

Council on Aging Director's Updates

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The building is now also being used for the COVID-19 Hotline. Our office has become the place to call for the most up to date COVID-19 information. The staff as well as the Hanover CERT volunteers have been busy answering phones and making calls. When able we all assist in signing people up for appointments etc.

We have made many live calls as well as sent out a recorded message to over 1200 residents 65+ containing the most recent updates for the vaccine.

The state recently decided to pull all vaccine from municipalities. COA's have banned together to write to the Governor, the town FD and Managers had a stand out to show their dissatisfaction, many are state representatives have voiced their displeasure. There is a state investigation going on as to why the Governor has pulled vaccine and looking into software issues for the state vaccine website.

Katie, George, and Michael attended a training session on Dementia Friendly Transportation Program. It was there that they were recognized for being one of the only COA's in the State that did not shut down at anytime during COVID-19. They were impressed about the rides as well as other tasks we did for the community, such as grocery shopping.

Colleen Smith of Hanover Community Television covered for the Director when she was on vacation as well as assisted training and making phone calls with the COVID-19 Phone Bank Team. She created a live online record for the callers to keep track of people who called, were called, specific needs, etc. She is a huge help to us.

We have been using Senior Learning Network, available on Zoom. It is a great service but comes with challenges. As the company tries to iron out the issues, we will be looking for ways to provide these types of programs locally.

St Patrick's Day dinner will be delivered by The Hanover Club this year. Info is in the newsletter.

The Cultural Council awarded us a Grant that enables us to continue the painting kits.

The Town Hall reopening on March 8. The plans for the Library have not been shared yet.

Although we have not turned away any appointments or refused anyone from coming to the building for books, puzzles, taxes, notary, coping and faxing, med equipment, or anything else. We are working on a soft opening of May 3, 2021. There is a lot of prepare before this date. There are also a lot of changes that have to occur, and

education sent out to participants. We also need to be sure and implement MyActiveCenter and train volunteers as to how to set up and register those without a computer. The center will open for in town only participants only, for at least the first month or so unless the state enters phase 4. NO exceptions will be made. Masks will be required upon and during the time in the building. NO Exceptions. We plan to offer a max of 2 programs per day 10 people per program based on current guidelines. We are trying to add a bit of something for everyone and a way to be sure that people get a chance to come to the Center.