Clinton County Elderly Services Program is a community partnership.

Clinton County Commissioners
Kerry R. Steed, Brenda Woods, Mike McCarty

Clinton County Elderly Services Program Advisory Council
Kathi Spirk, Chair; Larry Roddy, Vice Chair; Deacon Bob Baker; Charles Breckel; Sue Caplinger; Timothy Hawk; Trevor Shoemaker; Carol Weber; Duane Weyand

Council on Aging
2333 Rombach Ave., Wilmington, OH 45177, (937) 449-0642, www.help4seniors.org

Clinton County ESP clients are caught in the middle: with income too high to qualify for Medicaid, but too low to pay for private in-home care. They need help with basic activities like personal care and transportation. Between raising a family and going to work, family members help as much as they can and ESP fills in gaps in care so our older neighbors and loved ones can continue to live independently in their homes and communities. ESP is a program that benefits our entire community.

FastTrack Home helps seniors and families when it is needed most
COA’s innovative FastTrack Home Program helps older adults at a critical time – as they recover at home after a hospital or nursing home stay. Utilizing the existing ESP provider network and services, FastTrack Home has services ready when an older adult is discharged home. This is key because subsequent illnesses, injuries and readmissions are most likely to occur in the first 30 days an older adult returns home. Most FastTrack Home clients need care for a short period of time. As a result, ESP can serve more people with available tax dollars at a lower cost. FastTrack Home also benefits family caregivers who may have other responsibilities, such as work and families, while their loved one recovers at home. In 2019, 74 older adults received care through FastTrack Home.

New service contracts yield savings in ESP
As ESP’s administrator, COA contracts with area organizations to deliver services to clients. Contracts are awarded through a competitive bidding process. In 2019, COA issued Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for five services, including home medical equipment. The RFP process is a time for COA, ESP advisory councils and providers to collaborate on changes that positively impact cost, quality and service levels. For example, when new contracts were awarded for the home medical equipment service, fixed competitive prices were established for most equipment and processes were put in place to ensure insurance plans are billed first, when appropriate. Providers were also required to deliver all equipment to the client, provide education and installation/assembly. The changes resulted in more than $13,600 in savings to ESP.

Program changes, new providers improve access to services
The national shortage of home health aides is disproportionately impacting rural areas, including Clinton County, limiting ESP’s ability to provide critical in-home services. COA has sought ways to improve service delivery and options in Clinton County – first in 2018 by allowing clients to hire their own caregivers, and then in 2019 by recruiting and increasing the number of home care agencies in ESP’s provider network. As a result, ESP was able to provide an additional 78 clients with essential services such as housekeeping, personal care and respite.

Electronic monitoring systems – more than a lifeline
ESP’s electronic monitoring systems (EMS) service makes a real difference for clients like Donald, who has no support nearby. More than the traditional “lifeline” device, EMS is a flexible service that meets a variety of needs – from emergency response and medication management to remote caregiving and wandering risks. In addition to traditional lifeline pendants, EMS includes medication dispensers, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, Alzheimer’s boundary alarms and GPS tracking devices, among others. 62 percent of ESP clients have EMS.

"You feel pretty good to have this on. I’m here by myself a lot, but if something happens, you know you’ve got somebody close by."
– Donald, Clinton County ESP client, about his EMS

FastTrack Home helps seniors and families when it is needed most
COA’s innovative FastTrack Home Program helps older adults at a critical time – as they recover at home after a hospital or nursing home stay. Utilizing the existing ESP provider network and services, FastTrack Home has services ready when an older adult is discharged home. This is key because subsequent illnesses, injuries and readmissions are most likely to occur in the first 30 days an older adult returns home. Most FastTrack Home clients need care for a short period of time. As a result, ESP can serve more people with available tax dollars at a lower cost. FastTrack Home also benefits family caregivers who may have other responsibilities, such as work and families, while their loved one recovers at home. In 2019, 74 older adults received care through FastTrack Home.

CLINTON COUNTY ESP CLIENT

STATS 2019

Clinton County ESP clients are caught in the middle: with income too high to qualify for Medicaid, but too low to pay for private in-home care. They need help with basic activities like personal care and transportation. Between raising a family and going to work, family members help as much as they can and ESP fills in gaps in care so our older neighbors and loved ones can continue to live independently in their homes and communities. ESP is a program that benefits our entire community.

663 CLIENTS SERVED

$1,919 MONTHLY MEAN INCOME

71% FEMALE

29% MALE

$419/MO OUT-OF-POCKET MEDICAL EXPENSES

609 DAYS AVERAGE TIME ON PROGRAM

55% LIVE ALONE

663 CLIENTS SERVED

88% AGE 70+

$1,919 MONTHLY MEAN INCOME

71% FEMALE

29% MALE

$419/MO OUT-OF-POCKET MEDICAL EXPENSES

609 DAYS AVERAGE TIME ON PROGRAM

55% LIVE ALONE

88% AGE 70+

CLINTON COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT

2019

E L D E R L Y S E R V I C E S

P R O G R A M

COA's innovative FastTrack Home Program helps older adults at a critical time - as they recover at home after a hospital or nursing home stay. Utilizing the existing ESP provider network and services, FastTrack Home has services ready when an older adult is discharged home. This is key because subsequent illnesses, injuries and readmissions are most likely to occur in the first 30 days an older adult returns home. Most FastTrack Home clients need care for a short period of time. As a result, ESP can serve more people with available tax dollars at a lower cost. FastTrack Home also benefits family caregivers who may have other responsibilities, such as work and families, while their loved one recovers at home. In 2019, 74 older adults received care through FastTrack Home.
As the program’s operator, COA provides: eligibility assessments; care management; program development; provider management; data analytics; financial services; information technology; quality improvement and community engagement. As a state-designated Area Agency on Aging, COA provided these additional services to county residents in 2019:

- Requests for information and referral: 50,329
- Home and community-based services through Medicaid-funded programs: 450 residents
- Support to transition from one care setting to another: 94 clients

Title III funding allocated to local organizations for congregate meals, legal assistance, wellness education, caregiver support, transportation and other supportive services.

Paul and Carolyn

ALS – or Lou Gerhig’s Disease – is a progressive disease that slowly robs the brain of its ability to control the body. Ever since Carolyn was diagnosed in 2010, she and her husband, Paul, have been preparing for an uncertain future. They managed on their own. So much so, that Debbie saved my sister’s life.”

Sue

Sue and her ESP home health aide, Debbie, have always had a good relationship. But little did Sue and her family know that it would turn out to be a lifesaving relationship. Linda, Sue’s sister, recalls a time when quick-thinking on Debbie’s part saved her sister’s life. “I don’t live with Sue, so I can’t always be there. Debbie is certainly someone to be counted on. So much so, that Debbie saved my sister’s life.”

I’m OK here. I like it. I’ve got all kinds of help – Meals on Wheels, housekeeping – and real good neighbors.”

– Gladys, Clinton County ESP Client

### Expenses & Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Federal and State (via Council on Aging) $204,625</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Client Donations $199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Client Co-payment $40,582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clinton County Elderly Services Levy $1,365,357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL REVENUE $1,610,857</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>SERVICE*</th>
<th>CLIENTS SERVED</th>
<th>SERVICE UNITS</th>
<th>COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Care Management</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>4,669 months</td>
<td>$248,631</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Monitoring System</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>4,130 months</td>
<td>$83,040</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homemaker</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>18,094 hours</td>
<td>$532,702</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home-Delivered Meals</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>31,027 meals</td>
<td>$520,712</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FastTrack Home Care Management</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>78 months</td>
<td>$59,210</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Care</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>2,266 hours</td>
<td>$63,836</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Medical Equipment</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>63 items</td>
<td>$10,138</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Home Repairs</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>46 repairs</td>
<td>$44,240</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer-Directed Care*</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$110,474</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Day Services</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1,332 days</td>
<td>$67,560</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Transportation</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>680 one-way trips</td>
<td>$16,141</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respite</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>553 hours</td>
<td>$8,456</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Services***</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4 jobs</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intake and Assessment</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$1,779</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$101,857</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>$1,610,857</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Services listed in order of clients served.
**Due to coding changes that occurred when COA launched a new care management platform, we are unable to report units delivered for these services in 2019.
***Test control, major housekeeping and waste removal.

### How tax dollars are spent

ESP would not exist without the generous support of voters. A county tax levy in place since 1998 provides 85 percent of ESP’s funding. The most recent tax levy was approved by 76 percent of voters in 2016. The 1.5-mill levy costs property owners $37.67 per $100 of property valuation annually. COA’s goal is to ensure the highest quality services at the lowest cost in order to serve as many people as possible with the tax dollars available.

As the Area Agency on Aging for southwestern Ohio, including Clinton County, COA leverages state and federal funding to cover 13 percent of ESP expenses. Additional funding comes from voluntary client donations and client co-payments (23 percent of clients make a co-payment based on their income).