

**Director's Report submitted by
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October 2020**

- Once again we are continuing with our CV19 way of life here at the Council on Aging. We are not open to the public but continue to offer services daily. We will remain this way until further notice. We have been able to offer most of our services remotely, door to door. We are following all of the protocols set by our State and Town officials.
- During the month of October I did have a reduction in staffing due to a resignation. We are now operating with one staff member and one van driver including myself. We are not looking to fill any positions at this time.
- We were part of the Rotary Club Chicken BBQ this season. It was a grab and go events which we took part in for our population. It was such a wonderful day and event. Over 500 BBQ meals were delivered throughout the surrounding communities. We had fun delivering to our clients homes on a Saturday and love working with the Rotary and ClearPath of Devens.
- We are continuing our **daily** Transportation with our MART Van Service! Our numbers are on the raise which is promising for our population. My monthly MART reports track these numbers for us to follow. We do insist that masks be wore in order to ride on our van. We provide rides to Doctors appointments, this is priority, as well as shopping in town. We began shopping trips to Market Basket of Littleton and Walmart of Lunenburg. These added shopping trips have been very well received by our clients. We insist on following the social distancing protocol on the van and we are limited to 3 riders per trip.
- We are continuing with our off site meal program and Meals on Wheels daily for those in need. We are only able to drop off for clients door to door there is NO contact. Also we are running

errands and shopping for our clients. Our numbers are increasing each month with people in need in Ayer.

- We are also busy with phone calls looking for Health Insurance, Medicare and Mass Health information and enrollment advise. We have gathered a new client base due to the need for this information and service.
- We have received another round of funding through the Economic Development Office of the Town of Ayer. This amount totals \$4,500 which will take us through next December 2021 so we can shop for our client base and continue to help grow our program for those in such need.
- We also received \$1000 in Market Basket gift cards from secret friend . These have been most helpful for folk that call us and say they are out of money.
- So far since CV19 began we have been able to offer what our clients need at NO Charge to anyone. Having been blessed with so many grants and donations we are able to make things happen for those in NEED!
- On Monday October 26 our Town Fall Town meeting was held. The Council on Aging had an article on the warrant for the future of a new senior center. After long discussions it was voted by the voters to TALBLE this article until a later date.
- We took part in building a scare crow or two for the Towns Halloween Project. It is always nice to try and bring a smile to people's faces during these unsettling times. We will continue to create ideas for down town to bring a smile to folks.
- Our Winter Weather Policy is now in place for the coming months. If the weather is as such that meals and services cannot be delivered safely the staff will not be in the Center. Everyone will be notified in advance if a storm is coming and we need to regroup here at the COA. I take the winter months very seriously for both my staff and our clients. Safety comes first for everyone. Our

winter policy can be found on the town web page under Ayer Council on Aging and also our Facebook page.

- I have completed all paperwork and reports required for the month of October.
- I have attended all meetings required on the Zoom Program.
- I have been involved with Directors meeting across the state monthly also using the Zoom program.
- We have been doing everything so differently but it is working. Services have not stopped for the Ayer COA just a "NEW NORMAL".
- So as we move into the winter months our CV19 way of life will continue.
- Most IMPORTANTLY we are here if you need to TALK or need any service related information 978-772-8260 M-F 8am REMEMBER practice SOCIAL DISTANCING and PLEASE WEAR YOUR MASKS!!!!