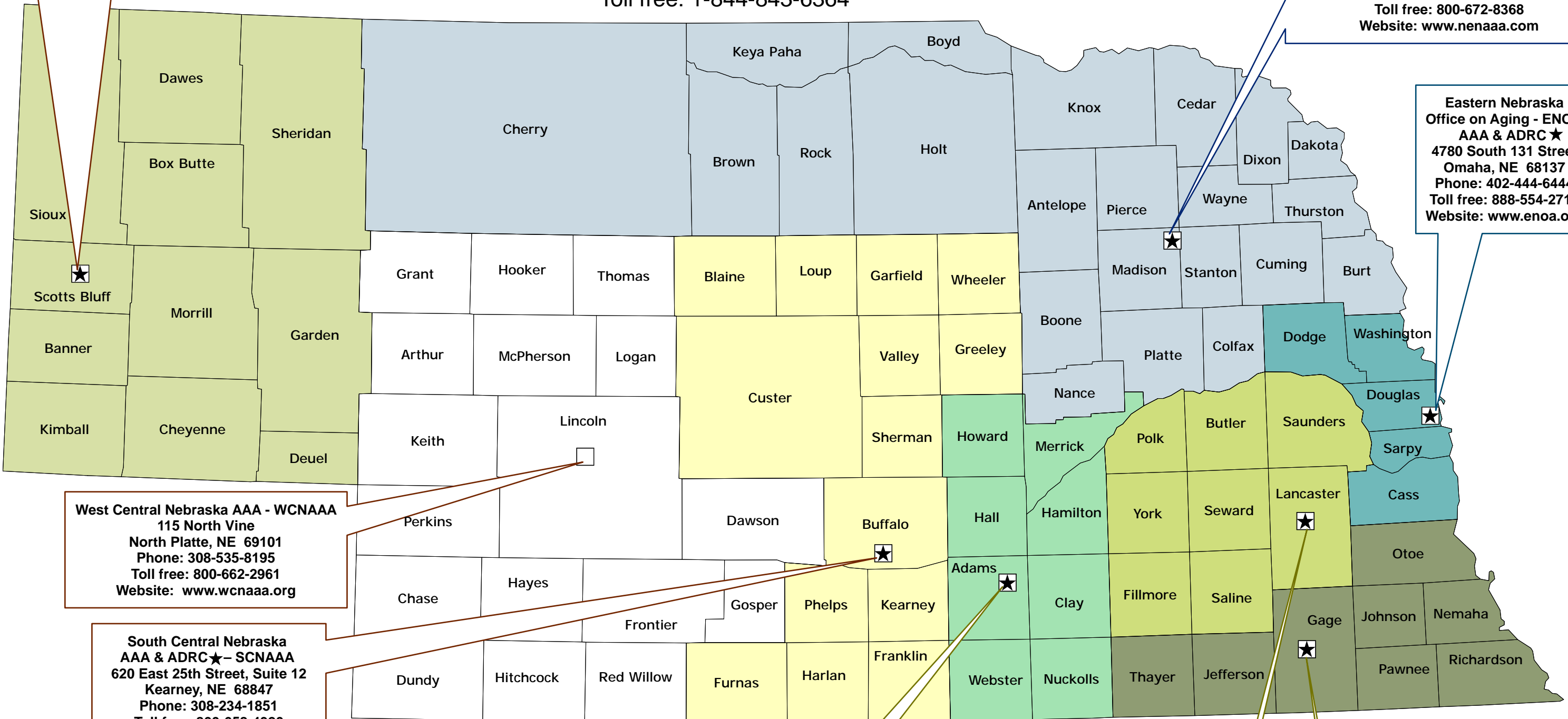
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Map revised by
 DHHS GIS
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