

## **SENIOR CHOICES UPDATE**

During the month of May, staff members spoke with **426** people who were interested in obtaining information and assistance, SENIOR CHOICES services or advocacy. Our staff enrolled **38** new clients and disenrolled **49** clients, bringing our total to **856** clients at month's end. So far this year, we have served **1,015** clients.

## **NEW FACES AT COA**

Care Consultant Traci Paxton resigned from the Council for Older Adults on June 3 to pursue a career in hospice. We wish her the best in her future endeavors!

We are happy to announce the addition of two new Care Consultants. Shelly Wesner joined our staff on May 16, and Misse Kaat will join our staff on June 20. Shelly has a masters of social work from the Ohio State University, and she is a licensed social worker. Misse has a bachelor of arts in social work with a minor in religion, and she is also a licensed social worker. Both Shelly and Misse have many years of experience in working with older adults, and they are looking forward to working in the Delaware community. We are very excited to have both Shelly and Misse join our team here at COA!

Once Shelly and Misse 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.

## **OFFICE CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY**

The Council for Older Adults and Meals On Wheels will be closed Monday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. For those of you who receive home delivered meals, please make other arrangements for your meal(s) on this day. If you have no other means for food on this day, please contact your Care Consultant at (740) 363-6677 or 800-994-2255.

## **CAREGIVER WORKSHOPS**

The Council for Older Adults provides monthly opportunities for caregivers to learn, grow, and gather support. Please join us on July 12 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. for "Adult Protective Services: When It's Time to Report," presented by Peg Watkins of the Department of Job and Family Services. Workshops are free and are held at the Center for Older Adults, 800 Cheshire Rd., Delaware. Please feel free to bring a friend! To register, please RSVP to Jen Spicer at (740) 203-2377.

## **TWO PROGRAMS, ONE GOAL**

The Council has partnered with the Delaware County Department of Job and Family Services as well as Delaware County Juvenile Court to offer two helpful programs for seniors. If you need assistance with certain household chores, such as heavy cleaning, yard work and yard clean-up, planting, minor painting, minor home repairs, or window cleaning, we can help arrange for supervised youths to complete those projects. The services are free, and certain eligibility requirements may apply. For details please call the Council at (740) 363-6677 or 800-994-2255.

## **SUMMER FESTIVAL WAS A HUGE SUCCESS**

The Festival on June 11, hosted by the Council for Older Adults, provided a lively backdrop for education, outreach, health screenings, great food, entertainment, and family fun for all ages. The Council for Older Adults thanks the many sponsors, exhibitors, and over 200 volunteers for helping make the event possible. We would also like to thank the community for your continued support of this annual event!

## **SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET VOUCHER PROGRAM**

The Senior Farmers' Market Voucher Program has started, providing Delaware County residents age 60 and over with vouchers for fresh foods from farmers' markets in Delaware, Sunbury and Powell. Vouchers can be used to purchase fresh fruits and veggies, herbs, baked goods, honey, and even food-bearing plants. Participants who sign up before September 4 will receive thirty vouchers with a total value of \$60. Those who sign up after September 4 will receive fifteen vouchers with a total value of \$30. All vouchers are valid through October 31, but the participant will need to check with their farmers' market to determine how late in the season each one will be open as market dates differ. Applicants must be 60 and over, and certain income restrictions apply. Vouchers are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications are available at the Council office, online at [www.growingolder.org](http://www.growingolder.org), or at the local farmers' markets. Please note **no mail-in applications** will be accepted for this program. The Council for Older Adults Senior Farmers' Market Voucher Program is funded by the Delaware County senior services levy.

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

On Tuesday, July 12, we will be celebrating Grandparents Day at the Center for Older Adults, Cheshire Road, Delaware. We will have some special craft programs for the grandchildren. A farmers' market (where you can purchase fresh produce) will also be set up at the east entrance of the Center from 12 - 3 p.m. Senior farmers' market vouchers and/or cash will be accepted. You can purchase lunch (hamburgers, hot dogs, ice cream, etc.). Lunch is \$6.00 (for visitors under age 60). Those age 60 and over may receive lunch at a suggested donation of \$3.50. Items may be purchased a la cart as well. Entertainment will be provided by 3C Highway. Please call (740) 203-2362 to reserve your spot for lunch or to participate in the children's craft.

## **PROGRAM TO HELP FIGHT SENIOR HUNGER IN DELAWARE COUNTY**

The next commodities distribution will take place Tuesday, June 28. Applications are available for the monthly Commodity Supplemental Food Program, a cooperative effort between the Council for Older Adults and the Mid-Ohio Foodbank. Qualifying individuals must be age 60 or older, a county resident and have an income of no more than \$14,157 per year. Proof of income is not required. Applications may be picked up at the Council for Older Adults or from our website. For more information, call (740) 363-6677 or visit [www.growingolder.org](http://www.growingolder.org).

