

Inside this issue:

Mark Your Calendar	2
Healthy Living Programs — FREE classes	3
How does Medicare Work when Traveling?	5
Community Interest KCASI	6
News from AAAlIIIA RFP for Grant Funded Services	7
...and more!	



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT
In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance

Health and Community Services Department

Area Agency on Aging IIIA The Advisor

May/June

2019/Issue 3

Senior Millage Update

April 16th, Jim Rutherford and Samantha Carlson provided an update to the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners on the implementation of the Senior Millage. The purpose and history was reviewed, outlining the need and proposed budget. The budget was reviewed by the Older Adult Services Advisory Council in December, of 2017. The budget for the Senior Millage consists of 40% funding Kalamazoo County Community Living Programs, 31% In-Home Services, 19.9% Community Services, and 9.1% Central Service Costs.

Kalamazoo county voters approved the millage in August of 2018. In compliance with Kalamazoo County Government policies and procedures, the Millage funding requests from community partners must go through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process through the Kalamazoo County Government Purchasing Department. This allows for open opportunity and

transparency to interested parties in the community considering applying for funds. During this process, an open meeting is conducted with the selection committee to potential vendors/providers for questions. Questions and answers are recorded, and posted for the public on the county website.

Once the bidding period is closed, the applications are reviewed through the Selection Committee in accordance with Health & Community Services procedure. The selection committee includes: the Health Officer, Deputy Health Officer, Deputy Director of Financial Management & Administration, Purchasing Manager, Older Adult Services team members Director, Quality Assurance & Planning Coordinator and Public Health Nurse Supervisor.

Applications are scored on impact to direct services for older adult service needs in the region. Application questions and standards

follow the state Aging & Adult Services Agency (AASA) guidelines. Approved applicants will engage in quality assurance and service standard audit before contracts are signed and completed. All contracts are submitted to the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners for approval.

Area Agency on Aging expanded the Long Term Care Ombudsman program, and is expanding case management services to address waiting list clients. The Health Living Programs addressing chronic disease management and prevention through Personal Action Towards Health (PATH) classes, and Matter of Balance (MOB) fall prevention classes are underway. See page 3 for upcoming class schedules.

To expedite implementation, the Senior Millage was divided into two phases. Phase 1 prioritized expansion for urgent community needs



Mark Your Calendar



*Plan to Attend
the
23rd Annual
SENIOR EXPO
Tuesday, October 1st
Kalamazoo County
Expo Center
See p. 6*

- May is Older Americans Month: [Connect, Create, Contribute](#)
- June 15th is [World Elder Abuse Awareness Day](#)

Wednesday, May 8—
Older Adult Services Advisory Council (OASAC) Meeting, 3:30 PM at HCS Dept., 311 E. Alcott St., Room 361. Check HCS Web site for changes or cancellations at http://www.kalcounty.com/public_notice.php

Wednesday, May 15—
Older Michigianians Day in Lansing. See p.

Monday, May 20—
Kalamazoo County Advocates for Senior Issues meeting, 1:15-2:45 at Portage Senior Center, 320 Library Ln.

Thursday, May 23—
Centenarian Luncheon, to honor Kalamazoo citizens born in 1919 or before. Organized in

conjunction with the **Kalamazoo County Area Agency on Aging, 11 am to 1 pm at Senior Services.** Call **269.373.5147 for more information.**

Friday, May 24—
Professionals Focused on Aging Meeting, 8:00 AM at Senior Services, 918 Jasper St., Kalamazoo.

Thursday, May 23—
Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition Meeting, 1:30 PM at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, Suite 200, 100 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo.

Wednesday, June 12—
OASAC Meeting, 3:30 PM at HCS Dept., 311 E. Alcott St., Room 361.

Monday, June 17—
Kalamazoo County Advocates for Senior Issues meeting, 1:15-2:45 at Portage Senior Center, 320 Library Ln., Portage.

Thursday, June 27—
Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition Meeting, 1:30 PM at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, Suite 200.

Friday, June 28—
Professionals Focused on Aging, 8:00–10:00 AM at Senior Services.



The Advisor is published six times a year by the Area Agency on Aging, IIIA. If you would like to receive a copy by mail, please contact:

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Samantha Carlson, LMSW,
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Area Agency on Aging, IIIA
Kalamazoo County
Government
Health & Community
Services Department

Millage, from p. 1

historically generating waiting list for services. Phase 1 awarded community partners are listed below. Phase 2 will prioritize community funding for services identified as gaps in service or need for expansion. Funding allocations and categories will be publicly announced and posted through the Purchasing department at: <https://www.kalcounty.com/purchasing/rfp.php>

Ecumenical Senior Center: Volunteer Escorted Transportation

Oakland Center: Adult Day Services & Respite

Senior Services: Home Delivered Meals and Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Programs (MMAP)

Shephard's Center: Volunteer Escorted Transportation

South County Community Services: Volunteer Escorted Transportation

WMU: Adult Day Services and Respite

Thank you to our community for supporting the Senior Millage!

Healthy Living Programs Provided by the AAAIIA



MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

Looking for MOB Volunteer Coaches

Do you have

- good communication and interpersonal skills
- enthusiasm, dependability and a willingness to lead small groups of older adults
- the ability to lead low to moderate level exercise

Then, consider signing up for this free training to be a coach for **Matter of Balance (MOB)** classes!

When: May 8 and 10, 2019, 12:30 – 4:30 PM

Where: Health and Community Services Dept.
311 East Alcott Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Contact: For more information or to sign up —
Kelly Milliman LLBSW, MOB Master Trainer
269.373.5021 or kmmill@kalcounty.com

Are you aged 60 or older? Concerned about falls? Register for a Matter of Balance class:

Eight 2-hour classes

- **Yorkville Community Church**
11523 E. D Ave., Richland, MI 49083
Tuesdays & Thursdays (twice a week for 4 weeks)
May 7- May 29
2:00 – 4:00 PM
Contact: Kelly Milliman, 269.373.5021
- **Portage Senior Center**
320 Library Ln., Portage, MI 49002
Mondays
May 20 – July 8 (once a week for 8 weeks—skips
May 27/Memorial Day)
1:00 – 3:00 PM
Contact: Portage Senior Center, 269.329.4555
- **Calvary Bible Church**
855 S. Drake Rd., Kalamazoo, MI 49009
Tuesdays & Thursdays (twice a week for 4 weeks)
June 4 – June 27, 2019
1:00 to 3:00 PM
Contact: Kelly Milliman, 269.373.5021

What is PATH?

PATH is A fun, interactive workshop that helps participants improve their health and feel better.



Developed and tested by Stanford University, PATH is designed to provide the skills and tools needed by people living with chronic health conditions to improve their health and manage their symptoms. As a result, people are better equipped to face the daily challenges of living with a chronic condition. Two trained

Who Should Attend?

- Individuals 55 and older dealing with a Chronic Condition.
- Caregiver and family are also welcome to attend!

Personal Action Toward Health (PATH)

Scheduled Class:

Six 2-1/2 hour classes

- **Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department**
Mondays
July 15 – Aug 19
1:00 to 3:30 PM
Contact: Kelly Milliman, PATH Master Trainer
269.373.5021

The best PATH to better health is the one you manage yourself.

Creating Confident Caregivers provided by the Area Agency on Aging IIIA

Creating Confident Caregivers® is a program for those caring for loved ones with dementia or memory loss. This unique, 6-week training uses the university tested Savvy Caregiver Program and provides participants with information and resources to better manage the stress of caregiving.

Learn about:

- Dementia and its effects on the brain
- Caregiver resources
- Managing behaviors
- Improving caregiving skills
- How to handle everyday activities more easily
- Taking care of yourself to better care for your loved one



For information on upcoming classes, contact:
Patti Stratton, LMSW, Master Trainer,
 269.373.5141 or email: psstra@kalcounty.com

Custom Care

Peace of Mind

Custom Care is a unique fee-for-service program offered by Geriatric Care Consultants who specialize in meeting the support needs of older adults and their families. The nurses and social workers possess advanced training and extensive knowledge about the availability, quality and cost of services in the community and help ease the stress of navigating long-term care solutions. They are also available to be the eyes and ears of long distance caregivers and have the expertise to build consensus among family members.

Call the Area Agency on Aging's Information & Assistance line at 269.373.5173 for your free phone consultation.



SAVE THE DATE!

Tuesday, October 1st

Plans are underway for the 23rd annual Kalamazoo County Senior Expo organized by the Area Agency on Aging IIIA.

Sponsorships are available, and exhibitor registration will be available in June. Get in on one of the largest expos of its kind in the state. Market to over 2,000 attendees—including seniors, caregivers, and professionals. And, take advantage of the opportunity to network with over one-hundred exhibitors who participate in this great event.

Contact Janice at 269.373.5147 or jgboni@kalcounty.com, for sponsorship information, or if you have any questions. *See you on October 1st!*

Carol's Corner

How Does Medicare Coverage Work If You Have A Medical Emergency While Traveling?

Having a medical emergency is always stressful, but especially if you are traveling. Let's explore how Medicare will cover your medical care during travel medical emergencies.

First of all, both Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage Plans must cover emergency or urgently needed services received anywhere in the United States or its territories. Even if your condition only *appeared* to be an emergency at the time it occurred (but medical personnel later determined that it was not), both Original Medicare & Medicare Advantage must cover the care you received.

In addition, if yours is a Medicare Advantage Plan, here are a few extra facts to keep in mind:

- You are not required to see an in-network provider when you need emergency care
- You do NOT need a referral
- Your plan is limited in how much it can bill you for out of network emergency care.
- Your plan is required to cover follow up care related to your medical emergency if delaying it would endanger your health.
- You have appeal rights if your plan denies coverage of your emergency care.

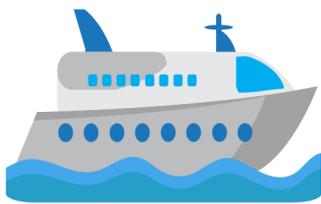


The doctor who provided your emergency care can provide you with medical documentation that the services you received were urgently needed and an emergency. A MMAP Counselor can assist you in appealing a denial of coverage, if needed.

Please note that Medicare does not typically cover non-emergency medical care received during travel outside of the U.S or its territories. However, there are exceptions, such as:

- Non-emergency services received while you are on a cruise ship if the ship is in U.S. territorial waters or in a U.S. port or within 6 hours of a U.S. port.
- Emergency services received while in Canada, under specific travel circumstances.
- Non-emergency inpatient services in a foreign hospital if the hospital is closer to your residence than the nearest U.S. hospital.

Before travelling, it is wise to review your Medicare or Advantage plan regarding coverage rules & costs.



Please know that you are always welcome to contact a MMAP (Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program) Counselor regarding issues & questions concerning your Medicare or Medicaid coverage. There is no cost for this service, & MMAP can be reached by calling toll free to 1-800-803-7174.

Contributed by Carol Decker, LMSW, Care Consultant and MMAP counselor

Kalamazoo County Advocates for Senior Issues (KCASI) invites Advisor readers to their May and June programs and activities



- May 15 – Older Michigianians Day at the State Capital, where advocates meet with their legislators to promote a platform of issues for them to address. \$10 cost to non-members which includes transportation. Lunch is provided by the 4AM (Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan). Contact Joyce Stout for further information: 269.668.6381.
- May 20 – KCASI program meeting at the Portage Senior Center, 1:30 PM, featuring Anji Phillips, Investigative Teams Coordinator,–AAAIIA, on Elder Abuse as a Preventable Public Health Issue; and State Senator Sean McCann.
- June 17 – KCASI program meeting at the Portage Senior Center, 1:30 PM. Program to be determined. Invited guest legislator: Rep. Matt Hall.

YWCA 2019 Women of Achievement Awards

Congratulations to two previous Kalamazoo County Government employees: **Judy Sivak** and **Josephine Brown**.

Read more: <https://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/2019/04/ywca-announces-kalamazoos-2019-women-of-achievement-award-recipient.html>



The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at WMU summer course offerings are available in early May online at www.wmich.edu/olli or via its printed catalog available at many locations in Kalamazoo County, or to receive a copy in the mail, call the OLLI office at 269.387.5357.

If you have a passion you'd like to share with others, please see the information on the Web site to propose a course or call the office for further information.

Kalamazoo County ID Card

The Kalamazoo County ID Program launched on May 3, 2018 with a community celebration that attracted dozens of downtown residents and workers to the County Building obtain an ID or get more information.



More than 40 local businesses have offered incentives for use of the card at their establishments and another 50–60 have endorsed the card. What this means is that people with no other means of photo identification can use the card to write a check or have their age verified if that is an issue.

For the rest of us who have chosen to use the local ID it shows our pride in our community (and in many cases gets us a discount on food and other goods and services).

Applicants must present proof of identity and proof of residence in Kalamazoo County. By mid-March, 2019, more than 1,700 local IDs have been issued. Due to a generous grant from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, people who cannot afford the \$10 fee for the card can still obtain one at no cost.

Please visit the Web site for more information about the criteria for getting your local ID card and to find out which businesses, non-profits and public services endorse the local ID. Regular hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM – 12 Noon, and 1:00 – 4:00 PM. We are located in Room 101 of the County Administration Building, 201 W. Kalamazoo Ave. Our e-mail is: countyid@kalcounty.com and the phone number is (269) 384-8307. <https://www.kalcounty.com/clerk/id/>. The Local ID is a program of Kalamazoo County Government.

Kalamazoo County
Area Agency on
Aging IIIA (440)
311 E. Alcott St.
Kalamazoo, MI
49001



Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services is committed to providing equitable, culturally competent care to all individuals served, regardless of race, age, sex, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

Your Connection to Information & Community Supports

AAAIIA News

AAAIIA Triennial Grant Services – Request for Proposals

Federal and State grant-funded services through the AAAIIA are contracted for three years (triennial). The current contracts are in their final year. In May, Kalamazoo County Government/AAAIIA is issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for these contracts—. Interested service providers should go to the Kalamazoo County Purchasing Department Web page for more information on timelines, RFP forms, and service requirements:

<http://www.kalcounty.com/purchasing/rfp.php>

Honoring our dedicated nurses!

Don Saldia, BSN, Care Management Program Manager

Kelly Sutcliffe, RN, Care Consultant

National Nurses Week is celebrated annually from May 6, also known as National Nurses Day, through May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. This week is a time for everyone – individuals, employers, other health care professionals, community leaders, and nurses – to recognize the vast contributions and positive impact of America’s 4 million registered nurses.



**NATIONAL
NURSES WEEK**

We continue to grow!

Welcome to **Charlotte Ojediran-Whitfield** on May 13th. Charlotte is joining our team as an Information & Assistance Social Worker to assist us in addressing the needs of the population we serve in Kalamazoo County.