



SENIOR SERVICES

A PROGRAM OF
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

FISCAL YEAR 2023 ANNUAL SENIOR SERVICES REPORT

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AGING.

So COOL, everyone is doing it.

TO OUR READERS



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION SENIOR SERVICES

Moving out of the COVID-19 era and into our new normal has brought about new challenges and rewards for Human Development Commission's senior services. Fiscal Year 2023 brought the end of two Americorps Seniors Programs due to static funding and increasing costs. In addition, COVID-19 support is going away and the costs and needs remain high. Human Development Commission (HDC) is working internally as well as with community partners to continue to provide quality services for seniors while fighting the increasing costs and loss of COVID-19 funding.

One success to celebrate was additional funding from Sanilac and Tuscola County's senior millage dollars. The funds were provided to avoid a waiting list for Home Delivered Meals. The most rapidly growing age group are those who are 80+. Those seniors are trying to age in place, and need supports put in to place to do so. HDC plays a critical role in assisting older adults stay at home.

In addition, HDC added the Senior Center Staffing program and increased activities among Senior Dining Centers in Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola counties. Socialization at the Senior Dining Centers is an early intervention to prevent social isolation and ultimately living a longer, higher quality of life independently.



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SPECIAL EVENTS

Senior Seminars were held in each of the three counties. This year, the event was back to being held indoors. There were a total of 75 people in attendance across the three events.

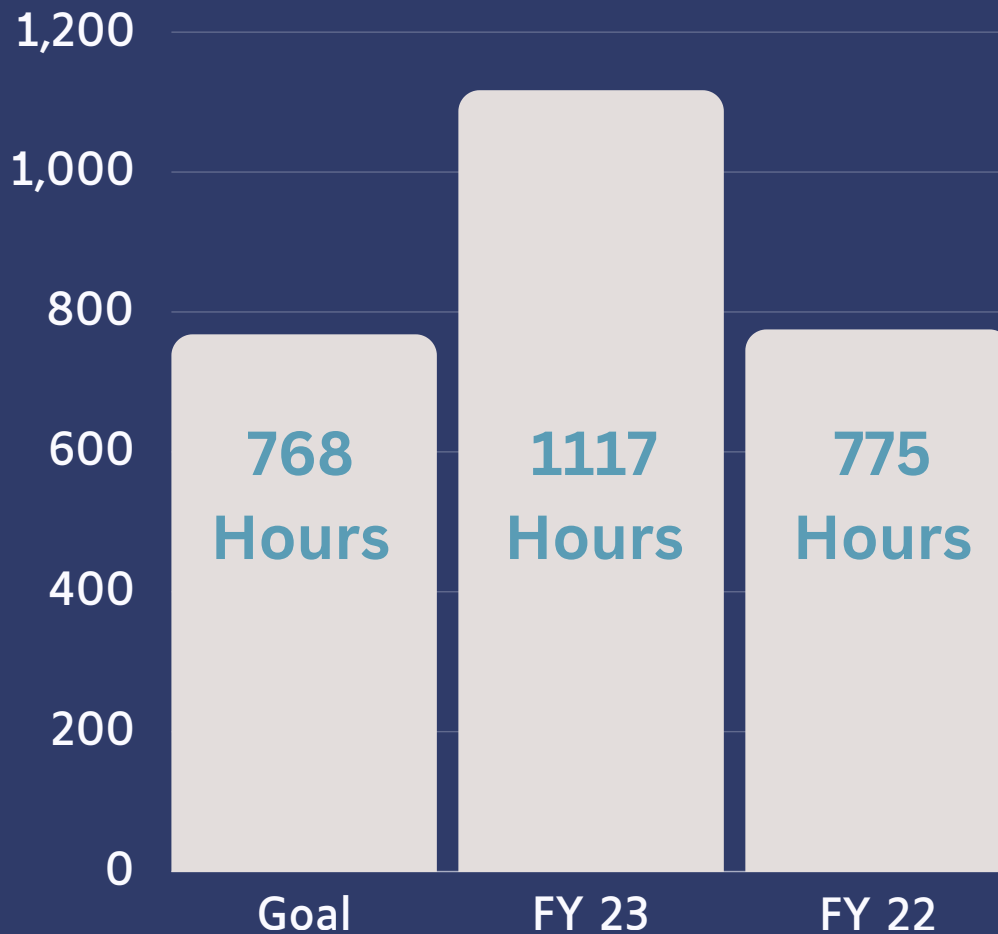
Caregiver Advocacy put attention on providing caregivers an opportunity to take care of themselves. Staff held two caregiver picnics in August, allowing caregivers a time to relax and enjoy a meal, some activities, and meet peers who are also providing care to loved ones. The peer-to-peer support is beneficial for caregivers who are wrapped up in taking care of loved ones, and may feel like they are alone in the season of Caregiving.

LOOKING AHEAD

Support for seniors in the rural thumb area is growing, and HDC is focusing efforts to be able to meet the independent living needs of the oldest community members. As the percentage of people over age 80 grows, the demand for services increases and the availability of resources and volunteers continues to dwindle. Over the next year HDC will be working with the community and funding sources to secure resources to continue to meet the needs of seniors.

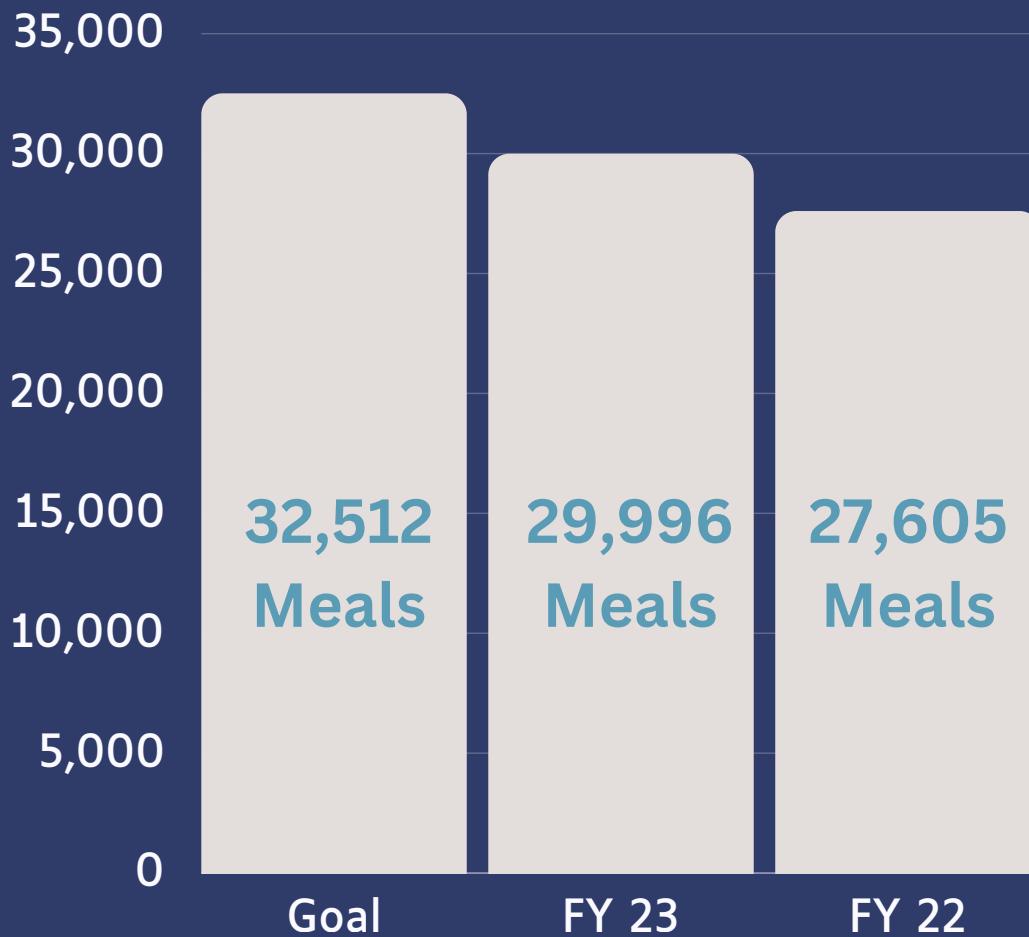
SUPPORTERS

Programs in this report are made possible with funding from the following; Aging and Community Living Supports Bureau of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Americorps Seniors, Michigan Department of Education, Region VII Area Agency on Aging, Senior Millage funds from Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Counties, United Way of Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Counties, Victims of Crime Act, and generous local donations.



In fiscal year 2023, 32 individuals were provided with direct Outreach Support. The most rural communities in Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola county were the focus of canvassing efforts. In addition, Outreach provided 41 presentations to seniors, caregivers, and community partners.

OUTREACH



There are 11 different senior dining centers across Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Counties for seniors to receive a warm lunch. In fiscal year 2023, 722 individuals were provided with a meal at a congregate dining center. In total there were 29,996 meals served.

CONGREGATE MEALS



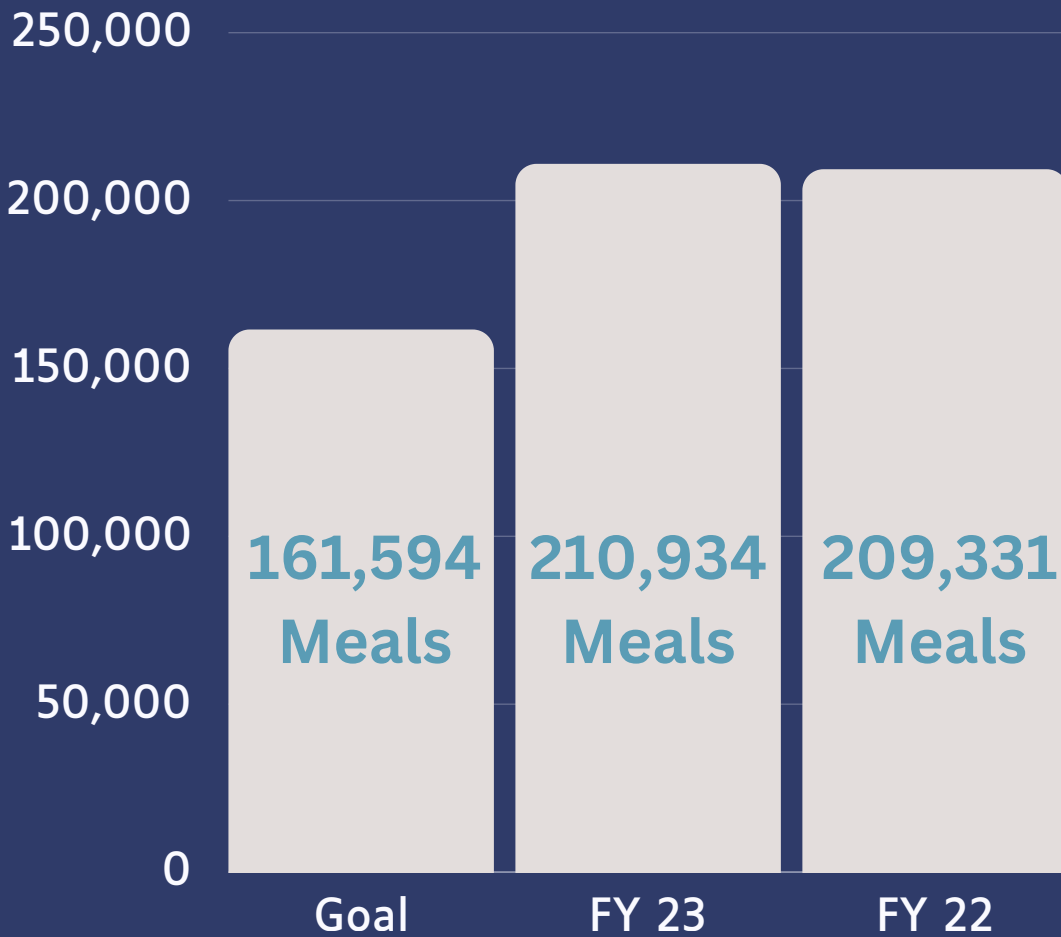
In fiscal year 2023, 186 individuals participated in Senior Center Staffing Activities. This was the first year this program has been offered at HDC. Activities were brought to enhance socialization at the Caro Senior Dining Center, Lexington Senior Dining Center, and Port Austin Senior Dining Center.

SENIOR CENTER STAFFING



Coordinating independent living supports prolongs the time individuals stay in their homes. In fiscal year 2023, 838 individuals were provided with personal needs assessments and care plans were completed. Staff spent 5,744 hours assisting.

CASE COORDINATION AND SUPPORT



In fiscal year 2023, 970 individuals were provided with Home Delivered Meals. Meals are prepared in three central kitchens and delivered Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Thirty-five different routes are in place to get the meals to customers. In total there were 210,934 meals served.

HOME DELIVERED MEALS

MORE THAN A MEAL



The Home Delivered Meal Driver may be the only person a customer sees in a day.

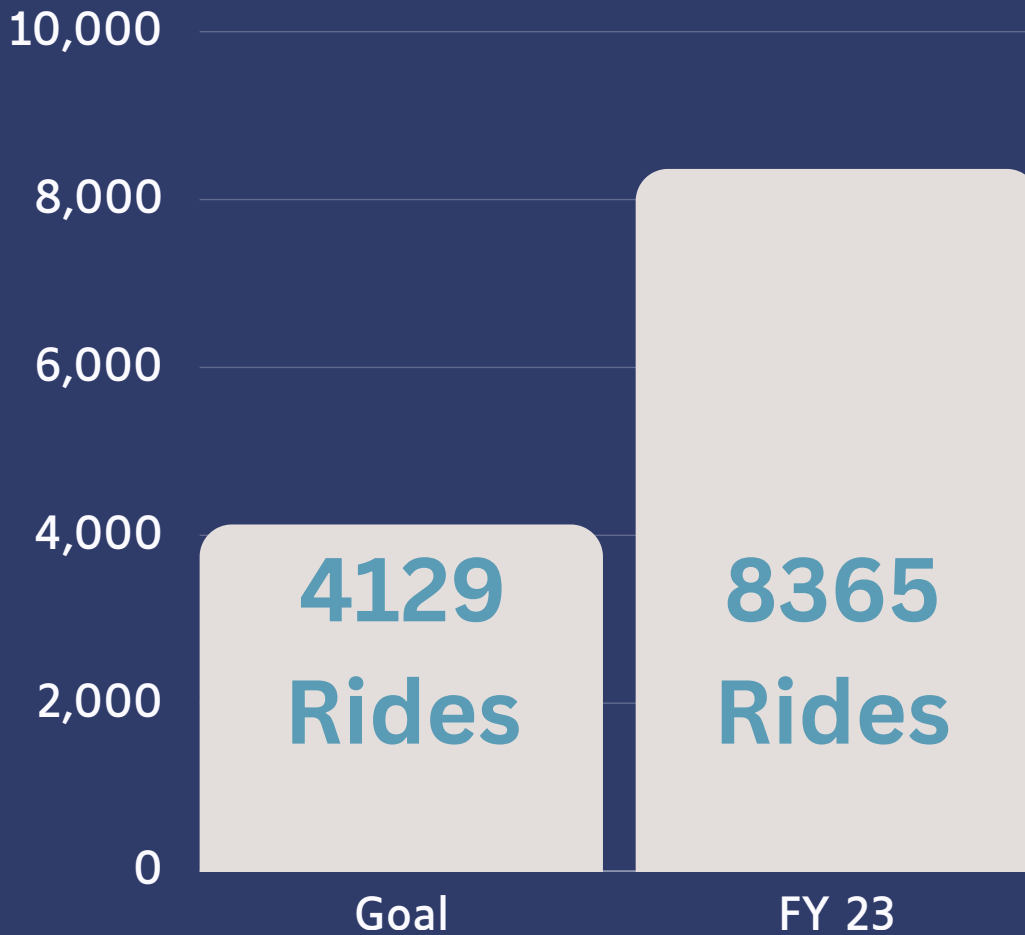
All Home Delivered Meal drivers are trained to keep an eye on seniors for changes in behavior or needs. In addition, staff follow up on any senior that is not home for a meal delivery as expected.



Each Home Delivered Meal senior is assessed through Case Coordination and Support and provided with available resources needed to stay in their home (versus a place with a higher level of care).

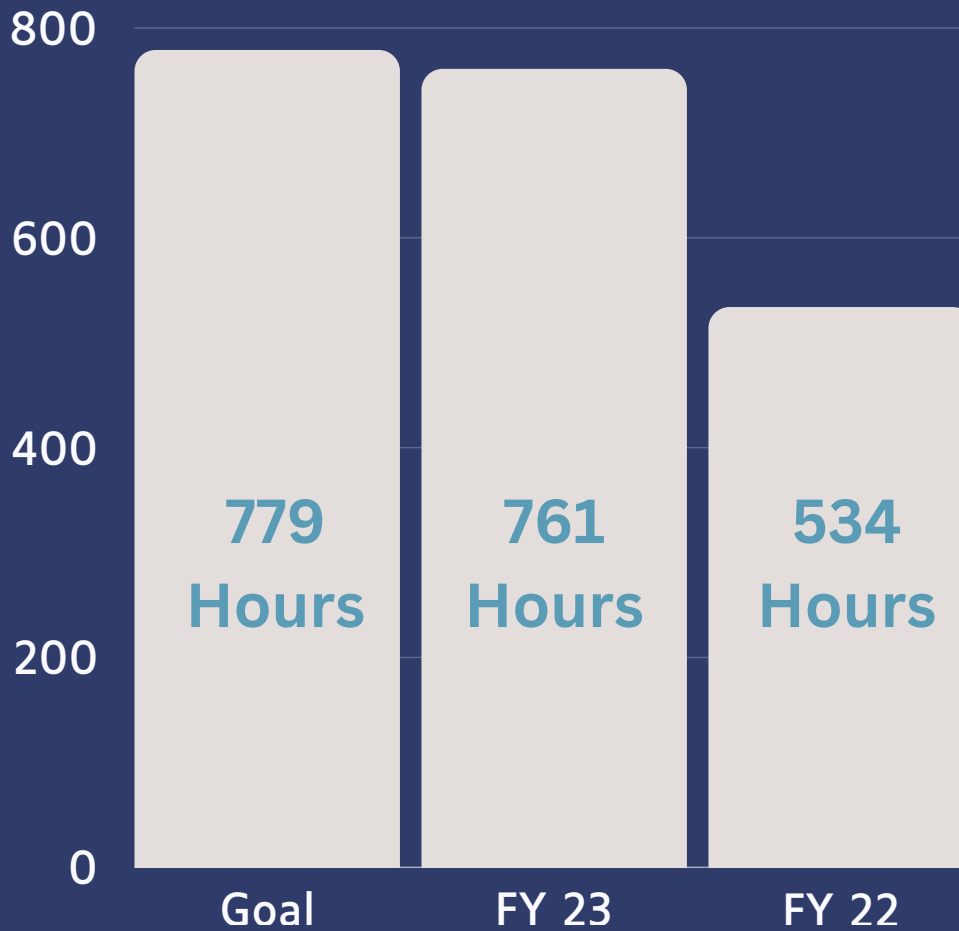
According to Meals on Wheels America, we can serve a senior for an entire year for roughly the same cost as a day in the hospital or ten in a nursing home.





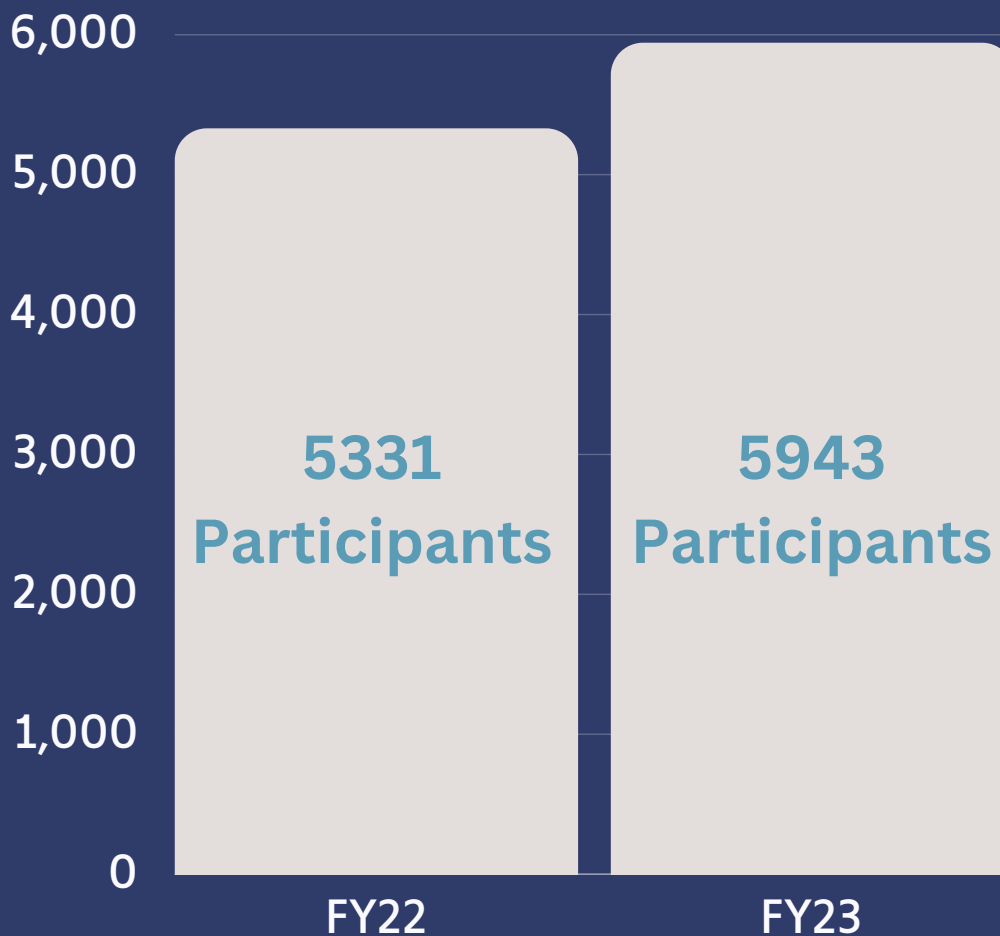
In fiscal year 2023, 175 individuals were provided with Transportation services. Transportation was provided by volunteer drivers or through the public transportation systems. In total 8,365 rides were provided to seniors.

TRANSPORTATION



In fiscal year 2023, 89 individuals were provided with Caregiver Support. Caregiver Support may be provided in two different ways. Those over 55 years old providing Kinship Care and those providing care to friends or family over the age of 60. In total there were 1,117 hours spent supporting Caregivers.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT



In fiscal year 2023 the USDA Supplemental Food Program saw a ten percent increase in participants from fiscal year 2022. Participants receive food boxes six times per year, which supplements nutrition to older adults.

USDA SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM



The Elder Advocacy Program provides voluntary assistance for victims of abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation. The program is available across Huron, Lapeer, Sanilac, and Tuscola counties. As a leader in the State for elder abuse, the program focuses on moving senior vulnerability and safety.

ELDER ABUSE

In fiscal year 2023 HDC sponsored two AmeriCorps Seniors Programs; the Foster Grandparent Program and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program engaged 41 volunteers over the age of 55 to support community programs and events. The Foster Grandparent Program engaged 22 volunteers who assisted 63 students in Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Counties.

Over the last several years, the costs to run the volunteer programs has increased, and there has been stagnant funding. In June of 2023, HDC chose not to apply for proposed grants for fiscal year 2024 and ended the programs effective July 2023.

However, this does not eliminate the need for volunteers at HDC or in the Community.

The bottom half of the page features a large white semi-circle on a dark blue background. Inside the semi-circle, the text 'AMERICORPS SENIORS' is written in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font. Surrounding the semi-circle are several stylized illustrations of hands in various colors (brown, tan, yellow, orange) reaching upwards. Small pink hearts are scattered around the hands, adding a sense of warmth and community.

AMERICORPS SENIORS