

**For Immediate Release** August 24, 2021

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## **South Carolina Department on Aging Receives Grant to Assist with Senior Home Modifications**

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – The South Carolina Department on Aging has been awarded a \$1.1 million Older Adults Home Modification Grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The grant will encourage active, independent lifestyles by funding home modifications for seniors – as determined by assessments conducted by an Occupational Therapist and regional Area Agency on Aging assessors – in the following 29 counties:

- Appalachian Area Agency on Aging (1-800-434-4036) Cherokee and Oconee Counties
- Upper Savannah Area Agency on Aging (1-800-922-7729)

  Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, and Saluda Counties
- Catawba Area Agency on Aging (1-800-662-8330) Chester, Lancaster, and Union Counties
- Central Midlands Area Agency on Aging (803-376-5390) Fairfield and Newberry Counties
- Lower Savannah Area Agency on Aging (1-866-845-1550)
  Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, and Orangeburg Counties
- Santee-Lynches Area Agency on Aging (803-775-7381) Clarendon, Lee, and Kershaw Counties
- Pee Dee Area Agency on Aging / Vantage Point (843-383-8632) Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Marion, and Marlboro Counties
- Waccamaw Area Agency on Aging (843-546-8502) Williamsburg County
- Lowcountry Area Agency on Aging (843-473-3991) Colleton and Hampton Counties

Applicants from the aforementioned counties must be 62 years of age or older and must own the home that is in need of modification (renters are not eligible). Applicants' income cannot exceed 80% of the median local income, as determined by HUD. Some examples of modification include, but are not limited to: fall prevention improvements, such as exterior/interior lighting at entrances and stairs; replacing address numbers for increased visibility by first responders; installing handrails at stairs; installing bathroom grab bars and/or non-skid strips in a tub or shower; and providing, installing, and/or servicing carbon monoxide detectors and/or smoke detectors.

The application process for home modifications will be available through Area Agencies on Aging beginning November 1, 2021.