

## **Making a Difference in the Community**

### **2011 Adopt-a-Senior Program**

Are you looking to be a part of something meaningful this holiday season? Partner with our Social Services Team by making a difference in your own Hanover Township community! The Adopt-a-Senior Program provides customized care packages based on the generous gift donations received from our community. Each care package includes needed items such as food, towels, clothing, cleaning products and a gift card for either prescriptions or food.

Beginning Tuesday, November 1, we will be accepting donations of non-perishable food items and paper products. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated to purchase the remaining gift items. Checks may be made payable to Hanover Township and mailed directly to: Hanover Township Senior Services, Attention: Social Services, 240 S. Route 59, Bartlett, IL 60103.

Beginning Wednesday, November 9, our Giving Tree will be displayed in the Senior Center Lobby. Each ornament displayed will represent an item to purchase for a senior in need. Simply remove the ornament off the tree, obtain and wrap the specified item and return to Social Services. Please return the paper ornament with the gift item to ensure it is properly matched to each recipient. For clothing items, it is helpful to include a gift receipt. All gift items must be returned to the Senior Center by Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

We thank everyone in advance for your generous donations and involvement with the 2011 Adopt-a-Senior project! There are so many simple ways to get involved which makes a huge impact on the lives of others. We are looking forward to making it the Most Wonderful Time of the Year for our Hanover Township residents who are in need!

### **Adopt-a-Senior Recipients**

Have you experienced a hardship and are in need of a few items this Holiday season? Qualifications for the Adopt-a-Senior program are as follows: monthly income must be less than \$1,361 for a single individual and \$1,839 for a couple. This figure is based on the 150% Federal Poverty Level. There is no asset restriction. We are asking all recipients to complete an Adopt-a-Senior application which will be available beginning Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please be sure to

complete and submit to Social Services no later than Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Applications can be obtained through our website, the Senior Center Lobby or by contact your Social Services Caseworker at 630-483-5600.

Please note that everyone who meets the income eligibility can apply, but preference will be given to individuals who have not previously participated in the Adopt-a-Senior program. All recipients will be notified by mail if approved for the program and when care packages will be available.

### **Handyman Directory**

We value your opinion! Our Social Services Team is creating a Handyman Directory based on the compilation of referrals from the community on handyman projects that were completed in a satisfactory manner. The referrals collected from the community will continuously be updated and shared with residents requesting a reliable referral that was used by others. If you know of a handyman resource that you want added in the Handyman Directory, please be sure to complete the Handyman Suggestion Form which can be obtained on our website or through our Social Services Caseworkers. Please feel free to contact Jennifer Busché at 630-483-5666 if you have any additional questions. Please note that all referrals given to the community are not endorsed or affiliated by Hanover Township. We thank you in advance for sharing your resources with us!

### **Upcoming Social Services Programs**

#### ***Alzheimer's Presentation***

**Thursday, November 17**

**10:30-11:30A.M.**

**November is National Alzheimer's Awareness Month!** In celebration, we will have Chris Garanett from the Alzheimer's Association conduct a special presentation on "Knowing the 10 Signs of Alzheimer's Disease." This presentation is open to all individuals. Please contact 630-483-5600 to register.

## ***Celebrating our Caregivers***

**Wednesday, November 23**

**10:30A.M.-12:00P.M.**

**November is National Caregiver Month!** Are you a caregiver who is feeling stressed, especially as the holidays are approaching? Join us for a relaxing morning and leave your care behind! Join Regina E. McCarthy, LCSW, Holistic Psychotherapist, Certified Heart~Centered Hypnotherapist, Reiki Master as she will provide deep breathing techniques, guided meditation and discuss how to prevent burnout. Special gifts will be provided by Arden Courts of Elk Grove Village. Please contact Amy Seul at 630-483-5682 for registration. **\*\*This is open to caregivers only\*\***

## **Support Groups at Hanover Township Senior Services**

### **Grief Support Group**

***Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month***

**10:30-11:30A.M.**

Need support during one of life's most difficult experiences? This group is facilitated by Kristin Weeks, LCSW from Monarch Hospice, so you do not have to go through the grieving process alone. This group is open for anyone who has experienced a loss or is grieving the loss of a friend or family member. Please contact 630-483-5600 to register.

### **Caring for Our Memory Support Group**

***Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month***

***\*\* December's meeting is cancelled due to the Holiday's\*\****

**10:30-11:30A.M.**

This group is open to individuals and their caregivers with mild memory loss. Each month we will have an informative educational topic and then open the discussion for questions and support. This group is facilitated by Amy Barnicle of Arden Courts & Jennifer Busché, Social Services Manager of Hanover Township Senior Services. Please contact 630-483-5600 to register.

## Caregiver Support Group

***Meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month***

***\*\*December's meeting is cancelled due to the Holiday's\*\****

***10:30A.M.-12:00P.M.***

This group provides an opportunity for caregivers to share challenges and receive support. This group is facilitated by Michaela Hoffman, Caregiver Specialist from Catholic Charities & Amy Seul, Social Services Specialist of Hanover Township Senior Services. Please contact Amy Seul at 630-483-5682 register.

## **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**

Funding for the LIHEAP Winter Program will be released on **Thursday, September 1, 2011. Individuals 60 + and/or disabled will be given first priority to apply for the program between September 1<sup>st</sup>-November 1<sup>st</sup>. Qualifying Individuals who are disconnected or have children under the age of 5 are eligible to apply starting Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. After November 1st, qualifying individuals of all ages will be able to file for the LIHEAP Program.**

This winter heating season, you will have the option to decide which energy program is best for you when applying for assistance. Listed below are the two programs to choose from:

- **LIHEAP Direct Vendor Payment:** Assists income-eligible households with energy services, in the form of a one-time benefit payment to Nicor and ComEd. The amount of the payment is determined by income, household size and fuel type.
- **LIHEAP Percent of Income Payment Plan:** Provides a monthly benefit payment to the utilities based on household utility usage and monthly income. Customers are required to pay a reduced amount on their utility bills each month to get the benefit payments. Participants who make their utility payments on time will receive credits towards their outstanding balance. Disconnected households not eligible.

The monthly income guidelines are as follows: \$1,361/month for an individual and \$1,839/couple. **Please contact Hanover Township Senior Services at 630-483-5600 and a volunteer will assist you in scheduling an appointment with your assigned Social Services Caseworker.**

**Prior to your appointment, please be sure to gather the following documents:**

- 1) Social Security Cards for **every member of the household**. (Medicare Cards will **only be accepted if the claim number ends with the letter “A” or “DI”**)
- 2) Most recent Nicor and ComEd bills.
- 3) Proof of monthly income for every member of the household (examples; 2011 Social Security Award Letter, current monthly pension statements, paycheck stubs, \*\*note: paycheck stubs must show gross amount and tax deductions).  
**\*\* If the entire household is not receiving any income, you will need to bring a letter signed by the individual who is providing you financial assistance. The letter must include the name, address, phone number and the amount of assistance given for the past 30 day period. If you have worked in the last 6 months, you will need to bring a letter from the unemployment office showing that you are ineligible for benefits.**