
Annual Report for Moretown 2015

The Waterbury Area Senior Citizens Association mission is to enrich the lives of older persons by providing services and activities that sharpen the minds and improve the physical and emotional health of its members and help keep them active and involved in the life of the community. The Center offers weekday Meals on Wheels and Congregate meals. Also low impact exercise classes, bingo, Wii games, Mexican train dominoes, cribbage games, book discussions, and cutthroat canasta. Monthly foot care clinics, yearly AARP safe driving classes and AARP tax return assistance. In addition to these activities, we have decorated cookies and made chocolates at Christmastime, and sold items made from yarn donated by the community.

The Center is currently providing a great service to the current residents of the Town of Moretown. Our biggest expense of WASCA is providing 70 hot weekday and home delivered meals. Meals on Wheels are delivered by our seniors to our homebound seniors. More than 95 % of our clients are disabled or live in low to moderate income households in Waterbury, Duxbury, Moretown, Bolton and Middlesex. The government reimburses us only \$3.50 per meal. We need to raise the remaining \$78,750 or \$4.50 per meal for 17,500 meals. Currently, we are on target to serve over 19,250 meals for our current fiscal year; but the need outweighs the funds. We are seeing more of a need, as there is a strain on family budgets due to the higher cost of heating fuel, gasoline, health insurance, and prescriptions.

We deliver 45 meals on wheels each day and the number continues to increase. In the past year we have delivered to approximately 11 clients in Moretown, and served an additional 25 residents of Moretown both for meals and other programs. We averaged \$1.12 per meal in donations for Meals on Wheels and Congregate meals for fiscal year 2015; down \$.27 per meal from the year before. We are prohibited by federal regulations from charging for our meals and only suggest that seniors contribute \$4.50 per meal if they can afford it. Our average meal contribution is well below this amount but we will not discourage seniors from enjoying a hot meal even if they cannot pay.

Currently the town of Moretown has appropriated \$4,999 to the Waterbury Area Senior Citizens Association, this year we are asking for the same amount. Historically the town of Waterbury has given us \$30,000 towards expenses, and Middlesex appropriated \$10,000 in the past. We have been asked by the Waterbury Select Board to ask other towns to bear more of the cost for using our services.

The community support of the Waterbury Area Senior Center is wonderful. This past year the Center raised \$140,000 through donations, fundraisers, Town Funding, meeting rentals and grants. We hope that the citizens of Waterbury, Duxbury, Moretown, and Middlesex will continue their high level of support for the Waterbury Area Senior Citizens Association. The center has looked at many ways to reduce our overhead. We use reusable meals on wheels trays that can be used between 4 and 7 years. This helps with having to purchase less Styrofoam and paper products. We try to served fresh fruits and vegetables each day; and also freeze this produce to use during the long winter months when fresh food prices are extremely high.

The Waterbury Area Senior Citizens Association has served this town well, and the town and the residents have supported us. We are also currently looking for Moretown residents to consider joining our board. If you have never been to the center we encourage you to come see what we are all about. Thank you for your continued support.

Karol Smith
Executive Director