

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
Report for the Village
4/9/2019

SUBJECT:	SUBMITTED BY:
Motion to Authorize Contribution to DuPage Senior Citizens Council	David Fieldman Village Manager

SYNOPSIS

A motion has been prepared to authorize a \$30,000 contribution for FY19 to the DuPage Senior Citizens Council for the Meals on Wheels program.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

The Goals for 2017-2019 include *Exceptional Municipal Services*.

FISCAL IMPACT

The FY19 Budget includes \$30,000 in the General Fund, (Page 4-3, Line 19) for this contribution.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval on the April 9, 2019 Consent Agenda.

BACKGROUND

The DuPage Senior Citizens Council provides a Senior Nutrition Program, well-being checks, health and wellness education and a Home Maintenance Program for senior residents of DuPage County.

ATTACHMENTS

Correspondence from the DuPage Senior Citizens Council



DuPage Senior Citizens Council

Providing Meals and More...

March 18, 2019

Mayor Martin Tully
Village of Downers Grove
801 Burlington Road
Downer Grove, IL 60515

Dear Mayor Tully,

We are called to serve those living in our communities and to help meet their physical and relational needs. When people need help or find it difficult to meet their own needs, it is our responsibility to do what we can to help them. It's just who we are.

Because of budget issues, political agendas and simply not enough funding to care for every person who needs our help, taking care of the seniors in Downers Grove is becoming more difficult, even as their needs continue to grow. Quite frankly, knowing that there are seniors who fall through the cracks is unacceptable to those of us who care about our residents.

This Is Where Our Partnership Can Help

For over 40 years, DSCC has been serving the needs of seniors in DuPage County with home delivered meals, well-being checks, minor home repairs and other needed services. Our dedicated staff and volunteers meet the needs of seniors in Downers Grove day in and day out.

Our Investment In Downers Grove

In Downers Grove, last year alone, DSCC invested over **\$190,000** in serving seniors in need. But that investment is greater than the amount of funds that are available for Downers Grove, which means we have a shortfall. This shortfall is likely to increase and could impact the needed services that we provide.

We Have A Plan

The strategic plan for DSCC includes a continued investment in Downers Grove so that the growing needs of the senior population can be met.

Here is how you can help DSCC and seniors in Downers Grove:

- Continue with your support and investment in DSCC.
- Learn more about how DSCC cares for seniors in Downers Grove.
- Get involved with DSCC as a partner, volunteer and as an advocate.

As you continue to partner with DSCC, you continue to take an active role in your commitment to your senior residents. Knowing that DSCC has been consistently supporting Downers Grove through the years should assure you that your financial support will be multiplied many times over.

Being a consistent partner with DSCC, you can be assured that seniors who are in need will have access to our programs and services that will help them live independently in Downers Grove. Without proper funding, the services that seniors depend on may be reduced or eliminated.



For more information on DSCC and how we have been serving senior residents in Downers Grove, please see the next few pages.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Marilyn Królak".

Marilyn Królak
Executive Director

cc: David Fieldman, Village Manager
Judy Buttny, Finance Director
Commissioners

encl: *Attachment A – Past Support & Request for Funding*
Attachment B – Report of Services for the Village of Downers Grove

*Attachment A – Past Support & Request for Funding***Past Support & Request for Funding**

Downers Grove has supported DSCC in the past. Below is a chart of the support we have received in the past.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DOWNERS GROVE	
DSCC Fiscal Year	Contribution Received
FY 2006	\$38,799
FY 2007	\$38,795
FY 2008	\$39,674
FY 2009	\$39,674
FY 2010	-
FY 2011	-
FY 2012	-
FY 2013	-
FY 2014	-
FY 2015	-
FY 2016	\$50,000
FY 2017	\$30,000
FY 2018	\$30,000
FY 2019	

Supporting DSCC And Downers Grove Seniors In 2019

As you can clearly see, the services that we provide to seniors in Downers Grove has been consistent. In order to continue the level of service and to meet the growing needs of the seniors, we are asking for your partnership and financial support.

To help offset the shortfall projected for 2019, we are asking for your support of \$30,000. Of course, the more assistance that we receive, the more support we can offer the seniors who call Downers Grove their home.

We truly value the seniors we serve in Downers Grove and we look forward to working closer with you in 2019. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Marylin Krolak directly at 630-620-0804.

Attachment B – Report of Services for the Village of Downers Grove- Page 1

Report of Services for the Village of Downers Grove FY2018 (10/1/17-09/30/18)

About Those We Serve

Every community has a vulnerable senior population that need us. These elderly persons have earned respect and deserve to live with dignity; however, many of them have become frail or otherwise lack the resources to provide for their own needs and rely on others for help.

In fact, most of our clients are homebound seniors who live alone, and nearly 99% of them are at or below the poverty level. DSCC is a safety net for many individuals who might not otherwise eat a meal during the course of the day, have someone to help with a task or simply have someone to check in on them.

Who Helps Us Help The Seniors

DSCC historically receives approximately half our funding from federal and state grants, but this proportion continues to drop substantially. The State of Illinois continues to face a fiscal crisis which jeopardizes state funding for community-based services, like those we provide. That is why support from the municipalities we serve is needed now more than ever so that we can maintain service levels for seniors and avoid cutting critical life-saving components.

How We Help Seniors

DSCC is a non-profit agency committed to seniors and operates several programs, including the “Meals on Wheels” program in DuPage County. Since starting in 1975, our mission has been to promote the ability of elderly persons to live in dignity with as much independence as possible.

We live our mission and serve the senior community in many ways. Below are a few of the services that seniors in Downers Grove depend on the most:

Home Delivered Meals and Community Dining

We’ve delivered 19,500 meals to 230 unduplicated seniors in Downers Grove last year

Home Delivered Meals (“Meals on Wheels”) are packed and delivered each weekday to frail and homebound seniors in Downers Grove by DSCC staff and volunteers who have been trained in food safety. We also have several Community Dining Sites located throughout DuPage County that provide an opportunity for elderly persons to socialize, participate in activities, and receive valuable health and wellness information. All meals served are balanced, nutritious, and meet special dietary needs such as low sodium, vegetarian, or diabetic. Each meal is equivalent to 1/3 of the Dietary Reference Intake for adults 60 and over.

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Health and Wellness Education

We've educated approximately 230 senior residents each month in Downers Grove last year.

Keeping seniors informed about issues and topics that are important to them is important. DSCC offers a variety of educational information directly to seniors through monthly presentations at our Community Dining Sites, and special visits from our volunteers and staff to our homebound seniors. As seniors become aware of preventive measures and helpful topics, they can help improve their health and wellness and avoid the loss of their independence.

Well Being Checks and Emergency Follow-Ups

We've performed over 11,300 Well Being Checks and Emergency Follow-up for seniors in Downers Grove last year.

Every senior who receives service from us also receives a Well Being Check, which allows DSCC to observe any changes in a senior's physical or mental health or physical surroundings. This extra step has resulted in several documented cases where staff and volunteers have saved lives by finding a fallen or injured senior or uncovered a dangerous household situation.

When we find a senior is not at home when they should be, our Emergency Follow-Up procedure allows crucial collaboration between the Downers Grove police and fire departments to make sure every senior is safe and accounted for.

These Well Being checks and Emergency Follow-Up procedures provide a real cost-savings to Downers Grove when compared to the cost of EMT services.

Home Maintenance Program

We've performed over 40 Minor Home Repairs & Yard Clean Up Services to seniors living in Downers Grove last year.

Living alone as a senior has its challenges and everyday tasks can be impossible or dangerous for seniors. DSCC's Home Maintenance program provides low-cost minor home repairs to assist older persons with basic home responsibilities associated with daily living.

Some examples of common home maintenance include repairing or replacing leaky faucets or toilets and installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, light fixtures, locks or deadbolts. Additional services which enhance seniors' safety and security include installing bath benches, grab bars, and non-slip strips, as well as repairing and reinforcing walkway steps and stair railings.

In cases where homes require larger repair services, DSCC also offers estimates and provides contractor referrals to seniors. These services help seniors stay in their homes longer.

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Yard Clean Ups

Some seniors who live alone in their homes find it hard to keep their yards clean and safe. That's why we offer Yard Clean Ups. For three weekends during the spring and fall, groups of DSCC volunteers help seniors with various outside chores such as raking leaves, gardening, trimming shrubs, and other yard tasks.

RECENTLY ADDED SERVICES TO HELP SENIORS IN DOWNERS GROVE

As the needs of seniors grow, so does our list of services we offer.

Friendly Visits & Assistance

For help with smaller household tasks, companionship and socialization, DSCC offers our Friendly Visit & Assistance service. Many seniors just need a little help from time to time with taking out the garbage, moving furniture and heavy items or getting Christmas decorations down from a shelf. At other times, they may just need someone to talk to. Our volunteers take the time to interact and engage with seniors who could benefit from a friendly visit.