

# 2008 Frail Elderly Human Service Levy Programs

by Patrick Bailey

Senior Services Network

Project Coordinator

# Frail Elderly Human Service Levy Funds

- About 5.6 million dollars per year of Human Service Levy Funds are designated toward Frail Elderly Services in Montgomery County
- These services are for Montgomery County residents in need age 60+ who are frail and elderly.
- The primary emphasis of these funds is to help frail elderly residents in need stay in the community and avoid going to a nursing home prematurely.

# ComCare

- ComCare provides a system of home and community based care that offers needed services such as: personal care, homemaker, adult day care, emergency response systems, medical equipment, etc...
- This program was expanded in 2008 to serve 795 individuals who are frail and elderly.

# The Respite Care Program

- This program provides a trained respite care worker for the primary caregiver of the homebound frail elderly person in order to provide weekly relief.
- The Respite Care Program serves 30 individuals who are frail and elderly in Montgomery County.

# The Senior Visiting Program

- This program provides regular visits and phone calls to socially isolated seniors who have limited financial and family support in order to help them remain independent and/or prevent further decline.
- The Senior Visiting Program is projected to serve 57 clients in 2008.

# The Home Delivered Meal Program

- Meals are delivered to individuals who are homebound and frail elderly in order to provide the nutrition needed to allow them to remain in the community and avoid going to a nursing home prematurely.

# The Guardianship Program

- This program provides volunteer guardians, when no other individual can be found, for individuals in nursing homes who are incapable of making legal, healthcare, and placement decisions.
- The Guardianship Program is projected to serve 55 frail elderly, isolated, and unbefriended residents.

# Kosher Meal Program

- This program provides home delivered and congregate on-site kosher meals for people who are frail and elderly five days a week.
- The Kosher Meal Program also includes home visits and assessments by a staff member, nutritional counseling, and referrals to other needed social programs.

# The Community Geriatric Nurse

- This program provides support for the two Adult Protective Service units and other community agencies that provide services for individuals who are frail and elderly.
- Professional nursing assessments, referrals, and education are projected for 190 frail elderly residents who have no active network of services addressing their individual health care issues.

# The Neighbor Care Program

- This program performs minor home safety modifications in order to allow 84 individuals who are frail and elderly to safely live in their homes.
- These modifications include such things as: grab bars, hand rails, wheel chair ramps, etc...

# Emergency Home Delivered Meal Program

- Seven thousand meals are delivered to 498 frail elderly who are home bound to support recovery from a recent injury/hospitalization or at critical nutritional risk and waiting other subsidized meal programs.
- These meals are for a relative short amount of time, usually 2 weeks or less.

# Senior Transportation Expansion Project (S.T.E.P.)

- The program connects senior residents in need of transportation to existing transportation programs and helps those programs to increase the number of rides they can provide by subsidizing rides beyond their historical average.
- STEP continues to centralize recruitment, screening, and training of volunteer drivers, while encouraging and providing support for communities who are interested in providing transportation for seniors.

# SCRiPT for Seniors

- Eligible frail and elderly individuals receive prescription assistance and case management to help seniors enroll or change plans in Medicare Part D.

# Frail Elderly Legal Project

- This program assists caseworkers at the Adult Protective Services, Area Agency on Aging, the Ombudsman's Office, and others who need help when legal barriers related to health, safety, and shelter arise for frail elderly individuals.
- These legal services address issues such as: domestic violence, elder abuse, predatory lending, foreclosures, etc...

# Frail Elderly Seniors Program

- This program provides several services for 150 individuals who are frail and elderly in Montgomery County which include: case management, outreach services for isolated seniors in the community, personal assistance transportation, and intergenerational activities.

# Independent Living Elderly Assistance Program

- Neighborhood block leaders and an Outreach Specialist identify frail elderly residents who are living in substandard housing with health, sanitation, safety, utility, or accessibility issues.
- Once identified these frail elderly individuals will be connected to the needed health and social service programs to address their needs.

# Quarterly Collaboration Meetings

- All the frail elderly service providers are required to attend quarterly collaboration meetings.
- This forum gives each agency an opportunity to share information on the services they provide, it stimulates enhanced cooperation, and it facilitates appropriate interagency referrals.

# Summary of 2008 Services

- All of these services are projected to serve about 4,500 frail elderly residents in Montgomery County
- The Montgomery County Human Services Levy has made it possible to provide all of these critical services to individuals who are frail and elderly.

Questions?