



**PRESS RELEASE: EVERFULL RESPONDS TO KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES AND
SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS AREA AGENCY ON AGING COMMUNICATION**

Aging Projects, Inc. DBA Everfull
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**EVERFULL OFFERING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO EMPLOYEES, PARTICIPANTS, COMMUNITIES AND THE CITIZENRY
OF KANSAS**

June 12, 2025 (Hutchinson, Kansas) – Everfull was made aware of two releases by the South Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging (SCKAAA) and the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) which provide additional information about Everfull's contract cancellation.

Everfull was surprised that instead of contacting Everfull to alert us of the reasons for contract cancellation in our pre-existing relationship between attorneys retained by each organization which has been ongoing since June 3, 2025, that both South Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging (SCKAAA) and the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) chose to alert us of both the additional contract awarded to SCKAAA and KDADS in this public way when little information had been provided to Everfull as well as our participants.

Background

This morning, Everfull released information regarding the termination of our staff and has since conducted interviews with major media outlets which explained the facts as we knew them at the time. There are several important pieces of clarification which Everfull believes is in the public's best interest to understand.

Each year, in March, we submit a budget in response to an RFP from SCKAAA for the following fiscal year which begins in October 1 and runs until September 30.

Due to the timing of this request being nearly 16 months in advance of the contract end, it is very challenging, in this environment where inflation affects all aspects of our business, to adequately project our actual expenses.

All monies were spent on program expenses: food, supplies, staff wages, administrative expenses. We reported to SCKAAA in March of 2025 that we were expecting to go through the allocated funds for fiscal year 2024-2025 by June 30 and asked for additional assistance to fill the gap and/or flexibility to change operations (close central kitchens, combining sites that are closer to each other in the counties). Those requests were not addressed until the first week of May.

Since March 2025, Everfull has been working with SCKAAA to avoid disruption of critical senior nutrition programs known as Friendship Meals and Meals on Wheels in the ten counties. After three months of attempting to work through complex financial issues, SCKAAA made the decision on June 3 to begin termination of Everfull's contract to provide services in the ten counties effective June 30, 2025.

When new leadership took over in March of 2023, Everfull was delinquent in audits going back to fiscal year 2018-

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2019. SCKAAA was aware of this circumstance and continued to allocate Everfull funds, including between 2019 and 2023 and then from March 1, 2023 to present. A draft of our 2022-2023 audit should be available this week or early next, a fact that SCKAAA was aware of.

Each step of the way, as we ran into difficulties with audits and delay timelines, both the staff and board of SCKAAA were told through status updates provided at their monthly meetings include the challenges related to audit timing due to personal income tax season. The latest request of status was in April and at that point SCKAAA was given direct access to our auditor. At no time between March 1, 2023, and today did SCKAAA ever state they were unable to fund Everfull due to delinquent audits.

Audits for Everfull are to be completed on an annual basis. Typically, Everfull aims for May or June of the following calendar year at the close of our prior fiscal year. So, our 2022-2023 fiscal year closed on September 30, 2023 which means the audit was supposed to be completed in May or June of 2024. SCKAAA was aware that Everfull would not be able to meet this deadline as early as January of 2024 but chose to award us a contract for this fiscal year. No action was taken by SCKAAA or any indication that Everfull would ever be considered for contract cancellation.

As for why audits are outstanding, when new leadership took over, we quickly realized that the administrative staff in charge in prior administrations were not able to handle the responsibilities of their important position. Everfull made significant changes. SCKAAA was aware of past administrative failures and had allowed monthly financial reports to slip to three months behind. Each month, those reports are due on the 13th of the month. We are current on financial reports having met the deadlines set forth by our agreement with SCKAAA for the last fiscal year.

Understanding the risk of being delinquent on audits, to protect taxpayer funds, we have employed a professional accounting firm to observe our financial activity and to monitor any potential issues. This is also another fact SCKAAA was aware of and had access to.

When SCKAAA asked for additional information beginning in April and May of 2025, Everfull provided SCKAAA direct access to our financial reports, walked through our expenses line by line and we showed SCKAAA exactly how funds were spent and how programs were run. We have answered every request, provided accurate information and been open to additional oversight from SCKAAA.

We are disappointed that, at this important transition point in our programming when we are close to being more current on audits than since 2019, SCKAAA is choosing to now reverse course when the status of our audits have not changed significantly. In fact, Everfull is better off than we have been in several years, a reality SCKAAA has acknowledged.

We rely on our Area Agencies on Aging to provide financial oversight and provide adequate support when they have concerns over financial issues. We view this contract cancellation as a significant departure of past practices as SCKAAA has always been able to backfill an overage which we have experienced in the last several years.

Despite audits being delayed and SCKAAA's apparent reverse in treating a long serving non-profit differently than in the last five years when this information became public, we remain committed to serving our communities and those who are willing to support us as we continue to work towards sustainability.

The SCKAAA and KDADS press releases also make clear that additional funds are available at both SCKAAA and KDADS. We had hoped that this would be the case as our communities deserve these vital services to continue. Everfull is disappointed

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in the change in treatment being experienced by Everfull in what is a very vulnerable time for non-profit organizations. We continue to hope for a successful resolution.

What's Next

Everfull grieves the loss of our Friendship Meals and Meals on Wheels programs in Chautauqua, Cowley, Elk, Greenwood, Harper, Kingman, McPherson, Sumner, Reno, and Rice counties. If these communities desire Friendship Meals or Meals on Wheels provided by Everfull to continue, Everfull recommends three courses of action:

1. Contact SCKAAA to express your interest in the Board reversing its decision.
2. Donate to Everfull to close the budget gap.
3. Counties or communities contact Everfull to establish a local meal program outside of SCKAAA and state/federal funding mechanisms.

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The mission of Aging Projects, Inc. DBA Everfull is to provide Kansans with the opportunity to live life to its fullest. As a 501(c)3 not for profit organization, Everfull bases its operations in Hutchinson, Kansas and Wichita, Kansas and provides Friendship Meals and Meals on Wheels programs in 13 counties in South Central Kansas, including Butler, Chautauqua, Cowley, Elk, Greenwood, Harper, Harvey, Kingman, McPherson, Sedgwick, Sumner, Reno, and Rice counties.

Friendship Meals and Meals on Wheels programs provided by Everfull are funded by the Older American Act Senior Nutrition Programs and funding provided by the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services, the Central Plains Area Agency on Aging, the South Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging, some counties that allocate local mill levy funds, partnerships, suggested contributions, and donations from Kansans who support our mission.

Please consider giving a tax-deductible donation to Everfull at www.everfull.org or by sending it to 401 E 4th Suite D, Hutchinson, Kansas 67501.