

Have You Heard About Monroe County's Best Kept Secret???

MONROE COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

Monroe County has an array of services to help senior citizens in their daily lives but it falls on the Monroe County Commission on Aging to coordinate those services.

In 2006, the Commission budgeted \$2,850,191 for programming for local residents 60 and older. The money comes from the .50-mill tax levy that homeowners pay annually. This year the millage is expected to generate about \$2.7 million. The difference between what is budgeted and what the millage is expected to generate comes from the Commission on Aging's fund balance. These county funds match several thousands of additional State and Federal dollars that our county receives for additional senior services.

By coordinating with agencies that offer senior services, the Commission hopes to maximize services and avoid duplication. Money is funneled to the agencies through the Commission but not before the agencies provide a detailed plan on how they intend to spend that money. The Commission's pledge is that the greatest benefit will go to those most in need and the most frail will receive the highest priority.

Your Tax Dollars Working in the Community

In 2006, the following agencies provided Monroe County residents with the following amounts of service:

- **Ash Senior Center**- 220.50 hours of socialization to area seniors
- **Bedford Health Van**- 2,675 one-way trips for seniors
- **Bedford Senior Center**-1, 970 hours of service for area seniors
- **Berlin Senior Center**-255 hours of meals and socialization at the center
- **Caring Alternatives Inc.**-12,882 hours of home care, personal care, respite, elder abuse prevention and medication set-up
- **Deaf and Hearing Impaired Services, Inc.**- 1,581 hours of interpretation and counseling for deaf and hard of hearing seniors
- **Dundee Senior Center**- 1,729 hours of socialization for area seniors
- **Faith in Action for Monroe County**- 4,750 hours of respite, friendly visiting and errand service
- **Lenawee, Monroe, Hillsdale Foster Grandparent Program**- 11,868 hours of help to children in need by 17 dedicated seniors
- **Frenchtown Senior Center**- 15,543 hours of socialization and 14,458 hours of adult day care service for many area seniors
- **Lake Erie Transit**- 20,380 one-way trips for seniors around town to stores, dialysis and doctor appointments
- **Living Independence for Everyone**- 252,423 hot meals to seniors in and outside of their homes
- **Milan Senior Center**- 2,088 hours of programming and socialization for Milan area seniors.
- **Monroe County Health Department**- 252.50 hours of diabetes instruction for seniors
- **MCOP Home Care**- 2,611 hours of in-home care to seniors
- **MCOP Home Chore**- 5,733 hours of chore service
- **MCOP Ramps**-12 portable temporary aluminum ramps
- **MCOP Specialized Transportation**- 4,408 one-way trips
- **MCOP Commodity Food Program**- 89,311 food items for seniors
- **MCOP Resource Advocacy**- 8,082 hours of counseling and assistance
- **MCOP Home Injury Control**- 314 assistive safety devices to keep seniors safe in their homes.
- **MCOP Fuel Assistance Program**- 72 fuel bills paid
- **MCOP Unmet Needs Program**- 50 unmet needs items for seniors
- **Monroe Center**- 4,424 hours of activities and socialization to area seniors
- **Monroe Center Cancer Connection**- 458 one-way trips by trained volunteers
- **Monroe County Senior Legal Services**- 9,561.50 hours of legal service
- **Petersburg Summerfield Seniors**- 326 hours of service for Petersburg area seniors.
- **Retired Senior Volunteer Program**- 73,818 hours of volunteer time from seniors for community events
- **AAA 1-B Community Care Management**- 21,470.50 units of Personal Care, Home Care, and Respite directly provided to seniors.

The commission is a nine-member board (one from each county district and appointed by county commissioners), a director, an assistant and a part time clerk. The board meets at 1 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at locations throughout the county.

For more information on any of the services or to check on qualifications for programs, **call the Monroe County Commission on Aging at 734-240-7363 or toll-free at (800) 354-5500, ext. 7363**