



ANNUAL PLAN OF SERVICE FOR 2022

The goal of the Greene County Department of Human Services is to ensure a network of supportive services to assist the County's senior residents maintain their dignity and independence.

The Department of Human Services entered its Four Year Plan of Services for the period of April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2024. The Four Year Plan projects service needs for the future and sets appropriate goals to ensure that the needs of Greene County's older residents will continue to be addressed effectively and efficiently.

Future Public Hearings will be addressing the plan of service for 2022. In an effort to give the most accurate, complete answers possible, we will be accepting questions or comments in advance. Comments could include answers to one or more of the following questions.

- 1. What new services would you like to see provided by Department of Human Services - Aging?**
- 2. Are there any changes you'd like to see in existing DHS services?**
- 3. Any other general comments related to future services for seniors?**

Anyone interested may submit advance questions or comments by stopping by the office, calling 518-719-3555, mailing them to Greene County Department of Human Services, 411 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414, or sending us a message via email or through our Facebook page.

The Schedule of Hearings is as follows:

Wednesday, November 10, 1:30 p.m.

Cairo Golden Agers - Acra Community Center, Old Route 23, Cairo, NY 12413

Tuesday, November 16, 7:30 p.m.

Durham Town Hall, 7309 State Rt 81, East Durham, NY 12423

Thursday, November 18, 12:00 p.m.

Jewett Municipal Building, Beaches Corners, Jewett, NY

Monday, November 22, 7:00 p.m.

Town of New Baltimore, 3809 CR 51, Hannacroix, NY 12087

Monday, December 13, 1:15 p.m.

Athens Senior Citizens Club - Rivertown Senior Center, 39 Second Street, Athens, NY

Attendees may still submit written comments or questions on the day of the hearing. Your comments are important and are used in the planning process for 2022. Please come and share your ideas and ask questions.

Overview: The Department of Human Services provides a network of distinct services designed to meet the needs of the more than 11,800 older residents of Greene County. These services are offered through a combination of subcontracted programs and direct services provided by the Department staff and volunteers. The Department operates from six locations situated throughout the county, our main office at 411 Main Street, Catskill, NY, our county Senior Center located at Rivertown Senior Center, 39 Second Street, Athens, or one of our Senior Nutrition sites located in Acra and Jewett. Due to the pandemic and staffing issues, our sites in Catskill and Coxsackie are temporarily closed.

The Department of Human Services/Aging consists of 23 full time, part time and per diem employees and over 200 active volunteers that provide services. A fleet of vehicles is utilized for transportation of seniors, food and staff.

Over 4,743 senior citizens received one or more services from the Department of Human Services in 2020, for 143,002 units of service. We provide information and assistance, legal services, caregiver support, energy assistance, entitlement and health insurance counseling, transportation and the operation of volunteer programs. An additional supportive service coordinated through the main office is transportation to medical appointments. Long term care services such as case management, homemaker/personal care services, home delivered meals; respite services, and personal emergency response systems provide necessary support to homebound older persons. Over 100 seniors per day enjoy a noon-time dinner at our nutrition sites at which various social, health, recreational and educational activities are scheduled. Over 225 meals are prepared and delivered daily to the homes of homebound seniors from these locations. Our requests for Home Delivered Meals alone went up by almost 87% in 2020.

In addition to the services provided to seniors, the Department targets services to the caregivers of seniors, i.e. family and friends who are caring for an older person. The Department also educates and assists people under 60 with information about long term care. This program is called NY Connects. This program creates a No Wrong Door approach to services for seniors and the disabled.

The Department's revenues are received from a variety of sources including federal and state grants, fund-raising and client contributions. There is no fee for any of our services if you are age 60 or older and no older person is denied a service due to inability or unwillingness to pay. The only exception is for homemaking and personal care services for individuals who based on their income level are required to share in the cost of the care. As part of the Older Americans Act provisions, however, we provide an opportunity to contribute to the cost of the services we provide.

Aside from this abstract, copies of the 2020 annual report have been posted on the county website's home page. Go to www.greenegov.com for an online copy or to view any county departments' report.