

Council on Aging Director's Updates

Tammy Murray

December 2020

The building continues to be closed to the public. We do allow entry with an appointment only. There is not a planned opening date at this time.

Health Insurance Season has begun. Nancy Lester and Susan Setterland are both holding appointments both virtually and in person, as well as Fuel Assistance Applications and other assistance.

There has been an uptick in OCES referrals as well.

We are adding a special Happy Hour zoom call on Thursday Evenings in December. This can be online or dial in and will hopefully help with some of the feelings of isolation and boredom. We are also adding craft classes and projects.

The Budget process for the next Fiscal Year is beginning soon. I do not see much of a change in our numbers, nor do I see any additional positions being added. The Board of Selectmen have asked the Town Manager to review services and what could be cut from Town Budgets, that info will be presented at an upcoming meeting.

The Community Services Staff delivered over 85 meals to Veterans, of all ages, who responded to our calls last month. It was a nice change of pace for us and great to see people.

Mass Councils on Aging is the network we work most closely with if you are interested in receiving their email newsletter etc., visit <https://mcoaonline.com>

The Formula Grant reports have been submitted to EOEA in Boston.

We have an upcoming Grab and Go Lunch of Pastrami Sandwiches from Boston on December 16.

We had a blood drive at the Center on December 1 set up by Rhonda Nyman and The Red Cross, 24 units were collected. The only access given was through the big rooms' doors.

Joe Benson will be doing taxes again this year, he has increased his costs to \$40 and up depending on the situation.

Stats are included in your packets and our numbers continue to go up. The staff works very hard to be sure any services we can provide safely are provided.