



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022



“When you get a groove going, time flies!”

(Donald Fagen from Steely Dan)

I’m guessing most of us over 60 will recognize the musical reference, but the statement caught my eye because Muskegon County definitely has a groove going with regard to services for seniors and time has indeed flown!

Voters in Muskegon County passed the first millage for services for senior citizens in August of 2016. In 2017, Senior Resources of West Michigan was named as administrator and the County Commission appointed a Senior Activities Committee to seek proposals for services and recommend funding on an ongoing basis. It is hard to believe how quickly the time has passed, but an amazing amount has been accomplished. We are now looking forward to a renewal of the millage in 2024. To learn more about how important this funding stream has become for seniors in Muskegon County, please take the time to review this annual report.

Since 2016, more than \$13.6 million has been awarded to a network that now consists of 26 nonprofit organizations and governmental entities. These organizations provide services in the areas of health care, housing, education, legal services, nutrition, mobility and socialization and recreation. Seven years later, services are now reaching 1 out of every 5 persons over the age of 60 in Muskegon County. These statistics are in reference to 75% of the millage funds collected. In addition, 25% of the millage goes directly to city, township, and village governments to help meet the unique needs in those areas as determined by local officials. In 2022, \$608,611 was allocated to governmental entities that offered a range of services directly or partnered with an organization in the network of providers to enhance the quality of life for seniors in their respective areas.

Over the years, Senior Resources of West Michigan (SRWM) has refined their administration and data collection and the Senior Activities Committee is grateful for their diligence. SRWM has created transparency and accountability for the citizens of Muskegon County regarding where and how our tax dollars have been spent. But don’t take my word for it. In addition to this annual report, you can visit the website below at any time for up-to-date information: <https://seniorresourceswmi.org/muskegon-county-senior-millage/>.

Finally, we hope everyone feels free to get involved. Meetings of the Senior Activities Committee are open to the public. Join us and become part of the discussion about how we can best serve older adults in Muskegon County.

Greg Scott, 2022 Chair
Muskegon County Senior Activities Committee

FY22 Senior Activities Committee

Rachel Cereska

Kim Cyr, County Commissioner

Peggy Foster

Marcia Hovey-Wright, County Commissioner

Nancy McCarthy *

Greg Scott, Chair

Robert Scolnik, County Commissioner

Robert Sewick

Linda Vines **

Steve Warmington

*Mid-year departure

**Mid-year appointment

Muskegon County Senior Millage stories - FY22

Muskegon Community Health Project programs help older adults live independently

The Muskegon Community Health Project offers two programs funded by the Muskegon County Senior Millage – the senior navigation and community health worker programs.

The senior navigator – a person designated to help older adults connect with programs and services – was able to help a number of older adults find needed assistance:

- An older adult needed help paying for an expensive medication. The senior navigator helped complete a pharmaceutical company application and the older adult was approved for free medication for a year.
- A recently widowed older adult needed help obtaining her husband's survivor benefits. The senior navigator helped the woman navigate the system and start receiving benefits in June of 2022; she had been without her survivor benefits since 2021.
- The senior navigator helped another older adult resolve utility bills and apply for help for new water pipes to alleviate flooding in her basement.

A Community Health Worker (CHW), also funded through the senior millage, helped an older adult with access to transportation for medical appointments, weatherization assistance (new insulation, a refrigerator, and a blower to help with air circulation), finding a new primary care provider, applications for property tax exemption, diet and exercise, and much more.

Another CHW helped a Twin Lake older adult with multiple household issues. They helped complete an application to pay for replacement of her septic field, another application for a well system, a smoke detector, finding dental care, a commode and grab bars, and education. This senior is now better able to live in her own home with adult children.

To learn more about these programs, call the Health Project HUB referral line at 231-672-3305.



AgeWell Services Bingocize:

AgeWell Services participants enjoy bingo and chair exercises in “Bingocize” – an evidence-based program that addresses mobility, fall prevention/reduction, and social isolation. The regular sessions combine exercise and health information along with the fun Bingo activity.



Cedar Creek Fire Department Lifts:

Cedar Creek Township used some of its municipal funding to purchase a lifting cushion that inflates to help first responders safely lift someone who has fallen. It minimizes risk of injury, preserves the patient's dignity and safety, and reduces strain on the person helping. It can lift someone from the floor to a chair height.

Volunteer for Dental:

Volunteer for Dental is all about volunteering. Local dentists – more than 20 - volunteer their time to provide services, and those receiving services “earn” money toward those services by volunteering with community organizations. Those who are uninsured or under-insured improve their health by having dental issues fixed and the community benefits by their volunteer efforts.



Love INC Ramp:

Love In the Name of Christ (Love INC) provides ramps to older adults through millage funding. The wooden or aluminum ramps are for those whose medical provider has confirmed the need. Aluminum ramps take about a half day to install; wood ramps take about two days. Love INC staff reported this woman had not been able to leave her house for two years, due to lack of a ramp.

Jan and Emma:

Jan and Emma became friends through senior lunch and activity center regular meetings in Holton. They explained they have become “lifelong friends” through the regular events. They attend exercise classes, learn about senior programs, and make new friends. “The companionship with others is the most important,” Emma said. “We’re all friends; if someone is not there, we wonder where they are. We have fun!” added Jan.



Monthly Meals:

Enjoying a meal through Egelston Township's monthly meal and activity, held the third Thursday of the month at the VFW on East Apple Avenue.



Ravenna Groceries:

Ravenna Township uses some grant funding to transport and assist residents with grocery shopping.



Equipment to Help with Vision:

Vision equipment used by the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired. ABVI offers vision rehabilitation services which can include teaching someone with low vision to use their remaining vision to its maximum potential. They teach how to use magnifiers, electronic devices, and more.

Home-Delivered Meals:

Home-delivered meals through AgeWell Services offer nutrition and a well-check from a volunteer for older adults who are challenged to leave their homes and/or prepare healthy meals.

Category	Provider Name	Service Name	Participants
Educational			
	Muskegon Community Health Project	Community Health Worker	301
	Muskegon Community Health Project	Senior Navigator	523
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program	2,540*
Health			
	AgeWell Services	Health Promotions	56
	Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	Low Vision Rehabilitation	189
	Christians for Health	Matter of Balance	39
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Case Coordination and Support	386
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Community Living Supports	75
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Homemaker	222
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Medication Management	28
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Personal Care	41
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Personal Emergency Response System	231
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Respite Care	28
	United Way of the Lakeshore	Retired & Senior Volunteer Support	91
	Volunteer for Dental	Dental Care	94
	Volunteer for Dental	Dentures	27
	Volunteer for Dental	Preventative Services	48
Housing			
	City of Muskegon	Home Repair	54
	City of Muskegon Heights	Major Home Repair	117
	Community enCompass/Bethany Housing	Major Home Repair	23
	Living Word Church	Lawn Care	221
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Outdoor Chore Services	151
	Trinity Village Nonprofit Housing Corp.	Major Home Repair	47
Legal			
	AgeWell Services	SafeSeniors - Investigative	408
	AgeWell Services	SafeSeniors - Outreach	17,327*
	Fair Housing Center of West Michigan	Education and Outreach	52
	Fair Housing Center of West Michigan	Housing Enforcement Services	18
	Legal Aid of Western Michigan	Legal Services	254*
	The Arc Muskegon	Legacy Planning	5
Mobility			
	AgeWell Services	Senior Transportation Program	529
	Disability Network of West Michigan	Transportation	61
	Living Word Church	Snow Removal	247
	Love INC	Ramps	41

Category	Provider Name	Service Name	Participants
	Ravenna Township	Grocery Trip	41
Nutritional			
	AgeWell Services	Congregate Meals	429
	AgeWell Services	Home Delivered Meals	1,027
	Casnovia Township	Monthly Luncheon	227
	Fruitport Lions Club	Power of Produce	4,547
	Muskegon YMCA	Veggie Van	672
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Home Delivered Meals	33
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Nutritional Supplements	24
Social, Recreational, & Emotional			
	AgeWell Services	Senior Center Activities	1,073
	Arts Council of White Lake-Nuveen Center	Spark! Program	24
	Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	Support Groups	44
	Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	Vision Loss Counseling	137
	Egelston Township	Monthly Dinner	645
	Orchard View Community Education	Senior Center Activities	282
	Pioneer Resources	Eastern Muskegon County Recreation	203
	Pioneer Resources	Northern Muskegon County Recreation	139
	Ravenna Township	Community Luncheon	219
	Senior Resources Contracted Service	Adult Day Services	6
	White Lake Senior Center	Senior Center Activities	97

* Counts are not unduplicated for MMAP, Legal Services, and SafeSeniors Outreach; therefore, the total count is not unduplicated.

Total Count 34,343*

Muskegon County Senior Millage Reimbursed Amounts by Category

Education	\$81,600
Health	\$301,845
Housing	\$425,544
Legal	\$188,452
Mobility	\$303,456
Nutritional	\$414,369
Social, Recreational, & Emotional	\$335,172
	\$2,050,438

By Municipality		Total participant count as of 9/30/2022		
Municipality	Community	Participant Count	*Senior Population	Percentage of Seniors
Blue Lake	Township	45	675	7%
Casnovia	Township	201	598	34%
Casnovia	Village	14	76	18%
Cedar Creek	Township	144	952	15%
Dalton	Township	355	2,157	16%
Egelston	Township	653	2,445	27%
Fruitland	Township	210	1,994	11%
Fruitport	Township	490	3,918	13%
Fruitport	Village	120	341	35%
Holton	Township	96	698	14%
Laketon	Township	434	2,415	18%
Lakewood Club	Village	43	253	17%
Montague	City	173	745	23%
Montague	Township	58	527	11%
Moorland	Township	63	374	17%
Muskegon	City	4,204	8,355	50%
Muskegon	Township	1,050	4,636	23%
Muskegon Heights	City	556	2,312	24%
North Muskegon	City	211	1,289	16%
Norton Shores	City	1,123	7,679	15%
Ravenna	Township	86	570	15%
Ravenna	Village	202	265	76%
Roosevelt Park	City	184	976	19%
Sullivan	Township	96	742	13%
White River	Township	47	585	8%
Whitehall	City	256	962	27%
Whitehall	Township	67	607	11%
TOTALS		11,181	47,146	24%

▪ *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Population Survey Estimates (April 2021) - pending final report publication March 2022

▪ This report from Muskegon County is unaudited, and separate from the grants process administered by Senior Resources of West Michigan.

Municipality	Service Category	Distribution
Blue Lake Township		\$10,807
For use of the Viking Athletic Complex for seniors that desire to remain active while doing so indoors in a safe environment at no cost. Activities include walking, pickle ball, chair volleyball, tai chi, indoor golf, and more.	Senior Center Activities Health/Social	\$10,807
Casnovia Township		\$11,071
Support MCA System Protocol Life Support Agency Credentialing	Health/Safety	\$2,500
Support annual Rockford Ambulance contractual responses for seniors	Health/Safety	\$2,000
Senior snow plow vouchers with All Around Excavating	Mobility	\$2,000
Food access support services with Gene's Family Market (transportation, shopping, etc.)	Nutrition	\$1,000
Freezer for Senior Food Pantry perishable items Nutrition	Nutrition	\$250
Minor door repair senior facility	Nutrition	\$500
Other expenditures as approved by Board	Various	\$2,822
Casnovia Village	Senior program activities postponed	\$0
Cedar Creek Township		\$13,983
Informational gathering for seniors to talk about safety. ELK Lifting System demonstrated.	Educational/Mobility	\$465
Automated External Defibrillator (AED) purchased to have on site at the Township Hall for senior safety.	Health/Safety	\$1,420
Food bags to seniors in the summer and winter. These are foods that will last in their cupboards, but can also be enjoyed for quick lunch, supper, etc.	Nutrition	\$10,000
Senior Cornhole Game and Picnic event to help seniors be socially engaged and active/mobile.	Social	\$1,110
Dalton Township		\$28,086
SafeSeniors activities/outreach/prevention	Educational/Legal	\$14,043
Snow plowing	Mobility	\$14,043
Egelston Township		\$29,967
Congregate meals and socialization	Nutrition/Social	\$16,000
Food baskets/groceries	Nutrition	\$5,800
Yard cleanup, mowing, maintenance	Housing	\$4,000
Minor home repairs	Housing	\$4,167
Fruitland Township		\$25,085
Coffee circles, games, in-house classes, blood pressure tests, flu clinics, tax preparation services, and transportation to area activities	Social/Health/Mobility	\$5,000
SafeSeniors activities/outreach/prevention	Educational/Legal	\$5,000
Need-based vouchers (max. \$50 allowance); e.g. Muskegon or Montague Farmer's Market, Fruitland Township Ecology Station, etc.	Nutrition/Housing	\$15,085

FY2022 Municipal Services & Activities Report

Municipality	Service Category	Distribution
Fruitport Village		\$7,399
Senior citizen designated parking lot for special events e.g. art fairs, movie nights, concerts, community picnics, etc. in partnership with Fruitport Lions Club.	Mobility/Social	\$7,399
Fruitport Charter Township		\$45,911
AgeWell Services: Meals and fitness activities	Nutrition/Social	\$15,000
Living Word Church: Yard maintenance	Housing	\$15,911
AgeWell Services: SafeSeniors Program	Educational/Legal	\$15,000
Senior Produce - Muskegon Farmer's Market	Nutrition	balance
Holton Township		\$11,056
Snow plowing	Mobility	\$11,056
Laketon Township		\$30,124
Yard waste dump carts for yard clean-up	Housing	\$8,500
AgeWell Services: SafeSeniors Program	Educational/Legal	\$18,024
Senior Produce - Muskegon Farmer's Market	Nutrition	\$3,600
Lakewood Club Township		\$6,336
Food vouchers: Meijer gift cards	Nutrition	\$6,336
Montague City		\$11,564
White Lake Senior Center operational support	Health/Social	\$11,564
Montague Township		\$9,577
White Lake Senior Center: VAC vouchers	Health/Social	\$7,750
White Lake Senior Center: misc. unmet needs	Various	\$1,827
Moorland Township		\$7,548
Senior Holiday Meals	Nutrition	\$2,500
Need-based assistance: prescription co-pay, propane, medical bills, back taxes, etc.	Various	\$5,548
Muskegon City		\$94,640
Senior Power of Produce - Farmer's Market	Nutrition	\$40,000
Major Home Repair	Housing	\$54,640
Muskegon Charter Township		\$53,684
Mangar ELK Lifting Cushion System for MTFD1	Mobility	\$2,000
Orchard View Community Education to support programs for seniors: entertainment, food assistance, etc.	Nutrition/Social	\$10,000
AgeWell Services: SafeSeniors Program	Educational/Legal	\$40,000
Social Activity & Information Workshop	Educational/Social	\$1,684
Muskegon Heights City		\$28,527
Utility bill assistance (water, gas, electric, etc.)	Housing	\$14,000
Senior Power of Produce Program support	Nutrition	\$8,000
Ring Doorbells purchase and installation	Housing/Safety	\$3,000
Unmet needs/gaps (costs not covered by other programs due to funding restrictions or program requirements)	Housing	\$3,527

Municipality	Service Category		Distribution
North Muskegon City			\$17,453
Plowing sidewalks along Ruddiman Drive for senior safety/transportation/walking	Health/Mobility	\$10,000	
Senior Power of Produce (City of Muskegon)	Nutrition/Social	\$2,500	
Annual expense for information and referral system to inform senior residents of emergency situations (Nixle Emergency Phone and Text Notification System)	Educational/Safety	\$1,750	
Senior Snowbird Luncheon (Congregate Meals)	Nutrition	\$1,548	
Administrative costs	Miscellaneous	\$1,655	
Norton Shores City			\$86,623
AgeWell Services: SafeSeniors Program	Educational/Legal	\$86,623	
Ravenna Township			\$10,716
Senior Footcare Program	Health	\$10,716	
Ravenna Village			\$6,369
Senior Footcare Program	Health	\$6,369	
Roosevelt Park City			\$15,489
AgeWell Services: SafeSeniors Program	Educational/Legal	\$3,098	
Annual Senior Luncheon and program	Nutrition/Social	\$2,946	
Senior Power of Produce (City of Muskegon)	Nutrition/Social	\$3,121	
Senior Activities in the Park: Zumba, Tai Chi, etc. (weekly or bi-weekly)	Health/Social	\$3,865	
Senior meal distribution event advertising costs	Nutrition	\$1,000	
Administrative costs	Miscellaneous	\$1,459	
Sullivan Township			\$12,780
Park upgrade to support senior mobility: repair walking path, resurface shuffleboard courts, add balance improvement equipment. Install ADA compliant sinks and toilets in hall bathrooms.	Health/Mobility	\$12,780	
White River Township			\$9,832
Viking Athletic Center for senior memberships	Health/Social	\$8,000	
White Lake Senior Center for memberships	Health/Social	\$1,000	
AgeWell Services: senior program activities	Health/Social	\$832	
Whitehall City			\$13,913
White Lake Area Community Education Center	Educational/Social	\$11,513	
White Lake Senior Center	Health/Social	\$2,400	
Whitehall Township			\$10,071
White Lake Area Community Education Center	Educational/Social	\$8,000	
White Lake Senior Center for memberships	Health/Social	\$1,000	
Senior Pickleball Club	Health/Social	\$832	
Total Distribution			\$608,611
Available for Allocation			\$613,079
FY22 Municipal funds not used			\$4,468



Senior Resources
560 Seminole Road, Muskegon, MI
49444, www.seniorresourceswmi.org

Senior Resources of West Michigan is the grants administrator for the Muskegon County Senior Millage. Muskegon County is the fiduciary of the senior millage, and the county commissioners have ultimate authority over the millage funds.



Muskegon County
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