

COVID-19 Aging Network Needs Survey Results

On March 18, 2020 Area Agency on Aging 1-B sent a survey to aging sector organizations in Region 1-B to identify needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic. 86 individuals completed the survey and the responses are summarized below. If you would like the individual responses to each question, contact Amanda Sears at asears@aaa1b.org or 248-262-9222.

Themes identified throughout the responses included:

Increase capacity of home delivered meals

- More seniors are homebound due to their high risk and necessity to self-isolate
- Increase funding to service
- Volunteers and staff needed

Address social isolation

- Increased social isolation amongst seniors
- Expand friendly reassurance service

Help coordinate delivery of needed items to seniors

- Groceries, medications, and basic household items (toilet paper, soap, incontinence supplies, etc.)
- Difficulties using online grocery and medication delivery
- Help getting items to low-income seniors through foodbanks

Staffing and volunteer shortages

- Develop a plan for how to care for seniors when there are staffing shortages due to COVID-19
- Many volunteers are seniors and at risk
- Staff calling off due to illness or childcare issues

Continuation of care is becoming difficult

- Staffing shortages
- Supply and personal protective equipment shortages
- Seniors cancelling services

Other Issues and Needs

- Flexibility with AAA-funded program rules/restrictions
- Digital/virtual communication with seniors is difficult
- Increase communication with broad aging sector - provide regular email and phone updates with information sharing and updates

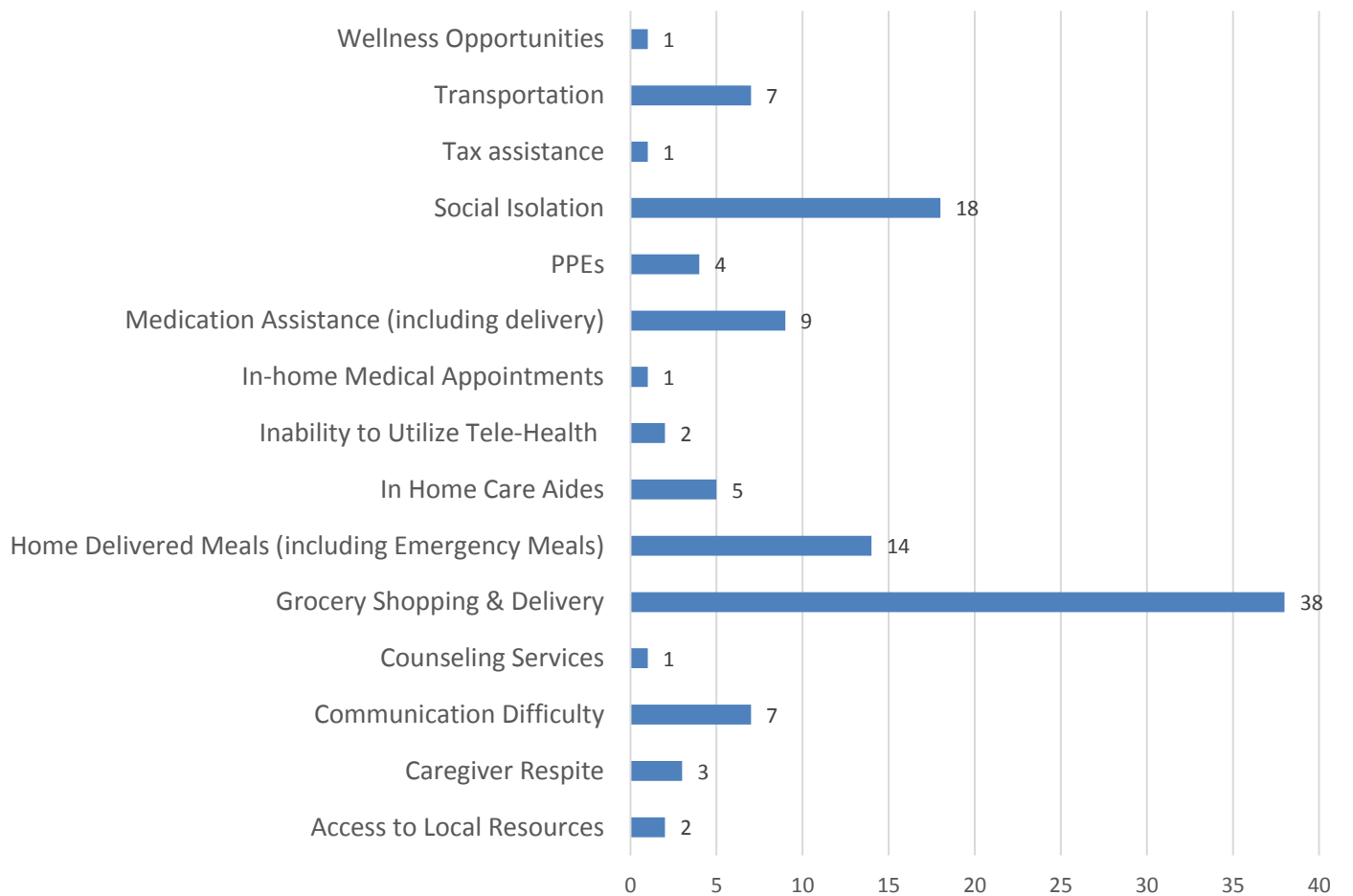


The Area Agency on Aging 1-B (AAA 1-B) is a nonprofit agency serving the needs of older adults in Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, and Washtenaw counties.

AAA 1-B COVID-19 resources can be found on our website <https://aaa1b.org/coronavirus/> or by calling 800-852-7795.

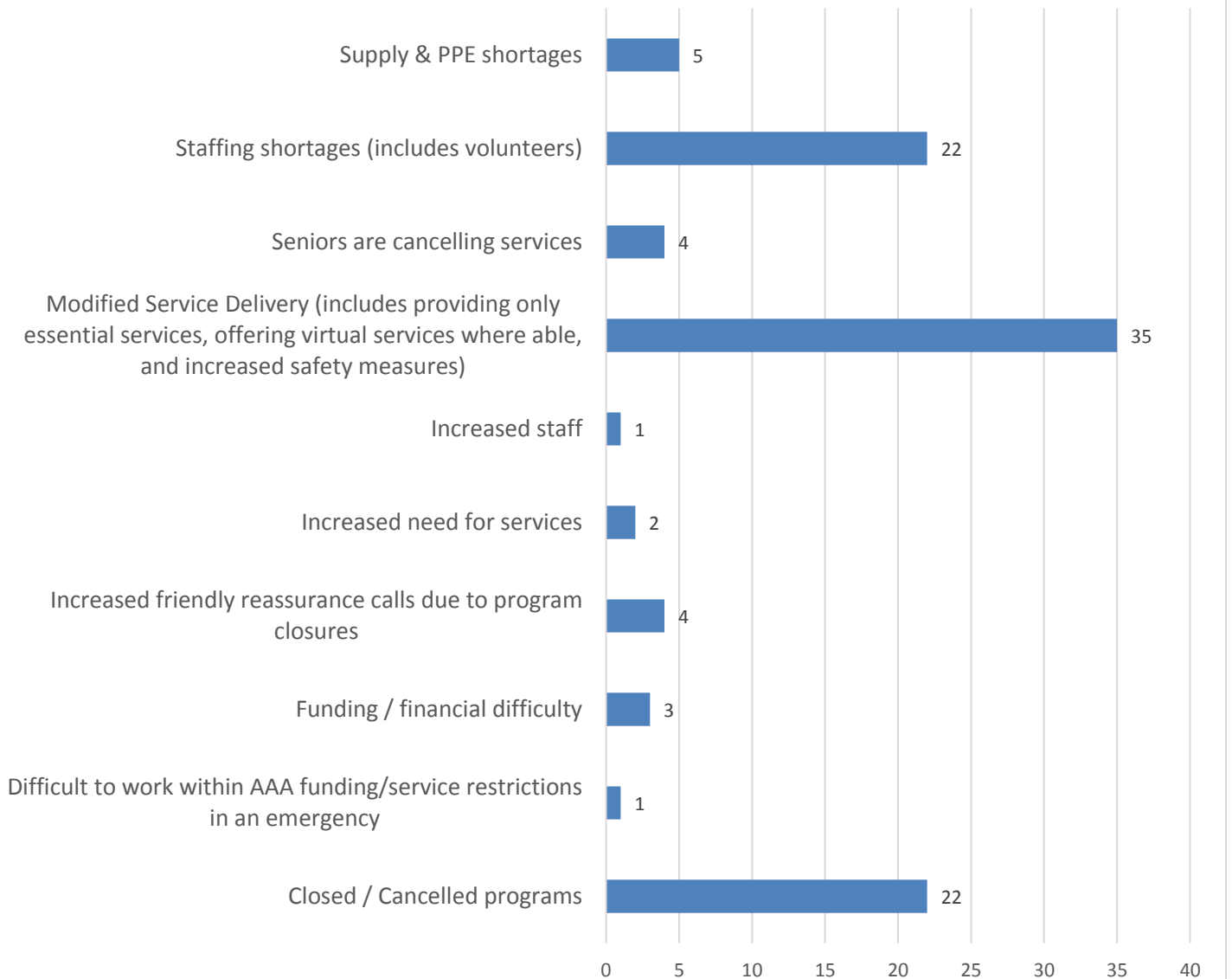
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What new or expanded senior-specific needs and gaps in services in the community and service delivery network are you seeing due to the COVID-19 emergency?



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Is there an impact on your organization’s regular operations due to the COVID-19 emergency (staffing shortages, office closures, service disruptions, changes in the way you need to deliver services, etc.)?

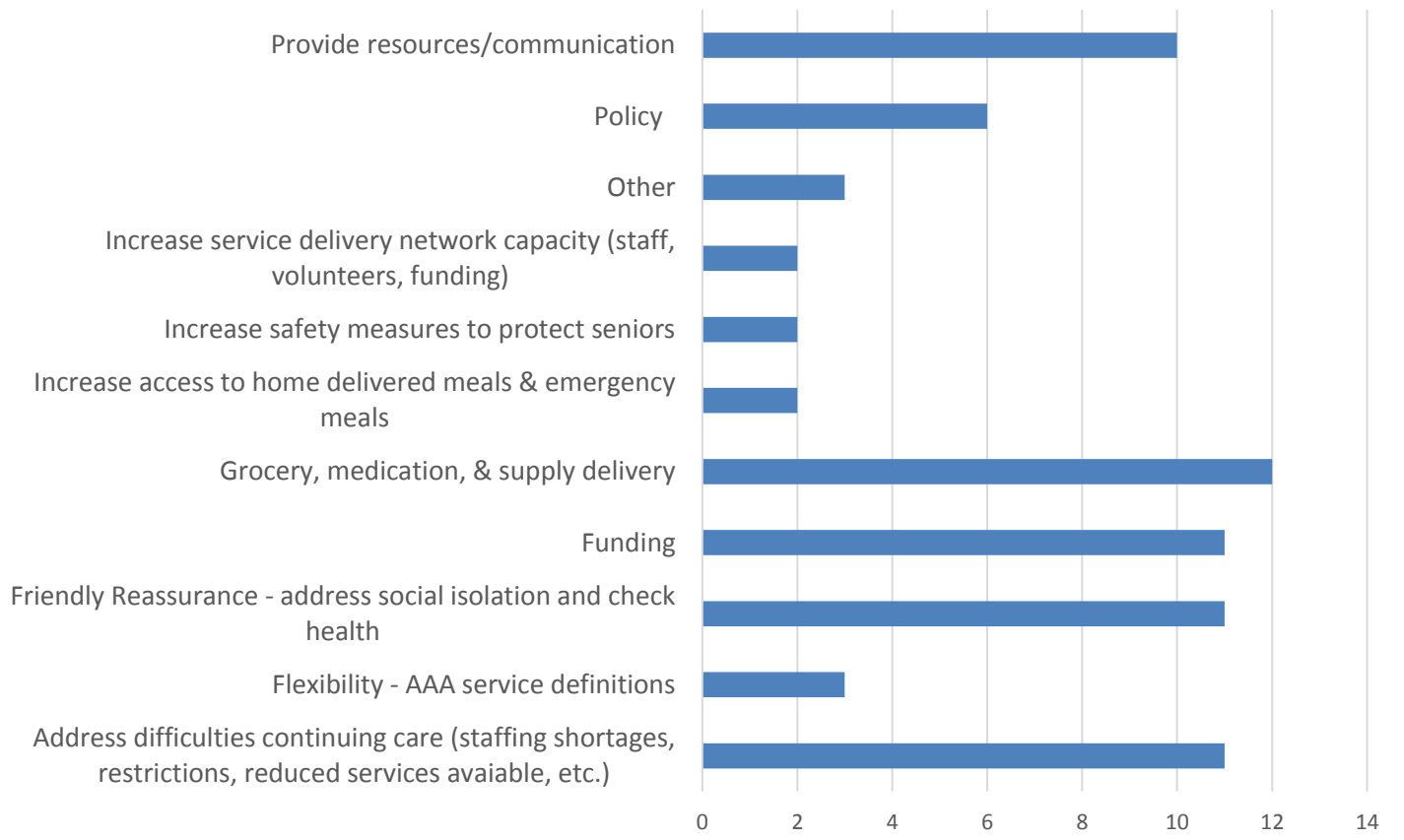


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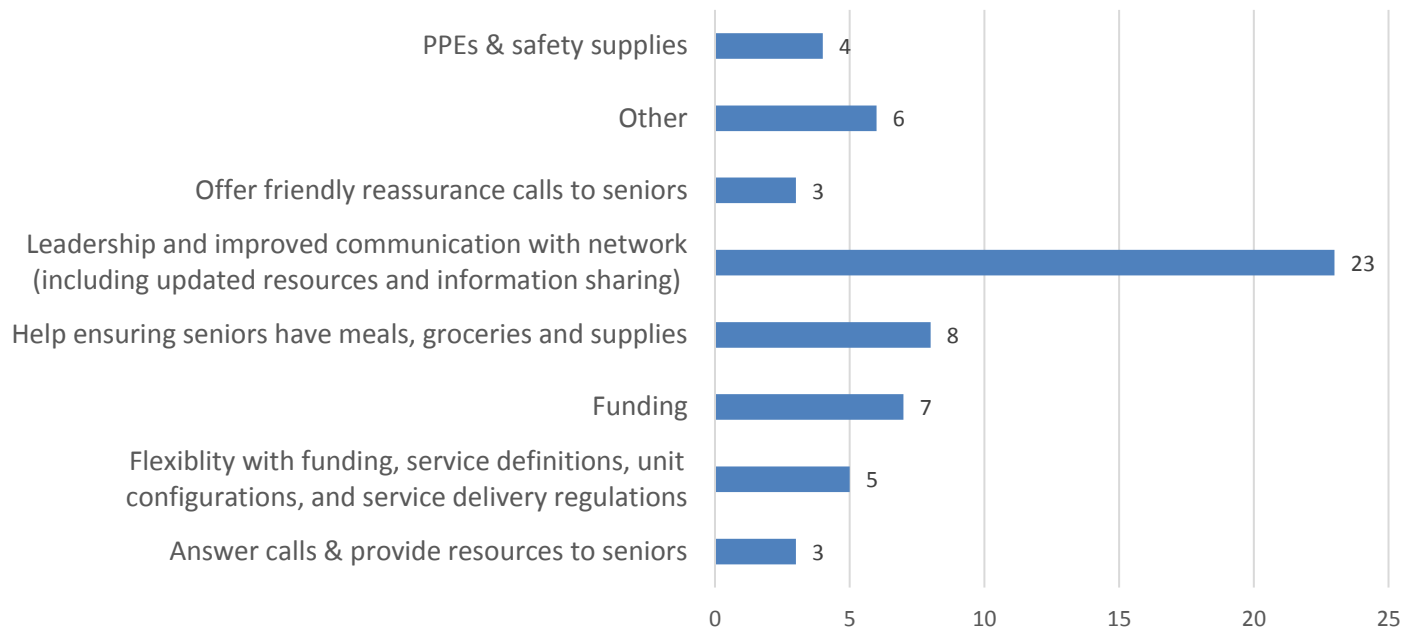
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Do you have ideas to help address the issues regarding seniors you are seeing in the community?



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Are there any suggestions for ways in which the AAA 1-B can support your efforts during this COVID-19 emergency?



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Is there any other information related to the COVID-19 emergency and its impact on seniors and/or family caregivers that you would like to share?

