

### **SENIOR CHOICES UPDATE**

During the month of November, staff members spoke with **365** people who were interested in obtaining information and assistance, SENIOR CHOICES services or advocacy. Our staff enrolled **25** new clients into our homecare program and disenrolled **30** clients, bringing our total to **888** clients at month's end. So far this year, we have served **1,210** clients through our homecare program.

### **HOLIDAY WISHES**

SENIOR CHOICES staff would like to wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season. We feel honored to be a part of your lives and provide services that enable you to stay independent in your own home. We also wish you a healthy and prosperous New Year!

### **OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS**

Our office and the Meals On Wheels program will be closed on Mon., Dec. 26 and Mon., Jan. 2 in observance of the holidays. This year, frozen meals will be provided the previous week since meals will not be delivered on these dates. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your Care Consultant.

### **SENIOR CHOICES STAFF UPDATES**

We are happy to announce the addition of two new Care Consultants.

Bonnie Schwartz joined our team on Nov. 28, and Lisa Murray joined our team on Dec. 5. Bonnie has a master's degree from Case Western Reserve University and is a licensed social worker. Lisa has a master's degree from University of Texas at Austin and is a licensed independent social worker. Both enjoy working with older adults, and they are looking forward to working in the Delaware community.

Once Bonnie and Lisa are fully trained, we will transition clients to them. We will do everything in our power to ensure continuity of care. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time of change.

### **CANDID CAREGIVER WORKSHOPS**

The Council provides monthly opportunities for caregivers to learn, grow, and gather support from each other. In January, author **Pat Carpenter will speak to the group on "Rules of the Road for Caregivers."** Pat is the author of *The Caregiver's Road Map: Saving Your Time, Money, and Your Sanity*. Her presentation is **scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 10 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.** Copies of Pat's books will be available for purchase and signing following the workshop. To register please RSVP with Intake & Referral Specialist Jen Spicer at (740) 363-6677. The workshop will be held at the Center for Older Adults, 800 Cheshire Rd., Delaware.

## **SNOW REMOVAL**

Do you or someone you know need help with snow removal? This year the Council for Older Adults will be offering snow plowing services to SENIOR CHOICES clients ONLY, and their co-pays will apply toward the cost of those services. For those residents of Delaware County who are 60 years old or older and have no other means to complete their snow shoveling, we have youth in our community who wish to perform service projects and will be assisted by an adult supervisor. You must furnish the tools necessary to complete the job. If you have questions or would like to request this service, please contact the Council for Older Adults at (740) 363-6677 or (800) 994-2255 when your walkways/driveway are covered with snow. The Council for Older Adults will determine caller's eligibility at the time of the request.

## **CHANGES IN PROVIDER FEES FOR 2012**

As usual this time of year, we have new rates for some of the service providers through SENIOR CHOICES for 2012. This means that some service costs will increase slightly effective January 2012 and will be reflected on the statement you receive in February. If you have any questions about your statement, please feel free to contact Ginny Schwartz at (740) 363-6677.

## **FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SERVICES**

With winter approaching, we would like to pass information along regarding weather-related closings. We will deliver meals every day it is safe for our drivers to be on the roads. Occasionally, we are able to deliver food even when the schools close, due to our later delivery time. There may be times when the dining center here at the building will remain open even though the other dining centers close.

When there is inclement weather, the Meals On Wheels program will monitor the weather and road conditions to make a decision about whether to close the program. Periodically throughout the winter months, we will deliver shelf stable emergency packs of food for you to use in the event of an emergency or a meal delivery closing. Listen to our telephone voicemail at (740) 203-2432 or (740) 203-2433, on all 4 local television stations or on radio stations for the closing announcement. Anytime we close, all meal clients will be called using a "One Call" system, an automated message that will ring to your phone announcing "meals will not be delivered today due to the inclement weather."

You will receive a letter explaining this and suggestions on how to assemble an emergency supply of shelf stable food. Please read this and begin to assemble your emergency kit. If you need help, possibly a family member or friend can assist you with this project. We want to help you plan ahead for these emergencies. Please call us with any questions at (740) 203-2432.



**Center for Older Adults**  
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