



DELAWARE COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING

97 Main Street, Suite #2; Delhi, New York 13753

Phone: 607-832-5750

Fax: 607-832-6050

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

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

Director: Wayne Shepard



NY Connects
Your Link to Long Term
Services and Supports

Delaware County Office for the Aging
Advisory Board Agenda
April 22, 2024
1:15pm OFA Conference Room

- Attendance: Greetings
- Regrets: None
- Present: Wayne Shepard, Director OFA, Terri Tweedie, Coordinator Aging Services, Lyndsay Komosinski, Deputy Director, Will Outsen, Ann Lis E. Glenn, Mark Dunlop, Shirley Niebanck, Peg Hilson, Wayne Marshfield, Art Merrill, Joe Cetta, Carol Allen, Heather Warner, Tina Mole', Lara Yambor.
- Absent: Jamie O'Donnell, Stephen Finkle, Robert Henault, Rebecca Walley, Betty Scott.
- Approve January 29, 2024, meeting minutes.
- Discuss to nominees for filling 3 Advisory Board Members
 - Laura Leale from Franklin, and Romas Bajoras, CRPA with FOR-DO have each showed an interest. Both were approved to be on the Advisory Board.
 - Would like to get representation from someone in the Town of Middletown to represent the Hispanic community. (Open for suggestions who to possibly contact).
- Programs & Services
- EISEP – Expanded in home services for the elderly.
 - Currently 26 active clients receiving EISEP care.
 - Currently 1 client has requested Case Management only.
 - Currently 3 clients on a waiting list for EISEP services.
 - Consumer Directed- Goal is to have it up and available in 2024.
 - Those becoming eligible for Medicaid reduced the number of clients receiving EISEP services.
 - Billing- April Billing- November 2023. May billing December, January, February. June Billing- March, April, May. This will then bring us on target for getting billing caught up. July billing with then start billing once a month. Plan is to only be one month behind, top 2 months.
- NY Connects- Lyndsay
- PERS
 - PERS- Currently serving 452 seniors.
 - 5 pending installations
 - A year ago, the agency had 350 units in the home.
- Medical Transportation
 - Currently have 20 volunteer drivers. Up 7 volunteer drivers since last meeting.
 - Bill quarterly. Next billing will take place beginning of May for 1st quarter 2024.
 - Blooming Health has helped in promoting for volunteers to support the program.
- Bus
 - Bus starting in May will be running close to 5 days/week.
 - In May will once again add trips to the Farmers Market: Frog Pond, Pine Ridge Carrot Barn and Apple Barrel (Schoharie).

- In May added once a month trip to Cobleskill.
 - Added Cooperstown. Will visit in June and August. Not in July due to congestion of traffic related to Baseball Hall of Fame.
 - Added Middletown. July and August.
 - Kill switch was installed at the dealership in March. Every other Thursday the bus transports older adults from the Delhi Senior housing to Price Chopper to go grocery shopping. Average between 7-9 riders who take advantage of this trip.
- HIICAP- Lyndsay
- Tai Chi for Arthritis/Bingocize- Terri
 - Currently all four Tai Chi instructors are holding classes throughout Delaware County.
 - Terri held our first Bingocize (evidenced based program) class at the Grand Gorge dining center. It was a huge success. Had close to 20 that participated. Have 3 volunteers to be trained. In the near future will be holding a class in Downsville and Bovina/Andes.
- SHINE (Senior Health Improvement and Nutrition Education Program)
 - Awarded \$108,000 for the 2023-2024 program year (9/1/23-9/30/24). This is to cover three counties.
 - The purpose of this grant is to educate to promote healthier lifestyles & behavior to low-income older adults.
 - The registered Dietician and SHINE Coordinator oversee the program.
 - Currently, have 11 classes scheduled throughout Delaware County, 1 class in Greene and 1 in Sullivan County for the program year.
 - Held classes at: Sidney Library, Tri-County Senior Center (Senior Club); Downsville Senior Meal Site, and Grand Gorge Dining Center. Each class was well received. Largest attendance was at the Tri-County Senior Center (12 Participants), Downsville Senior Dining Center (8 participants).
 - Applied for grant through Rural Health Alliance to purchase food to fill food boxes to distribute (unable to use the grant funding to purchase food).
- Delaware County Office for the Aging 50th Anniversary
 - Main 50th Anniversary Celebration will be held at SUNY Delhi, on Thursday, May 30th. Invitations are in the mail.
 - NYFSOFA Acting Director Greg Olsen will be speaking.
 - Association on Aging Executive Director will be speaking.
 - Previous OFA Directors, and many more.
- HEAP
 - The Cooling Assistance benefit opened April 15th.
 - Eligible participants can receive one air or fan plus installation.
 - the price cannot be more than \$800 with installation for a window, portable air conditioner or fan and not to exceed \$1,000 for an existing wall sleeve unit.
 - Contact HEAP Cooling Assistance Program of Delaware County Social Services at 607-832-5242 for additional information.
- NYSOFA (Plan of Correction)
 - Turned in the Action Plan
 - 4 areas needing improvement: Monitoring; Reporting; Client Assessment; Advisory Board.
- 4 Year Plan
 - 2024-2028 (4-year plan is due this year)
 - Need to do a need assessment.
 - Currently, NYSOFA is doing weekly training with updates and changes to the 4-year plan.
 - 1 area of focus is diversification.
 - Lyndsay, Joanne and I will be working on the plan.
 - Will keep the Advisory Board apprised of the plan and ask for their feedback.
- Senior Council Report

- Pancake Breakfast- 3/16
- Big Wheels Golf Tournament – Friday, May 10th
- Pork Bar-B-Q and Pie Auction - June 11th
- Senior Fun Day- Wednesday, 8/21
- Sunflower Harvest Ball- Sunday, 9/15 at Birdsong Farm.
- Looking for applications for Citizen of the Year in September.
- County Facebook
 - Promoting many OFA events and programs
- Blooming Health
 - OFA entered into an agreement with Blooming Health in the fall of 2023.
 - It allows the agency to be able to communicate more effectively with the older population in Delaware County. Decrease personnel time and cost for doing surveys.
 - No cost to the agency. The program is funded through NYSOFA.
 - Notify those receiving meals through the senior meals program when a dining center is closed, bus run is cancelled, able to do surveys, remind older adults of upcoming events, remind PERS clients once a month to do their monthly unit check, and etc.
 - Used the program for 2 surveys, monthly PERS checks and delay of a bus run. Each event showed excellent response.
 - Used for notification of dining center closures twice, cancellations for NEMT, Promotion of Big Wheels Golf Tournament, promotion of volunteers (picked up 3 NEMT volunteer drivers), promotion of and reminding of Tai Chi for Arthritis class starting.
 - Near future all Dispatch participants will be notified when Dispatch is out to remind those receiving the Dispatch electronically. Use for upcoming needs assessment questions.
 - Reminder of “Defensive Driving class”.
- Elli Q
 - Is a friendly presence in the daily lives of older adults.
 - Requirements must be homebound 90% of the time & have Wi-Fi.
 - Currently have 16 units installed out of 25 units.
 - Pending additional 5 units within the next couple of weeks from NYSOFA.
 - No monthly cost currently. The monthly fee is waived to those currently having Elli-q units installed during the trial period. Down the road those receiving installations after the trial period may have a monthly service fee.
- Personnel
 - NY Connects Specialist- Jonathan Moore starts Monday, 4/29.
 - Currently all positions are filled.
- Bequest Funds” report
 - Savings Account- \$6,029.72
 - | | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Opened</u> | <u>Maturity Date</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Bank</u> |
|-------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| CD’s: | \$25,958.27 | 3/4/20 | 3/4/25 | 2.35% | DNB |
| | \$16,039.15 | 12/9/22 | 12/9/24 | 4.75% | Wayne |
| | \$56105.47 | 9/2/22 | 9/5/25 | 4.9% | Wayne |
| | \$26,935.03 | 8/4/22 | 8/4/24 | 3.0% | Wayne |
| | Total | | | | \$131,067.64 |
- Miscellaneous
 - Next Meeting: June 24th at 1:15pm in the OFA conference room
 - Meeting dates for 2024: August 26th, December 16th
 - Public Hearing Date: Monday, October 21st at 9 am at the Hamden Town Hall