Dutchess County Office for the Aging

114 Delafield St • Poughkeepsie NY 12601
845-486-2555 • 866-486-2555

Marcus J. Molinaro
County Executive

Todd Tancredi
Director
Office for the Aging

The Dutchess County Office for the Aging is a County Agency funded under Title III of the U.S. Older Americans Act, the New York State Office for the Aging, and the County of Dutchess.

Updated August 2021
What type of volunteer activity are you interested in? Check all that apply. Volunteering may be adapted or suspended as needed due to COVID-19 safety precautions.

( ) Home Delivered Meals Driver   ( ) Tai Chi Class Leader
( ) Health Insurance Counseling (HIICAP)   ( ) Exercise Class Leader
( ) Brain Games Leader   ( ) Senior Events Helper (Picnics, Bingo, etc.)
( ) Senior Friendship Center Helper/Leader   ( ) Office Assistance
( ) “A Matter of Balance” Coach   ( ) Other OFA Assistance (entertainment, art, etc.)

--------- P L E A S E   P R I N T ---------

Last Name_______________________ First Name ___________________ Middle Initial (if any) ____

FULL Mailing Address________________________________________________________________

Home Phone____________________________ Mobile Phone _______________________________

Date of Birth_____________________________Email______________________________________

Emergency Contact___________________________Phone__________________________________

Please circle all days you can be available:     MON     TUES     WED     THURS     FRI

Time(s) you are usually available _____________________________

Please describe any medical limitations:_______________________________________________

Are you fluent in any foreign languages? If so, which one(s)? ______________________________

Briefly describe your technology skills (check one): ( ) little or none      ( ) moderate      ( ) expert

Previous volunteer experience________________________________________________________

What type of transportation will you use to get to your volunteer assignment? ______________

Personal Reference____________________________________________________________________

Address_____________________________________________________________________________

Phone_________________________________ Email:_________________________________________

Because you may have direct contact with the elderly, the County may initiate inquiries into your personal history including searches of police and motor vehicle files. By signing the form below you hereby grant the County permission to make any such search or investigation.

Volunteer Signature _____________________ Your 9 Digit NYS Driver’s License ID Number ______

Today’s Date __________________________
Volunteering with the Dutchess County Office for the Aging

Friends,

We at the Office for the Aging could not provide many of our essential services for Dutchess County’s senior population without the hard work of hundreds of volunteers. Their work benefits not just seniors, but the entire Dutchess community. The annual value of Office for the Aging volunteers’ work comes to well over $1 million.

Regardless of your age, skills, or ability to travel, the Office for the Aging offers ways for you to help. Please read more about the opportunities available, and feel free to get in touch with us with any questions.

OFA volunteer opportunities have been adapted as needed to meet public health safety requirements. The need for volunteers in all areas of aging services has grown tremendously since the COVID-19 pandemic began. We need volunteer help, now more than ever.

Best regards,

Todd Tancredi, Director
Dutchess County Office for the Aging

Home Delivered Meal Drivers and Senior Friendship Center helpers

Our drivers deliver thousands of nutritious meals every week, in all areas of Dutchess County. Since the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic began, the number of homebound seniors has grown greatly, and the need for home delivered meals has likewise grown. Volunteers have been stepping up to meet the need, and we anticipate needing more volunteers for the foreseeable future.

Seniors tell us they look forward not only to the food, but to our delivery staff. For many seniors who live alone, the visit from our driver may be their only contact with people, and that period of socialization is key to helping seniors continue to live safely at home for as long as possible, particularly when physical separation is key to safety and making social connections becomes more difficult.

Drivers operate out of OFA Senior Friendship Centers throughout the county. Volunteers are also needed to assist seniors at the Friendship Centers - and if you have a specific talent or skill that seniors would find helpful or enjoyable, we’d love to hear from you.
Health Insurance Counseling (HIICAP)

Volunteers are always welcome in our Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance Program (HIICAP). No prior health insurance business experience needed; training and certification are provided. Our HIICAP volunteers provide impartial information about Medicare, Medigap policies and supplemental choices, Medicare Advantage Programs, other insurance questions, Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, EPIC, benefit programs and long term care insurance choices.

Office Help

Keeping Dutchess County’s estimated 65,000 seniors informed means a lot of correspondence to prepare, envelopes to stuff, and brochures to arrange. Help us communicate with your senior friends and neighbors!

Since the pandemic began, we’ve increased our correspondence with Dutchess County’s seniors, so our need for volunteer office help has grown as well.

Our facilities in Poughkeepsie are equipped for safe social distancing.

OFA Events

OFA hosts a wide range of events in Dutchess County that require volunteer help, both indoors and outdoors, following federal and state safety guidance. Volunteers of all ages are welcome; volunteers under age 18 will require a parent’s signature on a waiver.

Other OFA Programs

We have resumed our popular Senior Exercise, A Matter of Balance and Tai Chi programs under the latest New York safety guidance. Please sign up for future volunteering opportunities.

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