



Senior Council “Seniors Helping Seniors” & Senior Clubs

The Delaware County Senior Council, a group of senior volunteers made up of senior club delegates and individual seniors, works closely with the Delaware County Office for the Aging to advocate for policies, funding and legislation that would benefit the county’s elder population. The Senior Council is also instrumental in raising enrichment funding to enhance agency services.



Senior Clubs are the back bone of the Council, offering volunteer and leadership services in their local communities, as well as a social environment for seniors.

The Delaware County Office for the Aging is funded under Title III of the Older Americans Act through the Federal Administration on Aging, with additional funding from the New York State Office for the Aging, Delaware County Government, and donations from participants and local charitable organizations.

Delaware County Office for the Aging

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



97 Main St. • Suite 2
Delhi, NY 13753
Phone: 607-832-5750
Fax: 607-832-6050

E-mail: ofa.srv@co.delaware.ny.us

Website:

www.co.delaware.ny.us/departments/ofa/ofa.htm



Who We Are

The Delaware County Office for the Aging is the agency charged with the responsibility of improving the quality of life for older Delaware County residents. Utilizing a mixture of direct and subcontracted services, the agency has developed strategies that are intended to assist the most vulnerable of our seniors in being able to live as independently as possible in their own homes. The agency is also responsible for the general well being of elders regardless of gender, race or income and has taken on the role as educator as well as service provider to assist seniors in being smart planners and strong advocates for their personal well being.



Our Vision Statement

We see an environment in Delaware County that encourages and enables older adults to make educated life choices. We see an era of sensitivity toward our environment, diminishing natural resources and changing economy and its impact on future generations. We see barrier-free access to comprehensive health care and supportive services. We see the implementation of a transportation and communication network that supports the needs of older adults. We see Delaware County with safe, affordable and comfortable housing for older adults.

We see an environment that nurtures cross generational engagement through both human contact and technology. We see a caring support system that promotes dignity and independence for older adults. We see an environment that supports persons in care giving and other family obligations. We see older adults playing an integral part in the life of the community where they are an accepted and respected part of society.

**Since older adults impact the entire Delaware County community in all its complexity and since the entire community affects all older adults, we see this vision statement as one component of a comprehensive vision for the future of Delaware County.*

Why Volunteer

Have you ever thought of doing something meaningful with your time? You can make a difference by contributing your time, energy and talents to make your community a better place to live. What you give is priceless—what you receive is immeasurable.

Learn or Develop a New Skill

Volunteering is the perfect vehicle to discover something you are really good at and develop a new skill. As Mahatma Gandhi said, “Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.” It is never too late to learn new skills and no reason why you should stop adding to your knowledge just because you are in employment or have finished education. Planning and implementing a major fundraising event can develop goal setting, planning and budgeting skills. Supervising and training other volunteers helps to develop supervisory and training skills. These are just some examples of ways to help broaden and enrich your life at any age. We all want to continue to grow and have meaning in our life.

Volunteer Opportunities

Because we utilize volunteers to enhance and expand services to county residents, we welcome inquiries regarding all of the volunteer opportunities that we have available. These include such things as clerical jobs, medical transportation, assisting at dining centers or delivering meals, installing emergency response units, fund-raising, caregiver support, tax aides, Driver Safety instructors, Senior Council,

or any other skill you may have that you think would be useful to our agency.

Office Aide and Data Entry Assistance

With the numerous programs and services we provide for seniors, staff members would be hard pressed to keep up with the work involved without the help and dedication of those volunteers who offer their assistance in the office setting with various office duties and projects. Some provide reception and clerical support such as answering and directing phone calls, sorting mail, records logging and other various jobs. Those with an eye for detail and accuracy and are comfortable with working on the computer can choose to assist by entering data for Office for the Aging programs into the computerized Peerplace system, Excel spread sheets and other miscellaneous data entry.



Link to Life Installer

The Office for the Aging offers an emergency response program (*Link to Life*) to qualifying individuals. The system provides individuals with a means to call for emergency assistance if they are unable to get to a phone. Volunteers are needed to help install these units in clients' homes and to assist with trouble-shooting and parts replacement when needed. County reimbursement for mileage is provided.

Caregiver Support

Our **Legacy** caregiver support program has been developed to utilize volunteers to provide respite for family caregivers and allow elderly care recipients the ability to enjoy their independence at home as long as possible.

Senior Dining Program

The agency contracts with Delaware Opportunities to provide both congregate and home delivered meals services for senior county residents. Working out of six dining centers, the program is a county-wide service with volunteer opportunities available at any of the sites.



Volunteers may be needed in the kitchen to help with meal and lunch time preparations; or, those with a more adventurous soul, can help with delivering Home Delivered Meal services to eligible homebound seniors in the county who are unable to prepare meals for themselves. Meals are delivered Monday through Friday. Reimbursement for mileage is provided.

AARP Tax-Aid Counselors

Specially trained volunteer tax counselors assist seniors in completing federal and

state income tax returns. The program runs from February 1st to April 15th of each year.



Non-Emergency Medical Transportation

Our office offers limited transportation, provided by volunteer drivers, to assist non-Medicaid older adults in need of access to health related services such as regularly scheduled doctor appointments, labs and pharmaceutical services. County reimbursement for mileage is provided.



AARP “Driver Safety Instructors”

The AARP Driver Safety Program for mature drivers helps participants improve their driver safety awareness. Most insurance companies offer a premium discount for drivers who have successfully completed this course. New volunteer instructors are always welcome.