

## **BEAR RIVER ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS AREA AGENCY ON AGING INTRODUCTION TO IN-HOME SERVICES PROGRAMS**

BRAG Area Agency on Aging (BRAG AAA) In-Home Services programs provide support to older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers with several different programs. These programs and services are designed to assist older individuals maintain their health and independence in their homes and communities.

Through an intake process that is done over the telephone, case managers assess individual client needs to determine the programs and services for which clients may be eligible.

The BRAG AAA operates four distinct programs:

1. The Alternatives Program
2. Caregiver Support Program
3. Medicaid Aging Waiver Program
4. New Choices Waiver Program

Direct services are provided to eligible persons in Box Elder, Cache, and Rich counties in Northern Utah. Client needs are objectively identified through a comprehensive assessment process and services are arranged by Case Management personnel of BRAG AAA. All clients have freedom of choice for their service provider from the list of providers under contract with BRAG AAA. Clients are monitored monthly and care plans are adjusted as needed.

**Alternatives Program** – The eligible client is an elderly or disabled adult, 18 years of age or older who is determined to be at moderate to high risk as determined by the standardized assessment tool. The majority of the clients on this program must be 60 years of age or older. The Alternatives program provides services when no other services are available to the client through existing payments and/or service structures.

**Caregiver Support Program** – The eligible client is an informal provider of care to an older person who is 60 years of age or older and is unable to perform at least two activities of daily living without assistance. Respite services may also be provided to caregivers 60 years of age or older caring for persons with mental retardation or related developmental disabilities. Adult family members (18 years or older) or other adult informal caregivers providing care to individuals of any age with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and grandparents or older individuals who are relative caregivers of a child under 18 years of age may also be served.

**Medicaid Aging Waiver Program** – The eligible client must be 65 years of age or older, meet medical eligibility for nursing home placement, and be financially eligible for Medicaid under special expanded income and asset guidelines. Additional criteria and program eligibility updates can be found at <http://health.utah.gov/ltc/AG/AWHome.htm>

**New Choices Waiver Program** – The eligible client must be 21 years of age plus 1 month or older and be receiving Medicaid reimbursed nursing facility care on an extended basis of 90 days or more. Application for this program is through the Utah Department of Health, Long Term Care Bureau. Additional criteria and program eligibility updates can be found at <http://health.utah.gov/ltc/NC/NCHome.htm>.