

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Human Development Commission Announces Discontinuation of Senior Services in Huron County**

**Huron County, MI** – The Human Development Commission (HDC) regrets to announce the discontinuation of several vital services for seniors in Huron County, effective October 31, 2024. This decision affects Home Delivered Meals, Congregate Meals, Senior Transportation, Case Coordination and Support, Caregiver Training, and Senior Dining Center Activities.

This unfortunate outcome results from insufficient funding from the Huron County voted Senior Citizen Millage, and a recent decision by the Huron County Board of Commissioners. Despite our best efforts to secure a contract for funding from Huron County, the necessary resources to continue these programs are not being provided.

“We deeply value the opportunity to serve our seniors and understand the impact this decision will have on our community,” said Kristy Sutherland, Senior Services Director “This was not an easy choice, but we are committed to transparency regarding the challenges we face”.

The voted Senior Citizens Millage will collect \$703,347 for 2025. As the leading provider of Senior Services, Human Development Commission requested 78% of that at \$552,470. The Board of Commissioner’s Finance Committee proposed funding at 50% of the total Millage which equaled \$354,000, far less than what is needed to provide the services. In addition, the County failed to bring this proposal to the full board in time to renew HDC’s contract for services which expires on September 30, 2024.

While HDC will cease these services in Huron County on October 31, 2024, we remain dedicated to supporting seniors in neighboring Sanilac and Tuscola Counties, and will provide outreach services across all three counties.

We encourage community members to reach out with any questions or concerns. The Human Development Commission is grateful for the support and

collaboration we have experienced in Sanilac and Tuscola Counties and look forward to continuing our services in those counties.

**About Human Development Commission**

The Human Development Commission is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for residents in our communities through a range of programs and services aimed at enhancing self-sufficiency, health, and well-being.

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