

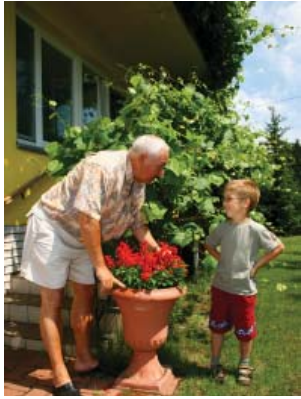


The Source for Seniors

Kent County Senior Millage Minder

about the Kent County Senior Millage

Spring 2010



Keeping up with home maintenance and yard work can be a problem for some older homeowners. The Kent County Senior Millage provides home chore and home repair services to help.

Home Chore- assistance for minor home repairs including repairing windows, fixing locks, replacing fuses and helping with minor yard work.

Senior Neighbors 459-6019



Home Repair- help with major and minor repairs such as furnace or roof replacement and ramp construction for wheelchair access.

Home Repair Services 241-2601



As with all Millage services, the programs are open to those age 60 and older and may require a cost share, depending on income. To find out more information, including program qualifications, contact the organization directly.



Adult Day Services

Adult Day Services provide a safe place for older adults who may not be independent enough to be left home alone. Activities are available throughout the day to keep participants active and engaged both mentally and physically.

This provides relief for caregivers and enables many to feel confident that their family member is taken care of while they do errands, go to work or get some much needed rest.

“Often caregivers feel guilty saying they need a break,” says Anne Ellermets, Kent County Contract Coordinator at Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan. “Those that take time for themselves and get the break they

need are often better caregivers because they are more rested and less stressed.”

Each adult day program funded by the Kent County Senior Millage has a schedule of activities and staff trained to work with those having a variety of physical or cognitive impairments. Some programs even provide bathing and personal care services.

For more information on the programs, contact:

- CareTree Adult Day Service** 464-3665
- Side by Side Adult Day** 235-2910
- SarahCare Adult Day Center** 530-6700

The Millage Minder is published quarterly by the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan. For more information contact (616) 456-5664

Fans and Air Conditioners

The Kent County Senior Millage is again offering the fan and air conditioning program.

Senior Neighbors provides fans to adults 60 and older who did not receive one the previous year.

Air conditioners are available to those 60 and over with a medical condition that is complicated by the heat; physician's prescription is required.

For more information, contact:

Senior Neighbors (616) 459-6019

2009 Client Details

In 2009, the Kent County Senior Millage provided service to 19,910 older adults. Over half of those who answered (64%) had an annual income less than \$21,660.

The programs serving the most clients:

Information and Assistance	3,862
Outreach and Assistance	2,296
Senior Food Pantry	2,046
Prescriptions	1,789
Fair Housing Services	1,750
Long Term Care Ombudsman	1,724
Transportation-Assisted	1,571
Home Financial Services	1,031
Project Fresh	773
Home Delivered Meals	756
Congregate Meals	681

Seniors were served all over the county, but the following communities had the highest number of clients reported:

Grand Rapids	9,997
Wyoming	2,475
Kentwood	1,699

For more details, visit www.aaawm.org/senior_millage

Ride link
616-774-1288

**Ridelink has
new number
and website**



Ridelink now has a local phone number (616-774-1288) for Kent County residents to call and schedule rides. Kent County callers outside of the 616 area code can call 1-866-423-3848 for service.

A new website allows those 60 and older to complete online registration and find out more about Ridelink at www.ridelinkkent.org.

Ridelink is a collaboration of five agencies providing transportation for older adults in Kent County.

A suggested donation of \$2 each way helps fund the service.

Ridelink

616-774-1288

www.ridelinkkent.org

Food Pantry

The Senior Food Pantry helps older adults with low incomes receive nutritious meal options.



Seniors shop the pantry shelves for various items including fresh fruits, vegetables, dairy products, meat and beans. Nutrition information is also provided regularly.

There is a suggested donation of \$1 for every trip. Individuals are limited to visiting twice a month. For more information, such as schedule and hours of operation, contact:

Senior Meals Program

616-364-1104

The purpose of the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan is to provide older persons, including those in the greatest economic need, with an array of human services designed to maintain independence and dignity in their homes and communities.