

## **SENIOR CHOICES UPDATE**

During the month of December, staff members spoke with **233** people who were interested in obtaining information and assistance, SENIOR CHOICES services or advocacy. Our staff enrolled **24** new clients into our homecare program and disenrolled **25**, bringing our total to **887** clients at year end. So far this year, we have served **1,234** clients through our homecare program.

## **CAREGIVER WORKSHOPS**

The Council provides monthly opportunities for caregivers to learn, grow, and gather support. Presentations are provided by various members of our community and focus on a host of topics. The next workshop is on Tuesday, February 14 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., titled, "Understanding Dementia and Memory Impairment: The Science Behind Brain Health," presented by the Alzheimer's Association. The workshop is free and will be at the Center for Older Adults, 800 Cheshire Rd., Delaware. Feel free to bring a friend! To register, call Jen Spicer at (740) 203-2377.

## **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 each caller's eligibility at the time of the request.

## **AARP TAX-AIDE**

Beginning February 1, AARP Tax-Aide Coordinator Phillip Packard and several IRS-trained tax counselors will start preparing taxes for those individuals needing assistance with filing their income taxes. AARP's Tax-Aide is a free annual program, brought to you by your local AARP chapter and Council for Older Adults. The program makes tax assistance available to older adults in Delaware County. Local AARP volunteers have successfully completed a rigorous training program, which is offered in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service. All volunteer counselors have been specifically trained to prepare returns for older adults.

There are four locations this year:

- ◆ **Center for Older Adults**, 800 Cheshire Rd., Delaware. Wed. & Thurs. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

- ◆ **Westerville Senior Center**, 310 W. Main St. in Westerville. Days and times to be determined. Appointments for this location can be made by calling (614) 901-6560.
- ◆ **Dublin Community Center**, 5600 Post Rd. in Dublin. Days and times to be determined. Appointments for this location can be made by calling (614) 410-4550.
- ◆ **Andrews House**, 39 W. Winter St. in Delaware. Mondays 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. , and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Appointments for this location can be made by calling (740) 369-4520.

On the day of your appointment you should bring: Social Security card and photo ID; 2010 tax return; W-2s; 1099s; billing statements for new windows, doors, insulation, etc. purchased in 2011; amount paid in real estate taxes for 2011; any other tax-related materials.

This service is provided by appointment only. Call the Council for Older Adults to schedule appointments for the Center for Older Adults at (740) 363-6677 or (800) 994-2255, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, please contact the Council to verify if tax appointments will still take place that day.

### **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**

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, and at times the dining center here at the building will remain open even though the other dining centers close, to serve the employees and others here at the building. 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. 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 (740) 203-2432 or (740) 203-2433, on all 4 local television stations, NBC channel 4, WBNS channel 10, WSYX channel 6, and FOX 28, radio station 610 WTVN and 5 other area 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." Please call us with any questions at (740) 203-2432.