

Michael G. Breslin
County Executive

Vincent W. Colonno
Commissioner

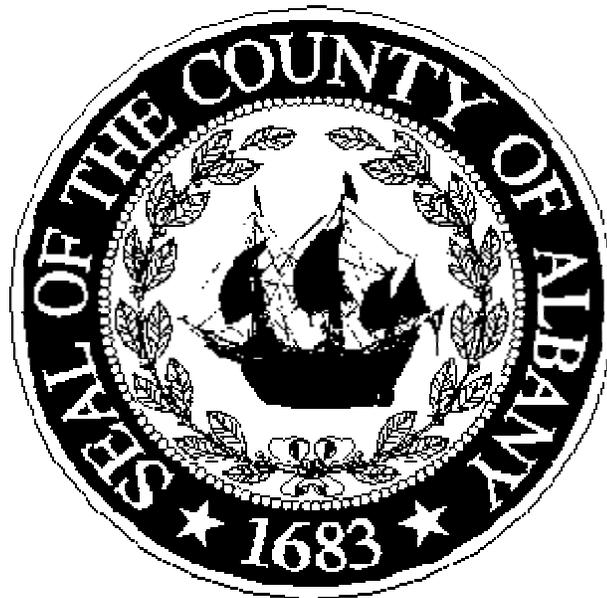
**ALBANY COUNTY
DEPARTMENT FOR AGING**

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**PROPOSED PLAN
FOR
AGING SERVICES
2008**

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GREETINGS FROM THE COMMISSIONER

A new year is rapidly approaching so it is time for us to assess our progress in 2007 and to set our goals for 2008. This exercise is important because it provides valuable information that will enable us to plan appropriate programs for our seniors and their caregivers in 2008. There is no question that our evaluation of 2007 should be thorough. Gaps and barriers should be identified and dealt with accordingly so we can increase our efforts to help seniors retain their independence and thrive in the community.

The Department for Aging and its dedicated service-provider network continue to have a solid partnership that has allowed us to provide comprehensive services to our seniors and their caregivers. Additionally, through collaborations found with the County's Departments of Social Services and Health, we have provided several initiatives that support Albany County Executive Michael Breslin's plan to provide resources that enable people to continue living an independent lifestyle in the community.

It is the desire of the Albany County Office for Aging to provide a comprehensive menu of services to our seniors and their caregivers in 2008. However, we need your input to help us complete our plan. We need you to tell us whether or not we are on the right track

So I ask you to take the time to review our proposed plan of services for 2008. I encourage you to participate in our public hearings by offering your comments and suggestions. The dates, times, and locations are listed on the following page. Should you be unable to attend one of our public hearings, feel free to contact my office by phone (518) 447-7198, email (aging@albanycounty.com), or by letter to provide any comments, questions, or concerns that you may have. It will be a pleasure hearing from you.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent W. Colonno
Commissioner

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

In accordance with the New York State Office for Aging regulation 6653.2(c), the Albany County Department for Aging is required to “publicize and hold at least one public hearing in a manner, place and time which give elderly people, public officials and other interested parties adequate notice and reasonable opportunity to participate.”

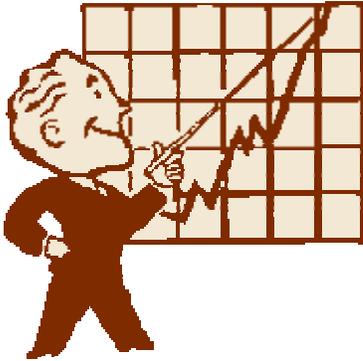
SUBJECT: Proposed Plan for Aging Services 2008

PURPOSE: To solicit input from Albany County citizens regarding the implementation of Aging Services provided by the County. These hearings will examine various factors regarding the proposed plan of services including funding levels, distribution of services and recipients of services. These hearings also provide the public an opportunity to offer comments or make recommendations on the proposed abstract.

Persons wishing to present testimony or obtain an abstract should contact Carol Sitterly at (518) 447-7195 at the Albany County Department for Aging. Please indicate whether you would like to present oral or written testimony, or both. Oral testimony will be limited to ten minutes duration. The Department for Aging is always seeking input. Please feel free to contact us at the above number at anytime with your questions, concerns or comments.

LOCATION:

Wednesday, October 17, 2007 1:15 p.m.	Trinity Institute-Homer Perkins Center, Inc. 15 Trinity Place Albany, New York
Wednesday, October 24, 2007 3:30 p.m.	Green Island Community Center 5 George Street Green Island, New York
Tuesday, October 30, 2007 11:00 a.m.	Guilderland Town Hall 5209 Western Avenue Altamont, New York



2007 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NUTRITION

Home Delivered Meals Program

- Our case managers have worked diligently to keep up with a growing need for assessment for this service, and have worked to suggest additional services to seniors as a result of their contacts. More seniors are receiving home delivered meals in 2007 than ever before. In previous years the number of participants had remained steady with no measurable increase.

Congregate Dining Program

- We are very excited about expanding our dining program in both urban and rural areas of the county. Once again, the Department has worked successfully with the faith community, service providers, and local governments in bringing about the opening of additional meal sites in our Congregate Dining Program in the Town of Bethlehem and the City of Watervliet.

Nutrition Counseling

- The numbers of seniors we are reaching to provide education and assistance on the elements of good nutrition is increasing steadily. This is a personalized, in-home service given by our Certified Dietitian Nutritionist, and fits in well with a patient-centered approach to delivering services.

IN-HOME CONTACT, CARE AND SUPPORT

Increased Services for our Homebound Elderly

- The number of seniors receiving Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP) services is increasing at a faster rate than ever, and will continue to reach new heights. The expansion of available services to assist seniors in their homes will continue to unfold as we work within the new Point of Entry (POE) System, called Albany County-NYCONNECTS: Choices for Long-Term Care. Working with the Department of Social Services, our case manager for EISEP, and our partner in POE, we have continued to see growth in home care services, personal emergency response systems (PERS), and referrals to other needed services as a result of the contacts made within these program areas.
- In line with our goal to serve the homebound elderly, we increased our Telephone Reassurance, Friendly Home Visitor, and Shopping Assistance services. These contacts, often accomplished by senior volunteers, offer an invaluable social connection between the seniors and their community. Throughout 2007 we made an effort to expand these services to reach more seniors, especially those who are residents of the rural areas of the County.

ADVENT OF NEW ACCESS SERVICES

- In July 2007 we began Albany County-NYCONNECTS: Choices for Long Term Care, a Point of Entry access line for unbiased information, referrals and assistance for individuals and their families, servicing the elderly, disabled adults, and disabled children with long term care needs. A department to operate the POE was established to provide critical information on utilizing services to maintain and improve the health and daily function of individuals with long term care needs, as well as a comprehensive approach to assisting people. In collaboration with the Albany County Department of Social Services, we offer access to affordable medical and non-medical services that encompass community-based programs to form a vast array of options that all work together toward reaching a common goal.
- We have attained an extensive centralized web-based Information and Assistance system through our continuing partnership with the Elder Network of the Capital Region, in consort with Rensselaer, Schenectady and Saratoga Counties. This website, ElderNetworkNY.org is equipped with resources to assist seniors on available programs and services, and over the past year, has extended its scope to include resources available to assist adults and children with disabilities.

Specialized Information Services

- ❑ The Department continues providing expert assistance to seniors and Medicare eligible adults on complex health insurance issues, including Medicare Part D and Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC). Over the past year, and working closely with the New York State Office for the Aging, we were successful in reaching all Albany County EPIC enrollees eligible for extra help in paying for Medicare Part D premiums, as part of a statewide endeavor to make sure every eligible senior who has EPIC was receiving maximum benefits from Medicare Part D. Additionally, through our Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance Program (HIICAP), the Department was able to partner with other county departments, community agencies, senior providers, churches and Townships in the delivery of counseling services. During the course of this partnership we began servicing the disabled population, and made significant progress into addressing the issues they face. As a result, many vulnerable beneficiaries with very complicated circumstances are receiving direct, personalized assistance crucially needed to resolve matters related to their health insurance coverage.
- ❑ Our Long Term Care Insurance, Education, and Outreach Program (LTCIEOP) established a Resource Center to provide information and counseling to the general public on long term care insurance, and the New York State Partnership for Long Term Care Insurance. The program is designed to educate people of age 40 to 60 with the elements of being financially ready for long term care expenses, and the need to plan for the future. Through this program we are also reaching out to the younger population to increase awareness on the many programs and services available to assist seniors and their caregivers in our community. This area easily highlights our endeavors and exemplifies how our mission expands from year to year.

TRANSPORTATION

- ❑ Our coordinated model of service delivery for all seniors in Albany County is now enhanced with the ability to transport seniors who are eligible to receive transportation services funded by Medicaid. Additionally, we have succeeded in establishing the first inter-county collaborative in our area, in order to meet the transportation needs of seniors who reside on the borders of the cities of Albany and Schenectady, and the Towns of Guilderland and Colonie.

HEALTH MAINTENANCE, SOCIALIZATION AND RECREATION SERVICES

- ❑ In light of the movement toward using preventative health programs to sustain and improve the quality of one's daily life, the Department has taken the regional lead in a partnership between the New York State Office for the Aging, New York State Department of Health, Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of the University

at Albany's Center for Excellence in Aging Services, a four county collaborative, and several community-based organizations, to participate in a grant called: "Empowering Older People To Take More Control of their Health Through Evidence-Based Prevention Programs" provided in part by the Administration on Aging. As part of this program we launched Healthy Choices NY, a program consisting of two evidence-based models that assist seniors in making healthy lifestyle changes, using methods that have proven to be effective in reducing the risk of disease and disability among the elderly.

- We again supported a full range of services that address health education such as Medication Management, as well as recreation and socialization programs. We stepped up our support for intergenerational programs, and through collaborative efforts between service providers in Ravena and the Town of Bethlehem, we now have an entertainment group comprised of seniors and youths who perform for the enjoyment of seniors lunching at one of our new congregate meal sites.

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM

- The Weatherization Referral and Packaging Program (WRAP) once again maximized its services by connecting seniors to all available WRAP funds, as well as other available funds and services for weatherization and emergency home repairs. Our efforts to work with the Department of Social Services to deliver services via one service provider have allowed us to reach new heights in delivering the full benefits of this program to the seniors of Albany County.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND INFORMATION

- Early in 2007, we hosted a very successful informational meeting on Albany County-NYCONNECTS: Choices for Long Term Care, our Point of Entry access line which opened for business in July. This session brought together all the stakeholders in the area, giving the community the essential information on what the new system would look like, and supplied an open forum for asking questions and providing input. As a result of our partnership with the Department of Social Services, the public can now receive unbiased comprehensive information, assistance, and education regarding long term care.

LONG TERM CARE COUNCIL

- The formation of a Long Term Care Council took place this year, the purpose of which is to provide advice and counsel to our Point of Entry entity. We were successful in creating a council comprised of key stakeholders and community partners who represent the population we serve on this mission. Chaired by the Commissioners of Departments for Aging and Social Services, this group of individuals is taking their role very seriously to guide Albany County's efforts in the long term care arena.



GOALS for 2008

NUTRITION

Home Delivered Meals

- As a holdover item from 2007, we continue to seek new, cost effective ways to deliver nutritious meals to the homebound elderly in rural areas of Albany County. We will consider delivering frozen meals as a new method of providing a few days worth of meals in one delivery. Our aim is to build the total number of meals served as part of our efforts to keep seniors in their homes by providing nutritiously balanced meals each day. We will continue to work with our case managers of both the Home Delivered Meals program, and the Albany County-NYCONNECTS: Choices for Long Term Care program, to advance the reach of these core services. By making use of the connections formed between the Albany County Department for Aging, the Albany County Health Department, and the Albany County Department of Social Services, we would like to reinforce the Home Delivered Meals program as the gateway to referring seniors and caregivers to other available programs and services, including Home Care, Adult Day Care, and many other Community-Based services.

Congregate Dining

- The Department for Aging will work with service providers to expand congregate meal sites in the inner city and rural areas of Albany County. We will encourage providers interested in serving seniors in hard-to-reach areas that have been underserved to participate in this program, and we will explore the opportunity to expand our service matrix to include disabled individuals residing in areas predominantly occupied by senior citizens. We will continue to examine alternatives that will improve the appeal of congregate dining to make it a setting that not only

provides a nutritious meal, but fosters social, spiritual, mental and physical well-being.

Nutritional Counseling and Education

- We will continue our efforts to work with our home delivered meals case managers, and congregate meal providers, to provide all seniors with this valuable counseling in order to make improvements in the nutritional value of their meals. We hope to keep all seniors reminded of the necessity of good nutrition in sustaining a healthy, independent lifestyle.

IN-HOME CONTACT, CARE AND SUPPORT

Services for our Homebound Elderly

- Through our Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP) we will continue to offer care planning, case management, personal care, homemaking and chore services, and Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS). Our goal is to provide these necessary services to an increasing number of seniors. We will continue to collaborate with the Department of Social Services, our case managers for EISEP, through our partnership with them in the Albany County-NYCONNECTS: Choices for Long Term Care endeavor. Through this collaboration we will link more seniors to additional needed services in the community. In future progressions we would like to be able to offer a Consumer Directed component to the EISEP program. Consumer Direct would allow seniors to use EISEP as a payment source to have a trusted friend or neighbor of their choice provide their personal care. This would be in keeping with giving consumers maximum choice and control over the care they receive. Supporting informal caregivers for seniors would hopefully enable an adequate supply of people who provide care. Additionally, we are looking into the possibility of extending our EISEP funding to cover Social Adult Day Care services. This would meet another need for services, and also provide respite for caregivers.
- As we strive to reach the homebound and the frail, we will continue to place great emphasis on supporting programs such as Telephone Reassurance, Friendly Home Visitor, and Shopping Assistance. An inherent benefit of these programs is that our providers enlist many senior volunteers to carry out services. These contacts are mutually beneficial, and offer an invaluable means of keeping seniors connected in the community and able to remain living at home.
- As a more long term goal we hope to give our support to agencies that offer companion services to seniors. In doing so, we would further increase our base of services for those needing a level of assistance not available via other avenues.

ACCESS TO SERVICES

Transportation

- We remain committed to the United We Ride endeavor for 2008. Within the framework of this system, we will continue to leverage funds for transportation by working with the County Department of Social Services as well as government entities on both the state and federal levels. It is our goal to seek new community providers to participate in the system in order to service seniors residing in the hill towns, rural areas, and the borders of the County, as well as providers who would be available for weekend transports. We also will examine the possibility of providing escort transportation as a supplement to this model.

Albany County- NYCONNECTS: Choices for Long Term Care

Information, Assistance, Outreach and Education

- We will supply information and assistance services to all individuals who need help with long term care, regardless of age, disability or payer source, and empower them to make informed choices. Our goal is for consumers, caregivers and health and human services providers from across multi-service delivery systems to have a comprehensive understanding of the long term care system in Albany County. As part of this system, we become better equipped to provide the necessary pathways to our senior programs including, but not limited to, Nutrition, In-Home Care, Prevention and Wellness Programs, and Caregiver Support. Additionally, we will gather demographic data that provides us with a clearer measurement about those we are serving and the services they require.

Long Term Care Council

- Our council represents stakeholders from across the multi-service delivery system. One of its main purposes will be to help us gauge the needs of our target populations, and identify existing gaps in the long term care system. It is our goal to obtain an ongoing collaboration with these key community entities that will yield an understanding of how we can best interact to improve the system of long term care services.

Long Term Care Insurance Education and Outreach Program

- We will be targeting a greater number of individuals to receive education and counseling on all aspects of long term care insurance, including the New York State Partnership for Long Term Care Insurance via our Long Term Care Insurance Education and Outreach Program (LTCIEOP). An ongoing goal is to heighten awareness for individuals aged 40 to 60 about the importance of planning ahead for long term care needs. This aspect of the program will become a crucial element in sustaining viable alternatives to entering institutional facilities, and will play an important role in our Point of Entry system, Albany County-NYCONNECTS: Choices for Long Term Care, which aims to provide more choices and foster independence.

Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance Program

- In our Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance Program (HIICAP), we will strive to assist a greater number of the most at risk seniors and adults receiving Medicare. We will continue to educate beneficiaries hoping to empower them with the information they need to make informed decisions on insurance issues. In 2008, beneficiaries will receive guidance on changes in the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage Program (EPIC), Medicare Part D, and all aspects of health insurance. Particular emphasis will be placed upon educating the public on the many benefits available from Medicare for preventative health screenings and services. As an ongoing goal, we will promote volunteerism in the HIICAP program.

HEALTH MAINTENANCE, SOCIALIZATION AND RECREATION SERVICES

Mental Health Services

- There is a great need for mental health services for the elderly. Older adults have specific mental health care needs, and can be at risk regardless of previous medical history. Alcohol abuse, substance abuse, medication misuse and gambling, in addition to depression, dementia and other mental illnesses are of growing concern now and are expected to increase as the baby boomers age. We are looking to begin a collaborative of community partners to form a demonstration project to address the mental health needs of seniors. We will support the development of programs and initiatives that will encourage community integration of services, and that will serve to assist and educate formal and informal caregivers on the mental health issues of the elderly. Our efforts to coordinate care will increase as we continue to strengthen our Albany County-NYCONNECTS: Choices for Long Term Care program.

Preventative Programs

- The Department has recently committed support to the Capital Region Older Driver Assistance Network, which is funded by a grant from the State of New York Governor's Traffic Safety Commission. Other core partners in this grant are: New York State Office for the Aging; New York State Department of Motor Vehicles; New York State Department of Health, Office of Injury Prevention; Rensselaer County Department for the Aging; and Schenectady County Office for the Aging. This Network will provide outreach, information, evaluation and assistance via a formal framework of collaboration among professionals who are routinely involved with older drivers and their families. The goal is to assist older drivers to remain safe as drivers when appropriate or to access transportation alternatives when it is not. Our Department will spread the word of the availability of these extremely valuable services and will refer seniors and their families to this network of assistance as the need arises.

- We have recently become engaged in Healthy Choices NY, a partnership among the New York State Office for the Aging, New York State Department of Health, Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of the University at Albany's Center for Excellence in Aging Services, and the four area Counties. As the lead county partner, we expect to see many of our seniors involved in these programs that are designed to assist them in their endeavors to follow healthy lifestyle practices through interactive methods of service delivery. This evidence-based program targets underserved seniors within the Capital Region who would benefit from programs that have shown positive outcomes in lowering the risk of chronic disease, disability or injury. As an added bonus, the methods applied use specially trained senior volunteers to serve as peer leaders and to recruit participants, and include many community-based organizations as venues. We are hoping to sustain support for these programs by enlisting our community partners, and to reinforce the initiative of the Neighborhood Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NNORC). Healthy Choices NY also ties into our goals for the Albany County-NYCONNECTS: Choices for Long Term Care program by empowering people to take control of their health and to increase awareness and use of preventative screening services covered by Medicare.

Intergenerational Programs

- For 2008, the department will be looking once again to support intergenerational programs. The mutual benefits of these experiences for seniors and youth yield an invaluable return. We are seeking to develop programs that reach out to at-risk youth and engage our seniors to mentor them.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT SERVICES

- If community-based care giving is going to be successful we will need to assist those in caregiver roles through educational programs, support groups and respite. In recognition of this, we will continue our efforts to enhance the caregiver support services we offer and strive to make adult day care services and Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS) available to more families. By providing the needed instruction, support and respite opportunities for caregivers we will lay the ground work for the use of community-based services to meet the need for alternatives to institutional settings.

SENIOR HOUSING

- We hold fast to our commitment made in prior years to support the development of safe, secure, affordable housing to accommodate our expanding senior population. An adequate housing supply to meet the needs of an ever changing senior population is a critical element in meeting our mission and underlies our success in enabling seniors to live in community settings. We are confident that the work of our Department will progress and that we will find innovative ways to begin to solve housing issues by using resources in the most efficient ways possible to attain our goals.

Albany County Department for Aging Program Catalog with Current Funded Providers

The mission of the Department for Aging is to make available the highest quality of supportive services to seniors and their caregivers that enable the seniors to maintain independent and self-directed lifestyles. We accomplish this by offering a wide range of services through our contract agencies. These services include, but are not limited to: Nutrition and Preventive Health Education; Support Programs; Transportation Assistance; Employment Opportunities; Legal Counseling; Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance; and Recreational Activities.

The following is a list of all the services provided by the Department for Aging and the local subcontractors used to provide these services in 2007.

Adult Day Care Services

Offers social assistance in a supervised center environment; includes meals and planned therapeutic and recreational activities. The program is available to people who are 60 years or older.

Adult Day Care Services Provided by:

- Cohoes Multi-Service Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
- Colonie Senior Service Centers, Inc.
- Senior Centers of the Albany Area, Inc.
- The Eddy, Northeast Health

Caregiver Support Services

Offers support groups; family counseling; respite services, including adult day care; and personal emergency response systems support to those providing care to individuals 60 or older.

Provided by:

- Catholic Charities Caregivers Support Services
- Cohoes Multi-Service Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
- Colonie Senior Service Centers, Inc.
- Community Caregivers, Inc.
- Senior Centers of the Albany Area, Inc.
- St. Peter's Hospital Lifeline
- Town of Colonie Senior Resources Department
- The Eddy, Northeast Health

Congregate Dining Services

Offers a nutritious hot meal at various sites with menus approved by a registered dietitian. Nutrition Education materials are distributed to participants for their use. Monetary contributions for the meals are suggested, but not required. The program is open to people who are 60 years or older, or the spouse of an eligible individual regardless of age.

Congregate Dining Services Provided by:

- Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc./ Senior Projects of Ravena, Inc. Congregate Collaborative
 - First Reformed Church of Bethlehem
- Cohoes Multi-Service Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
- Colonie Senior Service Centers, Inc.
 - Beltrone Living Center
 - Bishop Broderick Apartments
 - Colonie Community Center
 - Carondelet Commons Senior Apartments
 - Colonie Town Hall
 - Guilderland Senior Center
 - Lishakill Senior Center
 - Sheehy Manor
 - St. Basil's Russian Orthodox Church
- Green Island Community Center
- Helderberg Senior Services, Inc.
- Senior Projects of Ravena, Inc.
- Senior Centers of the Albany Area, Inc.
 - Louise Corning Center
 - South Mall Senior Center
 - Westview Homes
- Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center, Inc.
- Village of Altamont/St. Lucy's Parish Center
- Watervliet Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

Congregate Services Initiative (CSI)

The Congregate Services Initiative (CSI) allows elderly people to come together in community settings for services and activities that respond to their diverse needs and interests; enhance their dignity; support their independence; and encourage their involvement in and with the community. CSI seeks to prevent the well-elderly from requiring more intensive services.

Congregate Services Initiative provided by:

- Cohoes Multi-Service Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
- Community Caregivers, Inc.
- Green Island Community Center
- Senior Projects of Ravena, Inc.
- Senior Centers of the Albany Area, Inc.
- Stars Intergen Corporation
- Town of Colonie Senior Resources Department
- Watervliet Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

Expanded In-Home Services to the Elderly Program (EISEP)

A program whereby home care attendants visit homebound elderly to tend to personal care needs. A free needs assessment is included. The program is available to people who are 60 years or older. The fee is based on a sliding scale.

EISEP Provided by:

- Albany County Department of Social Services

Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance Program (HIICAP)

A program that provides counseling and education about Medicare and other health insurance issues. Includes educating EPIC (Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage) enrollees, and their caregivers, about Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage. This program is available to people 60 years of age and older.

HIICAP Provided by:

- Albany County Department for Aging
- GoldenLane Associates, Inc.
 - Senior Centers of the Albany Area, Inc.
 - Town of Colonie Senior Resources Department
 - Town of Bethlehem Senior Services Department

Health Maintenance, Socialization and Recreation

Provides organized and structured activities designed to promote health through socialization, recreation and education.

Services Provided by:

- Albany Law School
- Alzheimer's Association of Northeastern New York
- Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc.
- Cohoes Multi-Service Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
- Colonie Senior Service Centers, Inc.
- Community Caregivers, Inc.
- electronic body arts, Inc.
- Green Island Community Center
- Guilderland Chamber of Commerce
- Senior Projects of Ravena, Inc.
- Senior Centers of the Albany Area, Inc.
- Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center, Inc.
- Stars Intergen Corporation
- Town of New Scotland
- Village of Altamont
- Watervliet Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

Home Delivered Meals (Meals on Wheels)

This program offers one or two balanced meals delivered to the homebound elderly and includes free nutritional assessment and counseling. Contributions are suggested, not required.

To be eligible an individual must meet all three of the following criteria:

1. Be incapacitated due to accident, illness, or frailty;
2. Lack the support of family, friends, or neighbors; and
3. Be unable to prepare meals because of lack or inadequacy of facilities.

Case Management and Assessment Provided by:

- Albany County Department of Health

Home Delivered Meals Provided by:

- Senior Projects of Ravena, Inc.
- Senior Centers of the Albany Area, Inc. in association with Cohoes Multi-Service Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

Information and Assistance

A service that informs seniors about resources in the community that address individual concerns and problems. This service has now been folded into the Albany County-NYCONNECTS: Choices for Long Term Care Program.

Information and Assistance Provided by:

- Albany County Department for Aging
- Albany County Department of Social Services

In Home Care, Contact and Support (Telephone Reassurance, Friendly Home Visitor and Shopping Assistance)

Provides services designed to provide support to homebound individuals and people with limited ability to leave their homes.

Telephone Reassurance Services Provided by:

- American Red Cross of Northeastern New York

Friendly Visitor Program Provided by:

- Senior Centers of the Albany Area, Inc.

Shopping Assistance Provided by:

- Senior Centers of the Albany Area, Inc.

Legal Services

A service provided by an attorney, which may include advice, representation and assistance with public benefits applications, legal appeals or other legal services. Legal services are available to people who are 60 years of age or older.

Legal Services Provided by:

- Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc.

Long Term Care Insurance, Education and Outreach Program

Informing the public about long term care insurance and planning for long term care needs.

LTCIEOP Provided by:

- Albany County Department for Aging
- GoldenLane Associates, Inc.

Medication Management

A program that provides senior citizens in Albany County with medication management information, to improve senior citizens' understanding of how medications work and the most effective way to take them.

Medication Management Provided by:

- Albany County Department of Health

Second Careers

A free employment referral service designed for individuals who do not qualify for the means tested Senior Community Service Employment Program. This program strives to assist the placement of people aged 60 or older in paid full or part time positions.

Second Careers Provided by:

- Albany County Department for Aging

Senior Citizen Identification Card & CDTA Half Fare Card

Processing and developing of appropriate ID cards for senior discounts and half-fare bus passes. The cards are available to senior citizens and people with disabilities.

Cards Provided by:

- Albany County Department for Aging
- Albany County Department of Social Services

Senior Community Service Employment Program

A means tested employment and training program that offers paid training and job placement for seniors. This program is authorized under Title V of the Older Americans Act. To participate, an individual must be 55 years or older, a New York State Resident and demonstrate the ability not to exceed annual income allowed for program.

Senior Community Service Employment Program Provided by:

- Albany County Department for Aging

Transportation Services

Provide safe, economical transportation to seniors, 60 years of age or older.

Transportation Provided by:

- Medical Transportation Management, Inc. (MTM)
(Coordinates services among various senior service providers)

Weatherization Referral and Packaging Program (WRAP)

A program that identifies and refers Home Energy Assistance Program eligible applicants (HEAP) for home weatherization services. Eligibility for other programs (e.g. food stamps) can also be ascertained.

Applicants must be 60 years or older, and meet **HEAP eligibility requirements**. The income eligibility guidelines are based on 60% of the State median income and family size. For income eligibility please contact the Department for Aging at 447-7177.

WRAP Provided by:

- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County

For additional information on any of the services mentioned above, please call our information and assistance line at (518) 447-7177.

Albany County Department for Aging

2008 Anticipated Budget Information

	2006 Actual	2007* Working	2008* Requested
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 3,902,963	\$ 4,882,440	\$ 5,132,798
REVENUE	\$ 3,029,613	\$ 3,402,176	\$3,368,642
COUNTY SHARE	\$ 873,350	\$ 1,480,264	\$ 1,764,156

***The figures indicated herein are tentative and are based upon the most recent information available at the time this document was prepared. The County budget will not be final until approval is given by the Albany County Legislature in December 2007.**

- Total Appropriations represent the total amount of money approved by the County Legislature to support contractual and other expenditures made on behalf of seniors.
- Revenues are the funds received by Albany County in support of contractual and other expenditures made on behalf of seniors. This represents funds received from federal, state and local sources not including support derived from the county tax levy.
- County Share represents the amount of funds raised by the tax levy in support of expenditures made on behalf of seniors.

Albany County Department for Aging

Unduplicated Count of Individuals Served 2006-2007 Fiscal Year (April 1, 2006 - March 31, 2007)

Total 60+ served*	7617
Transportation	1162
Homemaking/Personal Care	209
Housekeeping/Chore	84
In Home Contact & Support	83
Legal Assistance	178
Home Delivered Meals	1353
Congregate Meals	2383
Nutrition Education	1748
Adult Day Care	93
Employment	69
Recreation	1339
Preventive Health	917
Case Management	1082
Low Income	1874
Frail/Disabled	1661
Age 75+	4295
Age 85+	In Age 75+ number
Live Alone	3341
Low Income Minority	222
American Indian/Alaskan Native	25
Asian/Pacific Islander	30
Black (Not Hispanic Origin)	366
Hispanic	49

*Total 60+ served does not include services such as information and assistance where specific information on many seniors receiving the service was not available.

Albany County Department for Aging

2000 Municipal Census Data vs. 1990 Census Data By Age Groups*

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>2000 60+</i>	<i>2000 60-74</i>	<i>2000 75 and over</i>	<i>1990 60+</i>	<i>1990 60-74</i>	<i>1990 75 and over</i>
Albany	15695	8588	7107	19472	11542	7930
Berne	457	324	133	438	301	137
Bethlehem	5643	3264	2379	5190	3548	1642
Coeymans	1243	796	447	1327	944	383
Cohoes	3262	1806	1456	3933	2545	1388
Colonie	16332	10022	6310	15341	10733	4608
Green Island	434	257	177	537	367	170
Guilderland	5549	3508	2041	4859	3523	1336
Knox	324	219	105	345	232	113
New Scotland	1552	1080	472	1379	993	386
Rensselaerville	399	273	126	362	253	109
Watervliet	2025	1187	838	2472	1620	852
Westerlo	601	381	220	561	372	189
TOTAL	53516	31705	21811	56216	36973	19243
% of TOTAL	100%	59.2%	40.8%	100%	65.8%	34.2%
1990 TOTALS	56216	36973	19243			
Change 2000-1990	-2700	-5268	2568			

2000 Data is from Census 2000, U.S. Census Bureau, Table DP 1, and Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000. 1990 Data is from summary census data prepared for the Albany County Department for Aging by the Albany County Planning Department. An estimate of the 85+ population in 2004 was 6,541.

*Since preliminary census data was issued for Albany County, there have been two appeals under the count question resolution program. One involved students in dormitories and the other was an internal one of the above municipalities. Neither appeal has any impact on the data provided in the table above.