**Silver Key Coalition Talking Points**

* The Silver Key Coalition is requesting a permanent increase of $7 million for In-Home Services and $1 million for Home Delivered Meals in the Bureau of Aging, Community Living, and Supports (ACLS Bureau) FY 2025 Budget. These increases will be enough to enroll the 6,161 older adults currently on the waitlist for in-home services and home-delivered meals in Michigan.
* Within two years of being placed on a waitlist, those who don’t receive services are five times more likely to end up in a nursing home. These nursing homes can be costly for the state’s budget, with the state spending anywhere from $85,000 to $132,000 per year, per person on nursing home Medicaid beds. The state spends $2,258 on those receiving both in-home services and home-delivered meals.
* Within two years of being placed on a waitlist, older adults who received no help were two times as likely to have received treatment from an emergency room in the past 90 days and 25% more likely to have passed away.
* If ACLS Services can keep only 96 older adults out of Medicaid-funded nursing homes for 1 year, this increase will have paid for itself.
* 88% of older adults want to age at home and in their communities, instead of an institutional care setting. ACLS Bureau in-home services and home-delivered meals are designed to help older adults age in place.
* In 2010, Michigan’s population age 60 and older stood at 1.8 million. Today, that number has grown to more than 2.4 million people, or 24.4% of the state’s population. The U.S Census projects that Michigan will have 2.7 million residents who are age 60 and older by 2030, with the fastest growing population segment those 85 and older. Additional funding is needed to keep up with the rising demand for services.
* In-home services are defined as non-Medicaid home and community-based services that assist individuals and family caregivers to manage and/or perform necessary activities of daily living. These are services that would be funded under the Community Services, Nutrition Services, and Respite Care line items of the ACLS Bureau budget and include personal care, homemaking, respite, home delivered meals, chore/minor home repair, adult day care, personal emergency response system, and medication management.
* These increases support family and other informal caregivers, with informal caregivers of those who received services being three times more likely to report that their caregiving responsibilities no longer interfere with their ability to work. Additionally, the number of family caregivers who report their greatest difficulty is the creation of a financial burden was cut in half.
* National data shows that 4 of 5 family caregivers report these ACLS services delay a forced move of their loved one. Sixty percent of such moves are to a nursing home. It only requires a four-day delay of a forced move to a nursing home before savings to taxpayers are achieved due to the lower cost of ACLS services.