

50

YEAR

ANNIVERSARY

"No other group of persons in our state are more deserving than our senior citizens. It is my hope that a plan of effective services can be formed and funds be available from federal, state and community sources to serve effectively those who have contributed to the greatness of our state and nation."

-KANSAS GOV. ROBERT DOCKING IN 1973 AFTER ANNOUNCING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SEKAAA



In the Beginning...

The Older Americans Act was signed into law on July 14, 1965. It established the Administration on Aging within the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and called for the creation of State Units on Aging. Nine years later in 1973, SEKAAA was established as a community-based 501(c)3 non-profit organization located in Chanute, Kansas.

In 1978, Jerry Williams took over as Executive Director. He would remain in that position for the next 28 years until his retirement in 2006. Jerry said the most significant move during his tenure at SEKAAA was in January 1998 when the agency inherited and took over the case management program from SRS. "Without the transferring of those programs from SRS - SEKAAA might not be in existence today. SEKAAA provides many services, and we were always big on being your advocate, from programs that help seniors find part-time jobs to advocating for residents at nursing homes to providing nutrition to seniors. The Meals on Wheels Program will always be an asset. Not only do the seniors get nutrition, but often times, that is their only contact with another person that day," Williams said.



(620) 431-2980

*Helping
you age
your way!*

www.sekaaa.com

50 Years Later...

SEKAAA is still thriving.

In each of our SEK counties of service, people age 60 and over represent 25% or more of the population. Accommodating the extensive needs of this population is both an enormous task and a privileged opportunity to positively impact the quality of life for these beloved individuals.

In 2023, SEKAAA served 212,397 meals to seniors in Southeast Kansas. In addition to our Nutrition program, we provide many services including legal services, caregiver help, case management, in-home support and more. Our biggest and most important role at SEKAAA is to be your advocate.

SEKAAA GOAL:

To support older adults in living the lifestyle of their choice and arrange services tailored to the needs of the individual.

The Southeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging is proud to be celebrating 50 years.



Current and former SEKAAA employees during SEKAAA's 50th celebration in Topeka. Joan Newman, Case Management Supervisor; Jerry Williams, former Executive Director (1978-2006); Cindy Lane; Kathy Brennon, current Executive Director; Stacy Dickerhoof, Associate Director.

"The mission of our organization is my personal passion, and my staff and I are committed to ensuring everyone in our nine-county service area in Southeast Kansas understands who they can call for quality services when they or a 60+ loved one is in need of support."

-Kathy Brennon, SEK AAA Executive Director



SERVING THESE 9 COUNTIES:

ALLEN - BOURBON - CHEROKEE - CRAWFORD - LABETTE - MONTGOMERY - NEOSHO - WILSON - WOODSON