

Medina County  
Office  
for  
Older Adults  
[www.mcooa.org](http://www.mcooa.org)

# 2023

## ANNUAL REPORT







# mission

Medina County Office for Older Adults will offer support to older adults and adults with a disability to live independently and safely within their own homes and community.





# Supporting Medina County seniors is our mission

What a whirlwind the past 12 months have been! All for the benefit of Medina County seniors. We are so proud of two of the largest scale projects in our history.

In May 2023, we opened the Soprema Senior Center Café. Medina County Office for Older Adults was awarded the contract to operate the café in February 2023. Over the next 3 months, we worked hard on prepping the kitchen, creating menus, setting up a point of sale, and hiring staff for this new venture. The results have been fantastic. We officially opened May 1 and began taking restaurant vouchers at our Wadsworth location on June 5. This effort would not have been possible without the help of the City of Wadsworth, The Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation and the Medina County Senior & Adult Foundation. I am also happy to report that all seniors on the voucher program continued to receive meals throughout the transition period. We are now fully operational and have regular breakfast and lunch service, Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 2pm. We also cater to groups and serve as the provider of restaurant voucher meals, which are also subsidized by Title III funding from the Older Americans Act administered through Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging.

Our other project has been the full renovation of our kitchen space. This labor of love began as an idea in 2019. After the pandemic, planning began in earnest. The kitchen was fully gutted, some walls were moved or demolished, and the area was given a much more functional set-up. Delivery drivers can now pack bags with no disruption to kitchen operations, the cafeteria line was upgraded and another bay in the steam table was added, the dish area was expanded, and a beverage center was placed in the dining room area. A huge thanks to the Medina County Commissioners for supporting this project and to the Salvation Army Medina Corps which served as our hot meal location while the kitchen was closed down. The Medina County Senior & Adult Foundation again came through with funding. They supported the purchase of a convection oven for the Salvation Army and also funded the purchase of all new dining room and rec room tables for the center.

Finally, I would like to thank the taxpayers of Medina County for their continued support as our levy was renewed in November 2023. We will continue to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars and as our mission states: to provide support to older adults and adults with disabilities to live independently and safely within their homes and community.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Laura Toth, LISW-S  
Director

## MEDINA COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING AND DISABILITY

Our Advisory Council meets on a monthly basis and is charged with providing a community voice in the administration of county activities concerning aging and the disabled. They also assist with the determination of policies of the Medina County Office for Older Adults whose purpose it is to serve the needs of Medina County residents over age 60 and the disabled with education, social services, and defense of their rights through advocacy. The Council represents various parts of the county as a whole and the members include:

### Township Trustees Association Representatives

Colene Conley, Medina  
Amy Wermer, Medina  
Sarah Poling, Spencer  
Joan Weigel, Valley City  
Karen Thompson, Lodi  
Karin Williams, Medina

### Village Mayors Association Representatives

Carol Carter, Seville

### Brunswick City Representatives

Diane Madonna

### Medina City Representatives

Linda Williams  
Sue Boggs

### Wadsworth City Representatives

Bill Meyer  
Jim Dull

### County At Large

Sarah Gardner, Medina  
Jeanette Fagan, Brunswick  
Dave Wetzel, Medina  
Lilly Cleveland, Medina  
Kimberly Koehring-Weinmann, Wadsworth  
Marie Edmonds, Medina

### Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging

#### Board Appointments

Marie Edmonds, Medina

### Five County Advisory Council of the WRAAA

Ashley Sorgen, Medina  
Dave Wetzel, Medina

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*The Council would like to acknowledge Ron Bischof for his life of service. Mr. Bischof was the chair of the Council from 2019-2023.*

# support services



## Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

The Aging and Disability Resource Center provides services to adults age 60 and over; 18 and over with disabilities. These services include Specialized Information and Assistance, Benefits Assistance, and Long Term Options Counseling.

**1,094**  
Individual  
Contacts

**Specialized Information and Assistance:** This service helps consumers find the right information, assistance, resources and referrals that they need for their specific issue. MCOOA acts as a conduit for people who need information and then follows up to ensure that they receive the assistance they requested. In 2021, MCOOA's ADRC had 1,062 contacts with individuals seeking out Specialized Information and Assistance Services.

**553.25**  
Hours of Benefits  
Counseling

**Benefits Counseling:** A more specialized service, benefits counseling offers consumers the ability to sit down with a trained professional and discuss their finances, seeing where they may benefit from federal, state, or local program offerings. This includes things such as applying for Medicaid, choosing a Medicare Advantage plan or seeking local funds to assist with ongoing financial needs. In 2021, MCOOA's ADRC logged 530.75 hours of benefits counseling with consumers.

**172.5**  
Hours of LTO  
Counseling

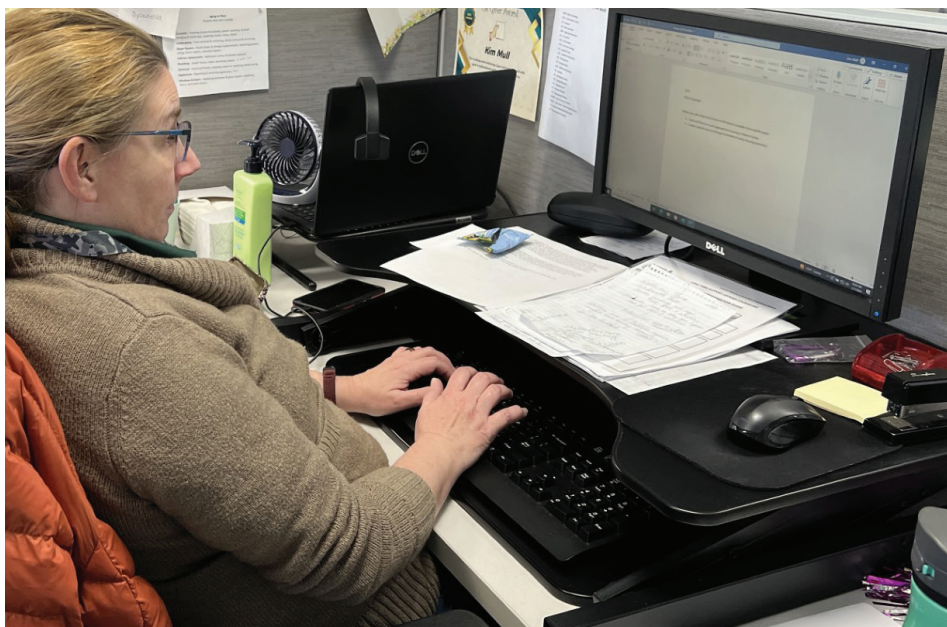
**Long Term Options Counseling:** MCOOA is unique in offering this opportunity for a short term case management program to consumers in need. Options counseling is designed to help individuals and their families assess their current living situation, make changes (if necessary) to maintain placement in the community, set goals for their services and care, and plan for future needs of the consumer and their caregivers. This is a very popular program and allows consumers professional guidance while making informed choice. In 2021, MCOOA's ADRC logged 217 hours of Long Term Options Counseling with consumers.

*The Medina County Human Services Levy makes the ADRC service possible by matching funds with Title IIIB funding provided by the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and the Ohio Department on Aging.*



## Adult Protective Services (APS)

Adult Protective Services is a mandated service provided by local social services districts in Medina County. Medina County Office for Older Adults is contracted to provide this service throughout the county, this contract was awarded in September 2021. OOA employs three full-time social workers to this unit. It involves intake, investigation and assessment of referrals of abuse, neglect and financial exploitation of impaired, vulnerable adults age 60 and over who live in the community. APS workers develop service plans for eligible clients to remedy physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, financial exploitation or to address unmet needs of older adults.



**495**  
Calls  
Received

**212**  
Cases  
Opened

**283**  
Cases  
Screened Out

**179**  
Cases  
Closed

## Outreach Services

774 hours of supportive services provided by Outreach workers throughout Medina County, including assessments for transit and meal services as well as supportive services, information and referrals.

**774**  
Hours of Supportive Services

## Transportation Services

Medina County Office for Older Adults contracts with Medina County Transit to provide all subsidized transportation services. Transportation is subsidized for any adult age 60 or over and includes direct transit trips to places such as the doctor, grocery store or bank. In 2021, MCOOA provided 6,982 subsidized rides. These trips are paid for in part by Title IIIB money from the Older American's Act. Loop rides in Medina City, Brunswick and Wadsworth are paid for in a monthly bulk rate and seniors that ride the loop are given free transportation if they have an orange OOA transit ID card.

**7,103**  
Subsidized  
Rides

**843**  
Locally Funded  
Rides

### 2023 Transit By Month

	TRANSIT CLIENTS	NUMBER OF RIDES PROVIDED
January	77	512
February	89	574
March	104	734
April	108	683
May	109	713
June	97	659
July	90	604
August	104	711
September	128	848
October	144	1065
November	121	910
December	110	843
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>8856</b>

*The Medina County Human Services Levy makes the supportive services and transportation possible by matching funds with Title IIIB funding provided by the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and the Ohio Department on Aging.*



## Meal Services

(offered to adults age 60 and over)

### Congregate Meals

We were able to offer 3,588 meals to our Medina and Brunswick Congregate locations.

### Home Delivered Meals

Our Meals on Wheels program provided 44,229 meals throughout Medina County to homebound individuals. This program is also a 'gatekeeper' service in that drivers are checking on the county's most vulnerable seniors four days (5 meals) per week during meal delivery.

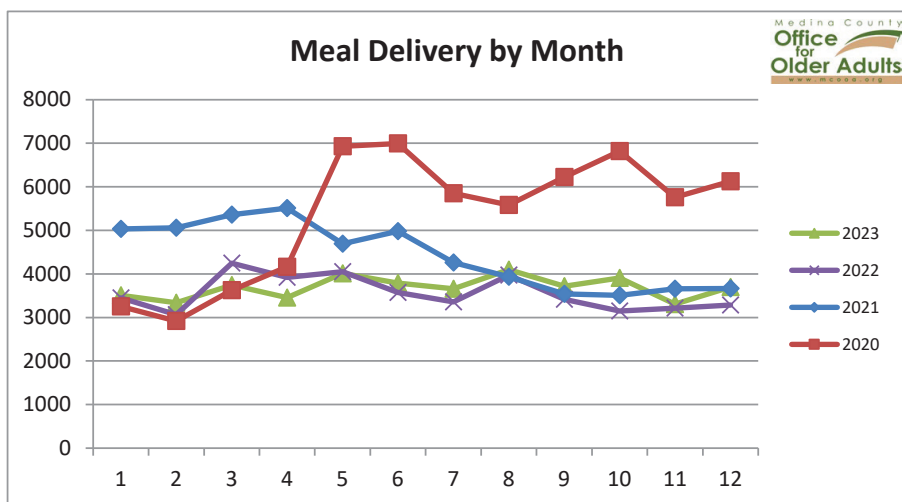
### Restaurant Voucher Program

**2,608**  
Vouchers were distributed



2023 Meals By Month

	HOME DELIVERED MEAL CLIENTS	NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED	CONGREGATE MEAL CLIENTS	NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED
January	186	3509	59	312
February	191	3339	57	274
March	189	3743	60	356
April	186	3455	65	298
May	206	4011	62	270
June	200	3789	134	631
July	202	3660	137	651
August	196	4098	134	733
September	206	3717	135	703
October	199	3905	137	665
November	192	3307	137	665
December	191	3696	135	638
TOTALS		44229		6196



The Medina County Human Services Levy makes meal services possible by matching funds with Title IIIC funding provided by the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and the Ohio Department on Aging.



## Soprema Cafe Operations

In May 2023 the Soprema Senior Center Café reopened under a new contract between the City of Wadsworth and Medina County Office for Older Adults. Response to our operations has been very positive. OOA restarted the restaurant voucher program in June 2023 and was able to provide 2,608 vouchers in just 7 months to seniors in Wadsworth and the surrounding areas. We also cater to groups in the center and prepare meals for large scale events at Soprema.



## 2023 UNDUPLICATED CLIENTS

CITY / TOWNSHIP	TRANSIT CLIENTS	HOME DELIVERED MEAL CLIENTS	CONGREGATE MEAL CLIENTS
BRUNSWICK CITY	49	88	24
BRUNSWICK HILLS	7	17	2
CHATHAM TOWNSHIP	2	1	1
CHIPPEWA LAKE/GLORIA GLENS	4	4	3
CRESTON VILLAGE			
GRANGER TOWNSHIP	5	8	
GUILFORD TOWNSHIP	4	9	2
HARRISVILLE TOWNSHIP	2	4	1
HINCKLEY TOWNSHIP	2	15	3
HOMER TOWNSHIP	1	2	
LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP	22	8	8
LITCHFIELD TOWNSHIP	7	10	2
LIVERPOOL TOWNSHIP	3	6	6
LODI VILLAGE	4	12	1
MEDINA CITY	89	98	34
MEDINA TOWNSHIP	13	9	13
MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP	5	11	3
RITTMAN		1	
SEVILLE VILLAGE	8	6	3
SHARON TOWNSHIP	1	12	2
SPENCER TOWNSHIP/VILLAGE	4	10	2
WADSWORTH CITY	53	36	84
WADSWORTH TOWNSHIP		2	2
WESTFIELD CTR/WESTFIELD TWP		3	
YORK TOWNSHIP	4	6	3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>199</b>

## Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program

In 2023, Medina County Office for Older Adults was awarded 272 Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program packets. These packets contain ten \$5 coupons to be used at local Farmer's Markets. All of the 2023 packets were disbursed to Medina County residents who meet the age and income requirements. Packets are provided by the USDA and made available through the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging.







**712**  
Day Trip Participants

**1,385**  
Medina Large Activity  
Participants

**764**  
Brunswick Large Activity  
Participants

## Social Activities

Medina County Office for Older Adults continues to work hard to keep seniors connected. There were some challenges with limited space as we underwent demolition/construction of the kitchen and dining areas. We made use of other venues such as Veteran's Hall for our Luau, Medina Moose Lodge for Oktoberfest, and combined late-year holiday parties with our Brunswick program at the Brunswick Recreation Center.

Day trips rolled along to a variety of places, with 376 seniors filling 712 seats on trips. We continued innovative activities developed during the lockdown such as Brunswick Parking Lot Bingo and Zoom classes and added more exercise classes in Medina. We started a monthly Book Club and a Friday "Game Day" which have both been growing in popularity. We continue to welcome new ideas from our members and growing our offerings as new interests come up.

## Volunteers

Our volunteers help out in the office, in the kitchen, teach classes, lend a hand at events and so much more. Volunteers pitched in to help our agency fulfill its mission in 2023, including those who comprise the Compassion in Action non-medical volunteer caregiving program, providing transportation to shopping and appointments, light yard work, light housekeeping and friendly visits. They transported seniors to 188 appointments in 2023.



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