



SALLIE ALCORN
Houston City Council Member
At-Large, Position 5

January 3, 2023

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Community Living
Administration on Aging
Office of Nutrition and Health Promotion Programs
Donna Bethge, Project Officer
Donna.Bethge@acl.hhs.gov

Re: 2023 Empowering Communities to Deliver and Sustain Evidence-Based Falls Prevention
HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-FPSG-0005

Dear Ms. Beethge,

I am pleased to provide a letter of support for BakerRipley's proposal for the HHS-2023-ACL-AOA-FPSG-0005 2023 Empowering Communities to Deliver and Sustain Evidence-Based Falls Prevention Programs funding opportunity.

The City of Houston provides for supporting services for older adults ages 60 years and older and their caregivers through the Harris County Area Agency on Aging, which coordinates services delivered by multiple partners including BakerRipley to meet the health needs of older adults in our city. A key objective of HCAAAA is promoting the adoption of healthy behaviors in older adults through evidence-based programs, and BakerRipley is the preeminent leader in our region to provide falls prevention programming and other evidence-based health interventions at senior centers and other places where seniors congregate.

With ACL Falls Prevention program funding, BakerRipley will engage 2,700 older adults and adults with disabilities in Houston in evidence-based falls prevention programs. In addition, BakerRipley will learn and share best practices as part of the Texas Evidence-Based Programs Workgroup, utilize technology platforms for marketing and referrals, and develop robust partnerships with community-based organizations, health plan providers, health care organizations, philanthropic foundations, and regional advisory councils.

After joining Houston City Council in 2020, I revived the annual Falls Prevention Awareness Day program I had previously worked on as a council staffer. This year, the event held special significance for me, as my mother passed away from complications caused by a fall this past year. Having championed efforts locally to elevate the public health issue of falling, I am excited about the opportunity for BakerRipley to secure ACL Falls Prevention program funding for the Houston region for the first time and leverage these resources to increase the reach in Houston of evidence-based falls prevention programs and strengthen Houston's local social care network.

Sincerely,



Sallie Alcorn