

COACH MESSENGER

JUNE 2021

CHESTER COUNCIL ON AGING
15 MIDDLEFIELD RD., CHESTER, MA 0101
413 354-7735
PEGGY GRAVELINE, DIRECTOR

This Newsletter is sponsored in part by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs

SAVE THE DATE

Meals/Grab & Go are now three days per week: (Tuesday, 6/1, Thursday, 6/3, Friday, 6/4, Monday, 6/7, Thursday, 6/10, Friday, 6/11, Monday, 6/14, Thursday, 6/17, Friday, 6/18, Monday, 6/21, Thursday, 6/24, Friday, 6/25, & Monday, 6/28. **NOTE: Due to the Corona Virus (COVID-19) Pandemic, meals will be on a pick-up basis only between 12-1 p.m. until further notice. There will be only one meal option during this period. Please call 354-7735 and leave a message 2 days in advance if you would like to order and pick up a meal.**

Mahjong cancelled until further notice.

Blood Pressure Screening cancelled until further notice.

Brown Bag Pick-Up – 3rd Friday of the Month (June 18th) – NOTE: If you have also ordered a lunch for that day, please plan on picking up your Brown Bag between 12-1 p.m.

Foot Clinic scheduled for Tuesday, June 8th & Wednesday, June 9th – by appointment only

FEMA FUNERAL ASSISTANCE BENEFIT PROGRAM

In April, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) began accepting applications for its Funeral Assistance Program. The funding for this program was included in the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations act of 2021, and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

The FEMA COVID-19 Funeral Assistance program allows for **funeral assistance for any COVID-19 related death after January 20, 2020**. The program will assist with expenses up to \$9,000 per funeral, up to a maximum of \$35,000 if applicants are applying for assistance related to more than one death.

Here are some key points about the program:

- **FEMA's call center can be reached Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time, toll free at 1-844-684-6333, and through TTY at 1-800-462-7585.** The call center can take calls in multiple languages.
- There is currently no deadline to apply for this benefit.
- To be eligible for FEMA's funeral assistance benefit, you must meet these conditions:
 - The death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
 - The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to COVID-19.
 - The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after January 20, 2020.
- There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien.
- The program is open to all who qualify, regardless of their income.

RESOURCE: We've created a webpage with more information about the program, links to FEMA guidance, fact sheets in multiple languages, and information about obtaining or amending a death certificate in Massachusetts: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-funeral-assistance>. **We are sharing this information to help get the information to residents across the Commonwealth who may benefit from it.**

As with other disaster relief programs for individuals, FEMA is not able to duplicate benefits received from burial or funeral insurance, financial assistance received from voluntary agencies, government agencies, or other sources. This is a program that will be completely managed at the Federal level by FEMA, however, the required documentation of a death certificate may involve government and other key stakeholders as the state and local level.

CHESTER COA – GRAB & GO LUNCHES FOR JUNE 2021

MONDAY or TUESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Tuesday Cheese Lasagna w/Marinara, Steamed Green Beans, Apple Juice, Wheat Dinner Roll, Vanilla Yogurt	3 Chicken A La King, Steamed Spinach, Whipped Potatoes, Cherry Muffin, Fresh Fruit	4 Chilled Ham & Pickle Salad, Lettuce, Tomato, and Cucumber, Carrot Raisin Salad, Whole Wheat Bread, Chilled Peaches
7 Potato Pollock Filet, Steamed Peas, Whipped Potatoes, Oatmeal Bread, Fruit Crunch Bar	10 Chilled Tuna Salad, Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Vinaigrette Potato Salad, Whole Wheat Roll, Mandarin Oranges	11 Veal Roulade w/Cream Sauce, Butternut Squash, Whipped Potatoes, Whole Wheat Bread, Vanilla Pudding w. Whipped Topping
14 Beefy American Chop Suey, Steamed Green Beans, Orange Juice, Homemade Corn Bread, Mixed Fruit	17 Yankee Pot Roast w/Gravy, Steamed Carrots, Whipped Potatoes, Orange Cranberry Muffin, Fresh Fruit	18 Baked Pollock w/Florentine Sauce, Roasted Summer Squash, Red Bliss Potatoes, Rye Bread, Birthday Cake
21 Egg Salad Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Pasta Salad, Wheat Dinner Roll, Orange Gelatin w/Whipped Topping	24 Savory Roasted Turkey w/Gravy, Butternut Squash, Whipped Potato, Whole Wheat Bread, Tapioca Pudding w/Whipped Topping	25 Stroganoff Meatballs, Steamed Peas, Gemelli Noodles, Whole Wheat Roll, Fresh Fruit
28 Chilled Chicken Salad Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Vinaigrette Potato Salad, Whole Wheat Roll, Fresh Fruit		

Suggested donation is \$3.00/meal, if it is within your means, but no one will be refused a meal if it is not.

SHINE Counseling – Contact Sue Kucharshi at the Senior Outreach Center (SHCOAC) 3 Maple Street, Chester, MA (413) 354-6540 to schedule an appointment. See what other senior benefits you may also be eligible for.