

Survey to guide Warren County government in prioritizing services, programs for seniors

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BELVIDERE — The Warren County Division of Aging & Disability Services is launching its most extensive assessment ever to identify the activities, programs, and services to be offered through the five Warren County Senior Centers.

“For decades we have informally and formally sought input from the county’s older adults on how we can best meet their needs for programs, activities and services,” said division Executive Director Susan Lennon. “This time we are going a few steps further to make sure we reach out to the widest possible sample of county residents. Our goal is to make sure we allocate our funds to most effectively and efficiently address the priorities of the greatest number of county residents,” Lennon said.

Tom Martin Consulting and Training (TM Consulting), a Greenwich Township firm, has been selected to conduct a formal, random telephone survey of county residents age 60 and older. “They will identify a representative sample of county residents, and conduct telephone surveys, which will take only ten minutes and cover a wide range of topics,” Lennon explained.

In addition to this random survey, TM Consulting will use a special survey questionnaire to obtain information from active and inactive participants in the County Senior Nutrition Program, which serves meals five days a week, in five sites—Belvidere, Blairstown, Hackettstown, Phillipsburg and Washington.

These two surveys, combined with an analysis of data that the County Division of Aging & Disability regularly gathers, will enable TM Consulting to provide a comprehensive and objective analysis to determine what programs, activities and services Warren County’s older adults seek to obtain from their five Senior Centers.

“This study will help us redesign the priorities and programming of the current congregate project, and offer activities, services, and programs that are most relevant to the majority of Warren County’s twenty thousand residents age 60 and older,” Lennon stated. “If you get a call, please give just 10 minutes of your time to help us serve you better.”

Residents, municipal officials and other service providers may get additional information on this project by calling 908-475-6591.