



# 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 |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Educational</b> |   |                                      |              |
|                    | 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*       |
| <b>Health</b>      |   |                                      |              |
|                    | 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           |
| <b>Housing</b>     |   |                                      |              |
|                    | 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           |
| <b>Legal</b>       |   |                                      |              |
|                    | 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            |
| <b>Mobility</b>    |   |                                      |              |
|                    | 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           |
| <b>Nutritional</b>                           |   |                                     |              |
|  | 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           |
| <b>Social, Recreational, &amp; Emotional</b> |   |                                     |              |
|  | 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          |
|                                   | <b>\$2,050,438</b> |

| 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%                   |
| <b>TOTALS</b>    |           | <b>11,181</b>                           | <b>47,146</b>      | <b>24%</b>            |

▪ \*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    |
|---|--|-----------------|
| <b>Blue Lake Township</b>   |  | <b>\$10,807</b> |
| 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        |
| <b>Casnovia Township</b>  |  | <b>\$11,071</b> |
| 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         |
| <b>Casnovia Village</b>   | Senior program activities postponed    | <b>\$0</b>      |
| <b>Cedar Creek Township</b>   |  | <b>\$13,983</b> |
| 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         |
| <b>Dalton Township</b>  |  | <b>\$28,086</b> |
| SafeSeniors activities/outreach/prevention  | Educational/Legal                      | \$14,043        |
| Snow plowing  | Mobility                               | \$14,043        |
| <b>Egelston Township</b>  |  | <b>\$29,967</b> |
| 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         |
| <b>Fruitland Township</b>   |  | <b>\$25,085</b> |
| 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    |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Fruitport Village</b>   |                    | <b>\$7,399</b>  |
| Senior citizen designated parking lot for special events<br>e.g. art fairs, movie nights, concerts, community picnics,<br>etc. in partnership with Fruitport Lions Club. | Mobility/Social    | \$7,399         |
| <b>Fruitport Charter Township</b>  |                    | <b>\$45,911</b> |
| 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         |
| <b>Holton Township</b>   |                    | <b>\$11,056</b> |
| Snow plowing   | Mobility           | \$11,056        |
| <b>Laketon Township</b>  |                    | <b>\$30,124</b> |
| 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         |
| <b>Lakewood Club Township</b>  |                    | <b>\$6,336</b>  |
| Food vouchers: Meijer gift cards   | Nutrition          | \$6,336         |
| <b>Montague City</b>   |                    | <b>\$11,564</b> |
| White Lake Senior Center operational support   | Health/Social      | \$11,564        |
| <b>Montague Township</b>   |                    | <b>\$9,577</b>  |
| White Lake Senior Center: VAC vouchers   | Health/Social      | \$7,750         |
| White Lake Senior Center: misc. unmet needs  | Various            | \$1,827         |
| <b>Moorland Township</b>   |                    | <b>\$7,548</b>  |
| Senior Holiday Meals   | Nutrition          | \$2,500         |
| Need-based assistance: prescription co-pay, propane,<br>medical bills, back taxes, etc.  | Various            | \$5,548         |
| <b>Muskegon City</b>   |                    | <b>\$94,640</b> |
| Senior Power of Produce - Farmer's Market  | Nutrition          | \$40,000        |
| Major Home Repair  | Housing            | \$54,640        |
| <b>Muskegon Charter Township</b>   |                    | <b>\$53,684</b> |
| Mangar ELK Lifting Cushion System for MTFD1  | Mobility           | \$2,000         |
| Orchard View Community Education to support programs<br>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         |
| <b>Muskegon Heights City</b>   |                    | <b>\$28,527</b> |
| 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<br>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](http://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**  
1913 Marquette Avenue, Muskegon MI  
49442, [www.co.muskegon.mi.us](http://www.co.muskegon.mi.us)