

## EASTERN AREA AGENCY ON AGING

240 State Street, Brewer, ME 04412 | Tel: 207-941-2865 | Fax: 207-941-2869 | eaaa.org

Town of Steuben 294 US Route 1 Steuben, ME 04680

## Greetings,

Thank you for your past support of Eastern Area Agency on Aging (EAAA)! Our mission is to provide older adults, caregivers, and adults with disabilities in Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis, and Washington counties with the information and access to resources they need to be healthy, engaged, and supported in their communities. When we review the past fiscal year, we believe we lived up to that mission, as evidenced by the numbers below:

- Our Resource Specialists assisted 13,571 callers seeking information, assistance, and resources.
- Our Medicare Counselors conducted 1,816 appointments for community members with health insurance education and counseling, resulting in \$1,580,515.87 in savings.
- Our Nutrition Department delivered 215,684 meals to homebound adults and served 4,454 congregate dining meals.
- Our 498 volunteers provided 24,679 hours of service across our four counties.

We appreciate and value the ongoing support of towns and cities in helping us reach these numbers. As a nonprofit serving 13,000 square miles, we could not provide this level of service without your generous contribution.

As you put together your yearly budget, we understand the delicate balance you have to strike to invest in needed services while maintaining fiscal responsibility. In making these important budget decisions, please know that funding from municipalities like yours is critical to ensure we can care for vulnerable older and disabled adults. Post-pandemic, we have seen increased need for our services as our population continues to age and inflation strains pocketbooks, especially for older adults on a fixed income. The need for meal support in particular has doubled since 2019, and we currently have a Meals on Wheels waitlist of more than 200 neighbors across our service area.

In their own words, our community members tell us how critical our services are. For example, local resident Marie shared, "Just to have food in the house, and be able to eat a meal that has meat, is a gift. Most of the time, what I eat, I get from Meals on Wheels. I appreciate Eastern Area Agency on Aging because they have helped me so much. ... I now have the info on community organizations if I need anything. Before I learned about the agency, I wouldn't have been able to survive. Now I know I can get the help that I need."

We humbly ask for your consideration in funding EAAA to the fullest extent possible. As a helpful reminder, below we have listed your financial support last year and our request for this year:

- Your town's allocation to EAAA last year: \$3,600
- Amount requested for 2025: \$4,000

Thank you for considering this request. Collaboration and partnership are integral to helping community members like Marie, and we could not do this work without you! Together, we can rise to meet challenges and care for our residents. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or if you require more detailed municipality data.

Sincerely,

Christopher Hill

Communications and Development Director