LIVINGSTON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COLLABORATIVE BODY

Health and Human Service Needs FACT SHEET

Older Adults Aging in Place in Livingston County

April 2022

What is "Aging in Place"?

The Center for Disease Control defines **aging in place** as "the ability to live in one's own home and community safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level." According to *Aging in Place: A State Survey of Livability Policies and Practices* through AARP, nearly 90% of adults, over the age of 65, report that they want to stay in their home as long as possible and 80% believe their current residence is where they will always live.

Barriers to Aging in Place:

According to the National Council on Aging at www.ncoa.org:

- 80% of our older adults will have at least one chronic disease; 70% will have two or more
- Every 11 seconds an older adult is treated in an emergency room for a fall
- 1 out of 4 older adults fall each year
- 1 in 4 older adults has a mental health disorder, which can include depression, anxiety and dementia
- 1 out of 4 older adults experience behavioral health problems such as depression, anxiety, or substance abuse





In order to support our seniors as they choose to age in place, we need to work together as a community to recognize the needs of this population. Caregiving is one area that continues to be a need in our community.

According to the 2021 Behavioral Risk Factory Survey (BRFSS) for Michigan, 1 in 5 adults are caregivers and 1 in 5 caregivers provide 40 or more hours of care per week. 80% of caregivers manage household tasks and nearly 47% assist with personal care.

Our goal is to uncover ways to support our senior population by developing Aging in Place initiatives across our communities.

Why is this issue so important to Livingston County?

Local Livingston County Concerns:

- In 2021, Livingston 911 dispatched for **7,615 calls** for individuals aged 60 years and older
- 13% of all rides provided by LETS are for older adults
- Between 2019 and 2021, there were **605 citations**, **66 arrests** and **5 overdoses** of individuals aged 60 years and older (Livingston County Sheriff's Department)
- The top three arrest charges for individuals aged 60 years and older are operating while under the influence (OUI), assault and battery, and obstructing justice.

Population and Program Utilization: (FY 2021 Area Agency on Aging 1-B)

- 45,777 (24%) of the Livingston County population is a senior, aged 60+
- This number is expected to increase to over **72,196** by **2045**
- About 1,016 residents will turn 60 each year until 2045. That is about 3 each day!





- \$2,603,100 in Federal and State funding has helped our Livingston County Seniors in FY 2021
- **1,382** seniors and caregivers received information, assistance and referrals and health insurance counseling in FY 2021
- 118,635 home delivered meals were served to our homebound seniors in FY 2021
- 62 nursing home eligible seniors were able to stay in their communities through the support of MI Choice - a savings of \$2,719,940 annually in Medicaid nursing costs

It is time for us to develop more programs, services and supports to address the needs of this growing population.

What is the impact locally?

Livingston County is comprised of urban communities and many rural areas. This geography has resulted in some unique challenges for the county. These challenges include transportation, food support, social isolation and connectivity issues. We often have seniors who are isolated from the supports available to them.

Livingston County still has areas where no cell service can be accessed and where landlines are critical. Dial-up or satellite internet are the only options in the more rural areas of the county. In addition to these safety concerns, seniors are increasingly becoming targets of scams and other crimes as noted by the County Sheriff. It is critical that we find ways to keep our seniors safe and help them age in place.

What programs & services exist?

6 local Senior Centers		
Brighton Senior Center	810-299-3817	www.BrightonSeniorCenter.com
Fowlerville Senior Center	517-223-7102	
Putnam Township Senior Center	734-878-1810	www.putnamtwp.us/dept_senior_center.htm
Hamburg Senior Center	810-222-1140	
		or_community_center/index.php
Hartland Senior Activity Center	810-626-2135	www.hartlandseniorcenter.org
Howell Senior Center	517-545-0219	www.howellrecreation.org/howell senior-center/
Other Resources		
Community Liaisons	517-545-5	944 <u>www.livingstoncatholiccharities.org</u>
Be Our Guest Adult Day Program	517-546-9	910 <u>www.livingstoncatholiccharities.org</u>
Meal on Wheels	810-632-2	155 <u>www.lcsnp.org</u>
Area Agency on Aging 1b	800-852-7	795 <u>www.aaa1b.org</u>
Habitat for Humanity	810-220-9	986 www.livingstonhabitat.org/
Phone directory/resource assistance	211	

What Can the Community Do to help?

- ✓ Get involved!
- ✓ Advocate!
- ✓ Volunteer your time and talents
- ✓ Deliver meals to homebound seniors
- ✓ Join Volunteer Livingston
- ✓ Participate in United Way's Day of Caring
- ✓ Join the Livingston Leadership Council on Aging contact Amy Johnston ajohnston@cmhliv.org for more information

