

## **Director's Report – June 2022**

### **Ayer Senior Center / Council on Aging**

**Staffing:** Please welcome Mary Ellen Gorman as our new Outreach Coordinator! Mary Ellen has impressive depth of experience in social services and is excited to expand this very critical part of our offerings! The Social Worker position was offered & accepted as well.

#### **Budget:**

Spending is on track for this fiscal year. Much of the unexpended funds due to the lack of an Outreach Coordinator have been utilized to invest in the Senior Center, including two new smart TVs, an organization system for the arts & crafts room, extension of the wifi, and equipment for the group fitness classes.

#### **Programs:**

My Senior Center reporting statistics for May 2023:

- Seniors In Attendance (unduplicated): 91
- Total Event Sign-Ins (duplicated): 715
- Total Person-Programming Hours: 869.5

\*These statistics do not count the approx. 25 Meals on Wheels clients & the 70 van riders in May.

In May, special programs included: Mother's Day Luncheon & Day of Beauty, Vascular Health Talk, Needlefelted Ladybugs, lunch & flower arranging at Nashoba Park, and the resumption of pickleball classes.

#### **Outreach**

Mary Ellen is hitting the ground running. She attended the Pleasant Street coffee hour, set up professional meet & greets with some of our community partners, and has started assisting seniors. She will begin to take the lead role with application assistance for programs like: Fuel Assistance, SHINE, SNAP (Food stamps), Lifeline (reduced cost phone), ACP (reduced-cost internet), and senior housing applications.

#### **Meals**

In May 354 meals were served to 67 people, across 18 meals (2 MOC, 14 catered, 2 supper club trips). Monday and Friday MOC meals are not well attended. We will begin offering 1-2 Friday meals per month. Attendance is approaching capacity at Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday catered meals – five meals were full and last minute RSVPs were turned away.

#### **Volunteers & Donations**

In March, 9 volunteers worked a total of 151 hours, valued at \$2,154. The Senior Center could not run efficiently without their assistance, and we are very appreciative of their time. Many thanks to Shop & Save for their Monday baked goods donations.

#### **Site Selection / Building Committee Update:**

The Select Board appointed all of the members of the Building Committee, which will hold it's first meeting later this week.

**Transportation:** The COA van service is reaching capacity. On 2 days, the manifest was full. Across 4 days there were 5 riders turned away due to being beyond capacity.