

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
Report for the Village
4/5/2022

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

SYNOPSIS

A motion has been prepared to authorize a \$30,000 contribution for FY22 to the DuPage Senior Citizens Council for the Meals on Wheels program.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

The goals for 2021-2023 include *Exceptional Municipal Services*.

FISCAL IMPACT

The FY22 budget includes \$30,000 in the General Fund for this contribution.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval on the April 5, 2022 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

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
COUNCIL ACTION SUMMARY

INITIATED: Village Manager DATE: April 5, 2022
(Name)

RECOMMENDATION FROM: _____ FILE REF: _____
(Board or Department)

NATURE OF ACTION:

- Ordinance
- Resolution
- Motion
- Other

STEPS NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT ACTION:

Motion to authorize contribution of \$30,000 to the DuPage Senior Citizens Council for the Meals on Wheels program for FY 2022.



SUMMARY OF ITEM:

Adoption of this motion shall authorize contribution of \$30,000 to the DuPage Senior Citizens Council for the Meals on Wheels program for FY 2022.

RECORD OF ACTION TAKEN:



March 23, 2023

Mayor Bob Barnett
Village of Downers Grove
801 Burlington Road
Downer Grove, IL 60515

Dear Mayor Barnett,

Every community has a vulnerable senior population that needs 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 – it is our responsibility to do what we can to help them.

After two years of maneuvering through the challenges of the Covid-19 Pandemic, we salute you and the Village of Downers Grove for all you have done for the residents.

We are happy to report that as your partner, the DuPage Senior Citizens Council (DSCC) never missed a beat during these extremely difficult years either. We adjusted our services to accommodate social distancing and lack of resources. We focused on the 40% increase in the number of older adults requiring our services to ensure that no Downers Grove senior fell through the cracks.

Our Partnership with Downers Grove

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 **\$277,465** in serving seniors in need. However, that investment is greater than the amount of funds that are available for Downers Grove, which means we have a shortfall. This shortfall will continue to increase as the aging population increases.

Our Plan

The strategic plan for DSCC includes 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.
- Become more aware of how DSCC cares for seniors in Downers Grove.
- Get involved with DSCC as a partner 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 has 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 will be reduced or eliminated.

Please review our request for funding for continued services for senior residents in Downers Grove.

Thank you,



Marilyn Krolak
Executive Director

cc: David Fieldman, Village Manager
Robin Lahey, Finance Director
Commissioners

encl: *Attachment A – Request for Funding & Support Overview*
Attachment B – DSCC Services & Statistics - Village of Downers Grove

Attachment A

Request for Funding & Support Overview

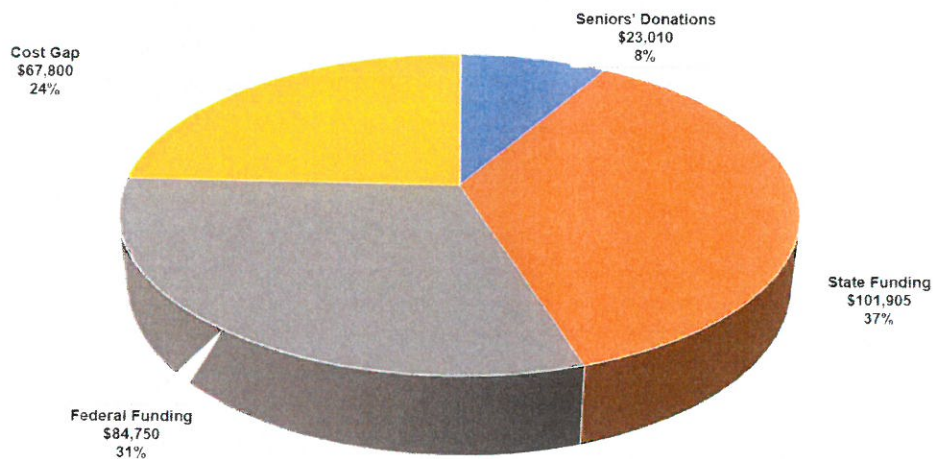
During the past year, DSCC invested over **\$277,465** to serve the senior residents in Downers Grove. However, we only received grants, donations, and funding that covered **\$209,665**, leaving us with a **\$67,800** deficit for Downers Grove.

DSCC historically receives grant awards from Federal and State sources that cover approximately half of our overall funding. That is why support from municipalities is needed so we can maintain service levels for the increasing number of seniors and avoid cutting critical life-saving components.

The chart below shows the breakdown of the funding and donations designated for Downers Grove specifically.

**Cost Analysis - Downers Grove
Senior Residents (60+) All Programs**

DSCC Fiscal Year 2021 (10/1/20 – 9/30/21)



Projections for 2022/2023 indicate that more funding is needed to support the seniors we are currently serving, plus the huge increase of additional seniors needing services.

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 2016	\$50,00
FY 2017	\$30,000
FY 2018	\$30,000
FY 2019	\$30,000
FY2020	\$30,000
FY2021	\$30,000
FY2022	
FY2023	
FY2024	

Supporting DSCC/Downers Grove Seniors in 2022-2023.

The services that we provide to seniors in Downers Grove have been consistent. To continue the service level and meet the growing needs of the seniors, we are asking for your partnership and continued/constant financial support.

To help offset the shortfall projected for 2022-2023, we are asking for an increase in support – we need your assistance to help fill as much of the \$67,800 cost gap as possible.

We truly value the seniors we serve in Downers Grove, and we look forward to working closely with you in 2022-2023.

If you have any questions or need additional information, don't hesitate to contact me directly at 630-620-0804, press 4, then 7; 630-546-0626, cell; or email Marylin.Krolak@DupageSeniorCouncil.org.

Attachment B

DSCC Services & FY2021 Statistics - Village of Downers Grove

DSCC and About Those We Serve

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.

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 day, have someone to help with a task or have someone to check in on them. Below are a few of the services that seniors in Downers Grove depend on the most.

DSCC Services

Home Delivered Meals and Shelf Stable Meals

Our Home Delivered- Meals on Wheels program delivers hot/fresh meals each weekday to frail and homebound seniors in Downers Grove by DSCC staff and volunteers. Additional Shelf Stable meals are delivered monthly. All meals served are balanced, nutritious, and meet special dietary needs such as low salt, vegetarian, or diabetic. Each meal is equivalent to 1/3 of the Dietary Reference Intake for adults 60 and over.

- **We delivered 27,330 meals to 445 unduplicated seniors in Downers Grove last year.**

Health and Wellness Education

Keeping seniors informed about issues and topics that are relevant to them is important. COVID-19 education was paramount, along with a variety of educational information given directly to seniors through mailings, direct delivery, and friendly phone calls from our volunteers and staff to our homebound seniors. As seniors become aware of preventive measures and helpful topics, they stay safe and improve their health.

- **We educated approximately 445 senior residents each month in Downers Grove last year**

Well Being Checks and Emergency Follow-Ups

Every senior who receives a 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. We provide this service and maintain social distancing protocols. 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 ensure every senior is safe and accounted for. These Well Being checks and Emergency Follow-Up procedures provide real cost-savings to Downers Grove compared to the cost to dispatch an EMT service.

- **We performed over 14,230 Well Being Checks and Emergency Follow-ups for seniors in Downers Grove last year.**

Friendly Phone Calls & Assistance

Social Isolation and a decline in mental health are currently significant concerns. We converted our Friendly Visit to a Friendly Phone Call service to help seniors with companionship and socialization through this difficult year. Seniors sometimes need someone to talk to. Our volunteers take the time to interact and engage with seniors who could benefit from a friendly call.

- **We performed 605 hours of Friendly Phone Calls & Assistance for seniors in Downers Grove last year.**

Home Maintenance Program (adjusted to provide social distancing)

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. Home repairs include repairing or replacing leaky faucets or toilets, light fixtures, locks, or deadbolts. Additional services that enhance a senior's safety and security include installing bath benches, grab bars, and non-slip strips and 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.

- **We performed over 35 Minor Home Repairs & Yard Clean Up Services to seniors living in Downers Grove last year.**

Due to COVID-19, DSCC adjusted our services to accommodate social distancing and focused on the 40% increase in the number of older adults that required our help. DSCC provided additional shelf-stable meals to all of our Meals on Wheels clients and created Drive-Thru Food Events at various locations throughout DuPage County to reach older adults that were not part of the Home Delivered Meals service but were prone to food insecurity.