



Kent County Senior Millage

Millage Minder

Fall 2019

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS OF THE KENT COUNTY SENIOR MILLAGE

MMAP and Prescription Assistance

Kent County Senior Millage (KCSM) funding provides Senior Neighbors and the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (AAAWM) the opportunity to offer a Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP), both in-house and at agencies throughout the community. MMAP is designed to help older adults, their families, and caregivers understand, access, and apply for Medicare, Traditional Medicare Part A and B, Part D prescription plans, Medigap plans, and Medicare Advantage.

As Bob Callery, MMAP Regional Director, explains, "KCSM has provided funds to support MMAP in expanding our service capabilities to Kent County seniors. Millage funds have allowed Senior Neighbors to provide direct

MMAP counseling and outreach to seniors throughout Kent County."

These agencies have MMAP trained staff members that are able to assist older adults with their questions. "When people contact us, they may not be sure of what types of questions they need to ask, MMAP counselors can help people navigate the complexities of Medicare. Our counselors are unbiased and want to help people find what will work best for their needs and is the most cost effective," Bob adds. The easiest way to contact a MMAP counselor is to call one of the local offices listed below.



Area Agency on Aging | (888) 456-5664 | www.aaawm.org
Senior Neighbors | (616) 459-6019 | www.seniorneighbors.org

Dental Services

Exalta Health and Cherry Health each provide primary and urgent dental care to seniors in Kent County through the KCSM. Eligibility includes being a Kent County resident, at least 60 years old, and being uninsured or underinsured for dental services. Dental health



is important as early indications of disease can be detected through oral exams and x-rays.

Services provided to older adults through the KCSM include general dental services (teeth cleaning, exams, x-rays, fillings, and tooth removals), dentures and partials, and root canal treatment.

Bill Paxton, Exalta Health President, explains the impact of the KCSM, "For our dental program specifically, the millage has helped us get the word out about our services, and helped us expand the number of older adults who can participate in our program." If you are interested in learning more or setting up an appointment, you can contact either partner.

Cherry Health | (616) 776-2135 | www.cherryhealth.org
Exalta Health | (616) 475-8446 | www.exaltahealth.org

Healthy Aging Programs

Healthy Aging programs are designed specifically to improve the health of older adults. Through the Kent County Senior Millage these classes are available at various locations throughout the county through the Grand Rapids Community College Older Learner Center, the Salvation Army, Senior Neighbors, and the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan.

Julie Lake, Kent County Health and Wellness Coordinator at Senior Neighbors, recently provided some insight on the difference the Kent County Senior Millage has made for their programs, “The millage is a key part of the success of our programs. We are proud to say that we have classes available throughout the entire county as far north as Cedar Springs and as far south as Caledonia. Our classes are available on the western and eastern borders of the county, as well as multiple places in between! The support of the Kent County Senior Millage allows us to build critical partnerships throughout the area in order to serve as many older adults as we possibly can. We are so pleased to see how the millage helps improve the health and wellness of older adults through physical activity and fall prevention with these Healthy Aging programs.”

Healthy Aging program information and schedules can be found on the partner websites listed below; you can also call 616-459-6019. The cost for these programs is very low, and assistance is available if needed. Interested in attending a class? Julie explains, “The most important thing to remember if you are considering joining one of our fitness programs is to do what you can—don’t feel like you must keep up with anyone else. Get moving, meet new people, have fun, and feel better!”



The Source for Seniors

(616) 588-2580
www.aaawm.org



(616) 234-3483
www.grcc.edu/olc



(616) 454-1459
www.safultonheights.org



(616) 459-6019
www.seniorneighbors.org

Millage Service Eligibility

Senior Millage services are available to Kent County residents, age 60+. Cost share/co-payment may be required for individuals whose incomes are above \$24,980 and couples with incomes above \$33,820 for 2019. Cost share fees are based on income and assets. Fees may vary depending on the service type. For more information, contact the organization providing services.

Millage Minder is published three times per year by Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan. For more information contact:



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(616) 456-5664 | (888) 456-5664
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www.aaawm.org

If you would like to start receiving the Millage Minder by email, write WendyI@aaawm.org with “Millage Minder” in the subject line.