

SENIOR CHOICES UPDATE

During the month of March, staff members spoke with **677** people who were interested in obtaining information & assistance, SENIOR CHOICES services or advocacy. Our staff enrolled **39** new clients and disenrolled **37** clients bringing our total to **767** clients at month's end. Our year to date total of clients served is **858**. Be sure to visit our SENIOR CHOICES booth at the Summer Festival.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK - APRIL 19 - 25

We would like to extend a HUGE thank you to the hundreds of volunteers who assist COA on a weekly basis. Our volunteers are busy delivering meals, helping with various tasks both in and out of our office, delivering nutritional supplements or durable medical equipment, and making our Summer Festival a big success. We could not do our jobs without the assistance of our volunteers, and we greatly appreciate their time and hard work! Thank you COA volunteers!! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Amy Brown at (740) 363-6677.

OFFICE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY

The Council for Older Adults and Meals on Wheels will be closed Monday, May 25, 2009, in observance of Memorial 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 1-800-994-2255.

CANDID CAREGIVER WORKSHOPS

The Council for Older Adults provides monthly opportunities for caregivers to learn, grow, and gather support from each other. Presentations are provided by various members of our caregiving community and focus on a host of topics. Future workshops include: **Advanced Directives...Planning for Tomorrow**, presented by Sue Packard on Tuesday, May 12 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., and **Taking Care of You: Self Care for Family Caregivers**, presented by Jen Spicer on Tuesday, June 9 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Workshops will be held in the large conference room at the Center for Older Adults, 800 Cheshire Rd., Delaware. Please feel free to bring a friend! To register, please RSVP to Intake & Referral Specialist, Jen Spicer at (740) 203-2377.

17TH ANNUAL SUMMER FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 19

The 2009 Summer Festival, held at the Delaware County Fairgrounds from 3 – 8 p.m., will feature a Senior Health and Wellness Fair as well as the Senior Expo which will spotlight businesses and organizations that offer services and products to seniors and their families. Other activities include a vintage auto show, handmade arts and crafts, and a special children's play area. Entertainment will include musicians, clowns, and Delaware County's own world-famous magician, Dr. Eldoonie.

Fairgoers will also enjoy roasted pork and shredded chicken sandwiches with all the fixin's. Meal tickets cost \$6 in advance and \$7 the day of the event. Meal tickets for the Summer Festival can be purchased beginning in April and will be available at the Council office, 800 Cheshire Road, Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Other ticket sales locations will be announced at a later date and posted on our website - www.growingolder.org. Individual a la carte portions may be purchased for children, and carry-out dinners will once again be available. Admission to the Summer Festival and parking are free. Funds raised through the Summer Festival will be used to support the services of your Council for Older Adults.

SPRING CLEAN-UP

Now that spring has finally arrived, you may need help with cleaning up your yard, garden or flower beds. Youth in our community, supervised by an adult, will be happy to assist with springtime yard work. You must furnish the tools necessary to complete the job. This service is free to seniors, 60 and older, who live in Delaware County. For more information, please contact the Council for Older Adults at (740) 363-6677 or 1-800-994-2255.

PET FOOD AVAILABLE

The Food and Nutritional Services Program (Meals on Wheels) now has a limited supply of dog and cat food available, due to the generosity of the Humane Society of Delaware County and their vendor, Mars Distribution. If you could use pet food, please contact your Care Consultant at (740) 363-6677 or the Nutrition Program at (740) 203-2432/2433. Additionally, seniors can pick up food directly from the Humane Society located at 4920 State Route 37E. Their phone number is (740) 369-7387 and their hours are Tuesday through Friday from 1-6 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. The Humane Society is closed on Mondays.

NEED A RIDE?

The Council for Older Adults Transportation Program can provide necessary (non-emergency) transportation for older adults and/or caregivers. Volunteers provide a door-through-door service, accompany a rider to and from an appointment or event, and can stay during the appointment if needed. Transportation is limited to Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. and depends upon the availability of a volunteer. Two weeks notice is appreciated in order to accommodate as many requests as possible. If you are interested in this free program, please call the Council at (740) 363-6677.

NEW SENIOR SERVICES DIRECTORY

It's here! Our 2009-2011 Senior Services Directory is hot off the presses and ready for your use. This publication is a directory of aging-related resources throughout Delaware County, such as caregiver resources, crisis and abuse, financial and utility assistance, housing, health, and other vital services. The Directory is free and available for pick-up at the Council office, 800 Cheshire Road, Delaware. Other methods of delivery can be used. For more information, call the Council at (740) 363-6677.

ONE-TIME ECONOMIC RECOVERY PAYMENT FOR SOCIAL SECURITY RECIPIENTS

President Obama recently signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This act provides for the one-time payment of \$250 to individuals who get Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security benefits. **Those who are entitled to a payment should receive it by late May 2009. No action is required on your part.**

SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET VOUCHER PROGRAM

The Senior Farmers' Market Voucher Program, sponsored by the Council for Older Adults, provides county residents with vouchers for fresh foods from local farmers' markets. Applicants must be 60 and over, and certain income restrictions apply. Vouchers are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications will be available at the Council office or at the local farmers' markets beginning June 15 or may be taken during staff visits to area senior housing site visits, in June. Call the Council for specific dates at (740) 363-6677. Participants who are not able to sign up for the vouchers or visit the markets may appoint up to two representatives to do so for them.



Center for Older Adults
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(740) 363-6677 or 800-994-2255

