

Clinton County

Elderly
Services
Program
Esp

2007
Annual Report





“We’ve had some health problems, but we’re both feeling pretty well now. I can still get the laundry together and between us we get the cooking done. We exercise together to keep our strength up. Our son and daughter-in-law do the shopping when Orris can’t get out. We’re getting a homemaker three hours a week and we’re getting (transportation) to the doctor, which we really appreciate.”

~ Elsie Fields, Clinton County Elderly Services Program client

Assistance

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Clinton County Citizens for Elderly Services, Inc., it is my pleasure to present our Annual Report for 2007.

It was an important year for us and I am happy to say that it ended on a high note. In November, Clinton County voters gave a resounding “Yes” to a 1.5-mill senior services tax levy. The levy passed by nearly 70 percent of the vote. After three years of being stalled because of insufficient funds, the program can now do much more to help the disabled seniors of our communities.



John Hosler

By working hard, we expect to eliminate the program’s waiting list within the first half of 2008. That’s great news. No one likes to see people in need have to wait to get help. Our county clearly wants to provide its older citizens with a low-cost alternative to nursing home care so they can remain independent within their own homes for as long as possible.

This is not only compassionate; it’s cost effective. Our program can provide in-home services for less than \$220 per client, per month, on average. These services may delay or prevent nursing home placement, where the Medicaid expenditure may be as much as \$4,800 a month.

Inside our annual report, you will read about the people we help and see photos of some highlights of our year. These included a visit from Ohio Governor Ted Strickland and a forum on aging issues with the Advisory Council for the Ohio Department of Aging.

In 2007, we also welcomed four new members to our board. They come from a variety of backgrounds, including business and social services. It’s heartening to know that community leaders are interested in our program and want to be involved.

The Elderly Services Program is needed today more than ever. As our population ages, more people have disabilities and need daily help. It’s important for Clinton County residents of all income levels to be able to choose from a variety of long-term care options, based on their needs. These include in-home and community-based services such as those we provide, as well as different types of housing, retirement communities, and nursing homes.

We thank the people of Clinton County for supporting the Elderly Services Program. We take our responsibility seriously and pledge to continue to provide high quality care with careful stewardship of the community’s tax dollars.

John Hosler, President
Clinton County Citizens for Elderly Services, Inc.

Clinton County Elderly Services Program
Helping older adults maintain their independence in Clinton County

(937) 382-7170
(937) 382-1848

The Clinton County Elderly Services Program

The Clinton County Elderly Services Program (CCESP) helps older adults remain independent within the familiar surroundings of their own homes for as long as possible.

Nursing homes are often necessary, but most people do not want to go there before their time. With the help of services such as home-delivered meals and housekeeping, many older adults can delay or prevent nursing home placements.

Of all the options for long-term care, services in the home are also the least expensive. It costs about \$217 a month per client in Clinton County's Elderly Services Program, compared with \$4,800 a month for nursing home care.

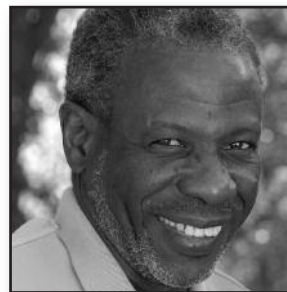
Clinton County's Elderly Services Program is supported by a local tax levy, funds from Title III of the Older Americans Act, state funding, and co-payments from participants who are able to contribute to the cost of their care. Donations are also accepted for the home-delivered meals program.

Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio (COA) administers the program under a contract with Clinton County Board of Commissioners. COA processes all billing, and provides program planning, reporting, auditing, contracting services, technical assistance, and community engagement activities. Agencies contract with COA to provide in-home services such as housekeeping help and personal care (bathing and grooming).

Policy and oversight are provided by Clinton County Citizens for Elderly Services, Inc., a volunteer community board.

Clinton County Community Action Program, Inc. is responsible for assessing and enrolling clients as well as case management.

It costs \$217 a month per client in Clinton County's Elderly Services Program, compared to \$4,800 a month for nursing home care.



Clinton County Elderly Services Program is provided by:

Clinton County Commissioners



Left to right, Clinton County Commissioners are: Mike Curry, Randy Riley and Dave Stewart.

Clinton County Citizens for Elderly Services, Inc. (2007)

John Hosler: *President*

Gene Breckel

Dennis Humphreys

Donna Vandervort

Joan Burge

Dean Knapp

Carol Weber

Tim Hawk

Larry Roddy

Eli Yovich



Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio | *Answers on Aging*

175 Tri County Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246

(513) 721-1025 ~ www.help4seniors.org

Intake and case management services:



717 North Nelson Avenue

Wilmington, Ohio 45177

(937) 382-7170

Profile of the typical ESP client



Because of age and disability, our clients aren't out and about as they once were. But in their younger days, they were teachers, office workers, homemakers, nurses, civic volunteers – in short, the backbone of our community. Today, the Elderly Services Program helps them preserve their independence and dignity.

Our typical client is a woman in her 80s. She lives alone on a modest income of about \$1,372 a month, from which she pays nearly \$274 in out-of-pocket medical costs. Her income is too high to qualify for Medicaid, the government insurance program for the poor, but too low to allow her to hire in-home help.

Because of age-related health problems, she can no longer do several activities without help, like shop for groceries or clean her house. She is prone to falling and moves about with difficulty.

From ESP, she receives an emergency response device, a daily home-delivered meal, and several hours a week of housekeeping help. ESP also added grab bars to her bathroom. With the help of her family and these basic services, she avoids premature placement in a nursing home.

CLIENT STORY - DOROTHY HOOK

Shortly after Clinton County Community Action Program built much-needed senior housing in Wilmington, Dorothy Hook and her husband, Leslie, moved in. They had previously farmed for 16 years and later moved to town, but his health was failing.

With the help of the Clinton County Elderly Services Program, Dorothy took care of her husband for four years, just as she had cared for her mother, who was “helpless as a baby,” for 17 years.

Then Dorothy herself needed help when, in December 2004, she fell and broke her hip. “Leslie had to be in a nursing home while I was in the hospital,” she said. “It was a very hard time. He went downhill after that and died in February 2005. We were married over 60 years.”

Today, Dorothy, 88, lives alone in the home she and her husband once shared. It's filled with photos of her grandchildren and great grandchildren. An aide from ESP provides homemaking and personal care. ESP medical transportation takes Dorothy to the doctor and a bus from her church picks her up for Sunday services.

“I do my own laundry and cooking,” Dorothy said. “I don't want to go to a nursing home. I do fine here.”



*Dorothy Hook and Clinton County
ESP case manager Donnette Feters*

Gov. Strickland and Ohio Department of Aging officials visit Clinton County



Betty and Eli Yovich with Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland. Eli Yovich serves on Clinton County Citizens for Elderly Services, Inc.

Clinton County seniors gathered twice during the summer of 2007 to discuss important senior services issues with state officials.

A large crowd met Gov. Ted Strickland at the Wilmington Savings Bank Clinton County Senior Center to hear and ask questions about his budget, including his plan (now adopted) to remove the income limits from the Homestead Tax Exemption in order to help more seniors hang onto their homes.

In July, the Ohio Advisory Council on Aging and the Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio presented a forum on aging issues. Panelists included Ohio Sen. John Carey; Ohio Rep. David Daniels; Barbara Riley, director of the Ohio Department of Aging; and Suzanne Burke, CEO of Council on Aging.

Among other things, the audience learned that Clinton County's population of adults ages 60 and older is expected to increase by 74 percent over the next 12 years.

Levy wins big victory

On November 6, nearly 70 percent of Clinton County voters approved a 1.5-mill tax levy to fund the Elderly Services Program. The new levy – a .5-mill increase – raises about \$1.3 million a year to help older adults stay safe and independent in their homes.

First approved in 1998, the levy program has helped more than 1,200 Clinton County seniors since it began. The increase will allow the program to serve more people. At the end of 2007, nearly 100 were on a waiting list for services.

CLIENT STORY - ELSIE AND ORRIS FIELDS

Elsie and Orris Fields, of Wilmington, have been clients of the Clinton County Elderly Services Program since 2003. Elsie was a school secretary for 27 years and Orris drove a school bus for 32 years – 135 miles a day. They also farmed and ran an insurance business. With help from the program, family, neighbors, and activities at the Wilmington Savings Bank Clinton County Senior Center, they have been able to remain together in their home, despite health problems.



“When I was recovering from surgery, I got to the point of cabin fever in the middle of summer,” Elsie laughed. “Orris had some flare ups and he couldn’t drive for a while. That sure clipped our wings. But he’s perking along real good now.”

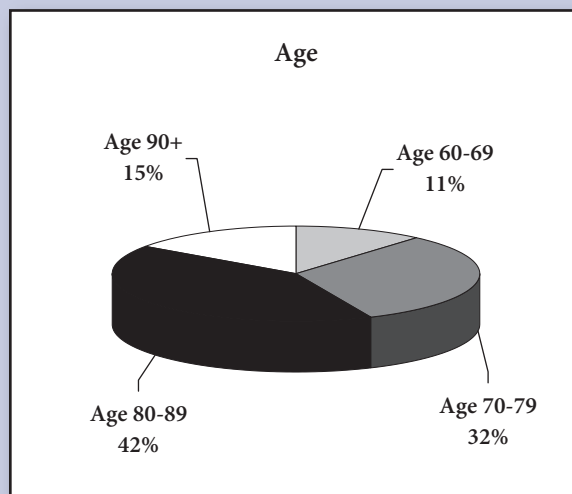
Clinton County ESP Client Profile

Our typical client is an 81-year-old disabled woman, living alone on a modest income. These pages show the detail of our client demographics. **Total clients served in 2007: 409.** Please note that pie charts may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

Age

The average age of the Clinton County ESP client in 2007 was 81 years old. Eligibility for the program starts at age 65, but clients may receive home-delivered meals beginning at age 60, if they are disabled. Some services are also available to clients under age 65 who have dementia, including Alzheimer's disease.

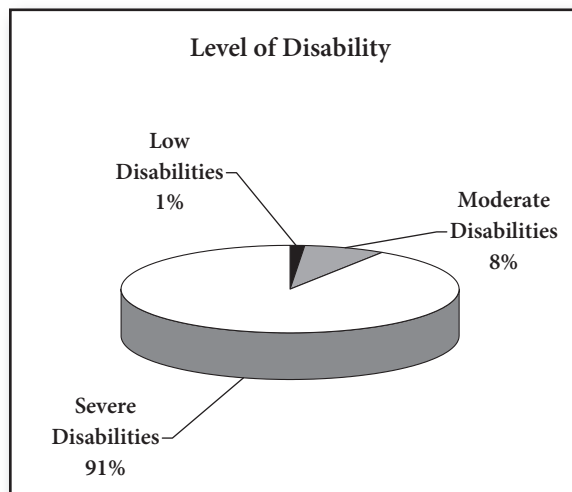
Age 60 – 69	47
Age 70 – 79	130
Age 80 – 89	170
Age 90+	62



Level of Disability

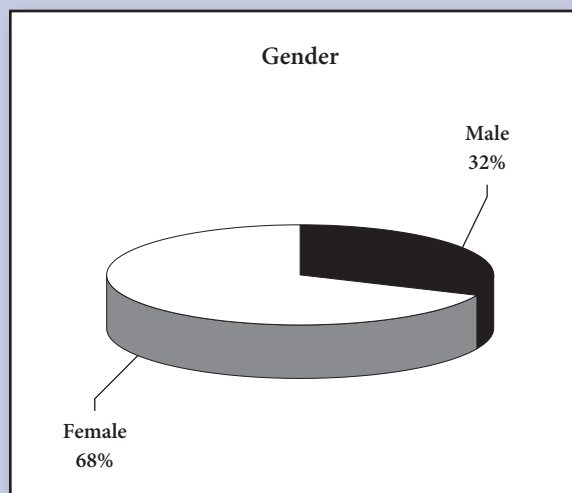
After age, the second qualifying factor for ESP is disability. All clients need the program in order to continue functioning independently in their homes. The vast majority of ESP clients have a severe level of disability. Severe disability means impairment in two or more daily living activities such as bathing or preparing food.

Low Disability	6
Moderate Disability	31
Severe Disability	372



Gender

Male	129
Female	280

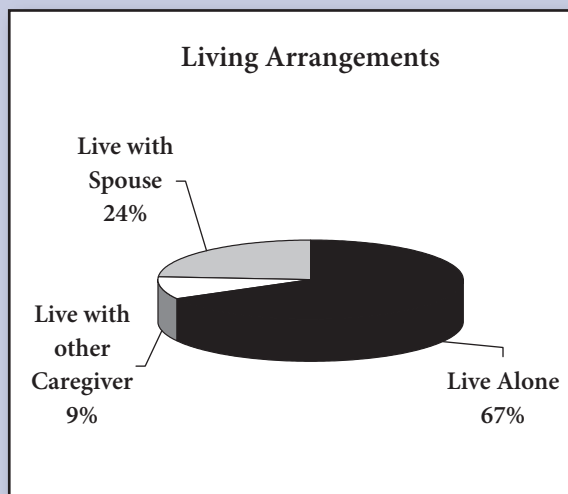


Clinton County ESP Client Profile

Living Arrangements

ESP is intended to supplement the care that is provided by family and friends. Many clients, however, do not have anyone who helps them regularly other than through the program.

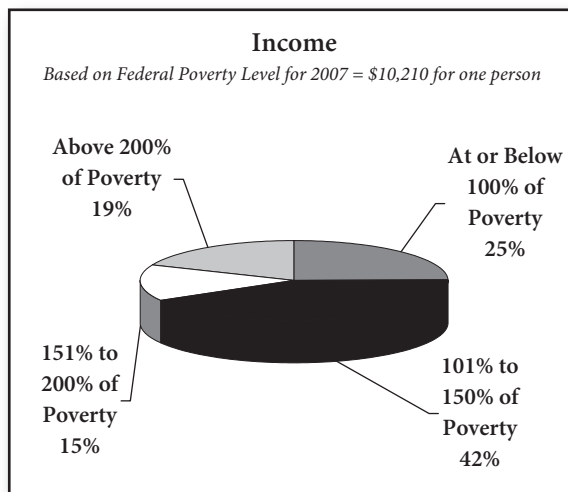
Live with spouse	97
Live with other caregiver	38
Live alone	274



Income and Expenses

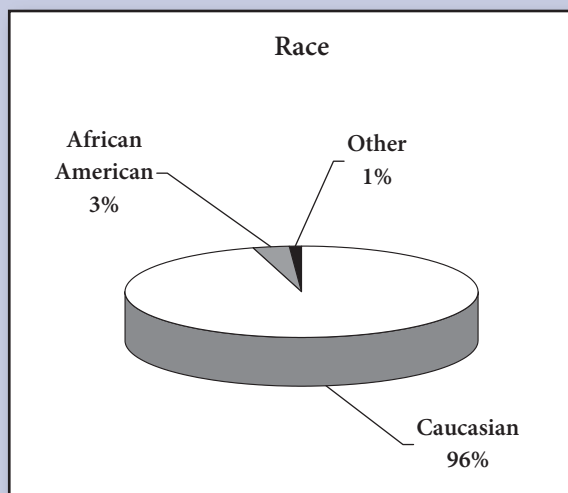
According to federal standards, most ESP clients live in poverty or near-poverty. The 2007 Federal Poverty Level for one person was \$10,210 a year. Based on a sliding scale formula that takes income and health care expenses into account, some clients are required to make a monthly co-payment.

Clients with annual incomes at or below \$20,420:	82%
Clients with annual incomes above \$20,420:	19%
Average monthly income of clients:	\$1,372
Average monthly out-of-pocket medical costs per client:	\$274
Clients with a co-payment:	11%



Race

Caucasian	391
African-American	14
Other	4



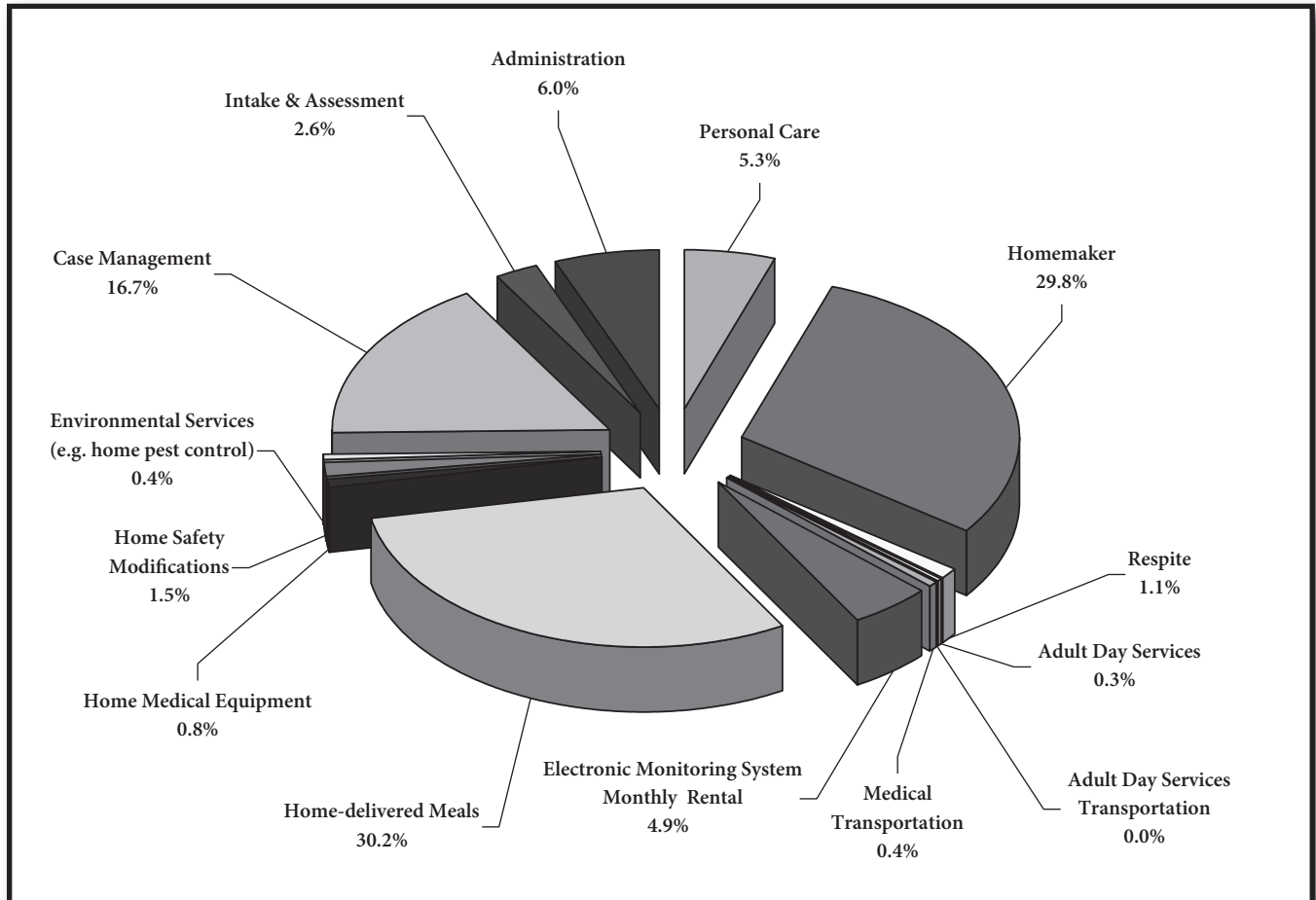
CLINTON COUNTY ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM: How Funds Are Used

Without the support of Clinton County taxpayers, the Elderly Services Program would not exist. Local tax dollars cover nearly 90 percent of the total cost of the program. The remaining funding comes from federal, state and local grant sources, client donations (requested, but not required, for home-delivered meals), and client co-payments (11 percent of clients qualify for a co-payment, based on their income and medical expenses).

The table on page 9 shows the number of clients who received each type of service, the number of service units they received (hours, trips, etc.) and the total cost for those units. The pie chart below shows that our three greatest expenses are for homemaking, home-delivered meals, and case management. ESP is not a one-size-fits-all program. It is flexible in order to provide the right services, in the right amounts, at the right times.

Provider agencies (see list, page 12) deliver these services under contract with Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio (COA). COA handles contracting, program policy development, financial administration, information technology, quality improvement, communications, data collection and analysis. As southwestern Ohio's Area Agency on Aging, COA is charged with identifying, planning, facilitating and monitoring services to improve quality of life for older adults, including those living in Clinton County.

Clinton County Elderly Services Program Expenses
January 1 - December 31, 2007



CLINTON COUNTY ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM: How Funds Are Used

EXPENSES			
<i>Service</i>	<i>Clients Served</i>	<i>Service Units</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Home-delivered Meals	229	41,305 meals	\$272,197
Electronic Monitoring System Monthly Rental	213	2,022 months of rentals	\$43,718
Homemaker	152	9,895 hours	\$268,131
Personal Care	31	1,846 hours	\$47,357
Home Medical Equipment	28	31 equipment items	\$7,381
Medical Transportation	13	124 trips	\$3,675
Home Safety Modification	11	13 repairs	\$13,906
Adult Day Services	4	51 days	\$2,346
Environmental Services	4	35 jobs	\$3,415
Adult Day Services Transportation	3	68 miles	\$119
Respite	3	386 hours	\$10,011
Case Management	409	N/A	\$150,295
Intake and Assessment	N/A	N/A	\$23,659
Administration	N/A	N/A	\$53,974
TOTAL EXPENSES	409		\$900,184
REVENUE			
Federal, State and Other			\$92,211
Client Donation			\$8,182
Client Co-Payment			\$8,980
Clinton County Elderly Services Levy			\$790,811
TOTAL REVENUE			\$900,184



CLINTON COUNTY ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM: Where Clients Live

<i>Jurisdiction</i>	<i>Number Served</i>	<i>Jurisdiction</i>	<i>Number Served</i>
Adams Township	10	Richland Township	38
Chester Township	11	Union Township*	189
Clark Township	6	Vernon Township	20
Green Township	28	Washington Township	11
Jefferson Township	11	Wayne Township	3
Liberty Township	4	Wilson Township	0
Marion Township	58	Other	20
Total Clients Served: 409			

*Union Township includes the City of Wilmington.

State of Aging in Clinton County

Over 16 percent of Clinton County's residents are age 60 or older. This places Clinton County 69th among Ohio's 88 counties in the proportion of its residents who are age 60+. **The Scripps Center for Gerontology projects that Clinton County's older adult population will increase by 74 percent within the next 12 years.**

Most older adults will be relatively healthy well into their 70s and many, well beyond that. But the "oldest old" - those age 85 and older - are the fastest growing portion of the 60+ population. They are more likely to be disabled and need care. **Scripps projects that by 2020, more than 2,587 Clinton County residents will be moderately to severely disabled.**

The most cost-effective place for them to receive long-term care is within their own homes. Medicare covers only short-term rehabilitation in the home for up to 90 days. Some will be able to pay for private care; some will get all the help they need from their families; some will qualify for PASSPORT (the in-home care program for the poor); and some will be caught in the middle. It's the middle group that is served by Clinton County Elderly Services Program.

This is a large group. Most are people with modest resources. Many of the long-lived will deplete their assets as they age. **According to Scripps, more than 36 percent of Clinton, Fayette and Highland county residents age 60+ live below or near the federal poverty level (2007 - \$10,210/year for one person).**

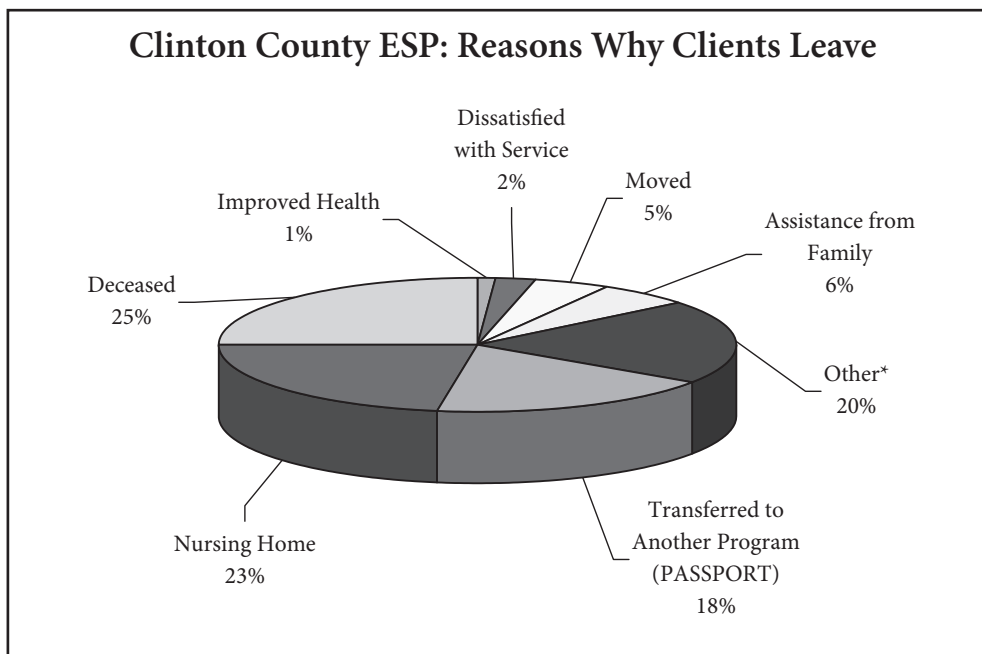


While age and disability are increasing, we're seeing a decrease in the number of potential caregivers. The ratio of potential caregivers to older adults has declined from 21 to 1 in 1970 to a projected 10 to 1 by 2010. Family and friends will continue to provide most long-term care, but families today are smaller, more spread out, and often unable to provide the level of care needed by their aging loved ones.

Clinton County is fortunate to have a program that goes a long way toward meeting the community need to help people of modest means with compassionate, cost-effective home-based care.

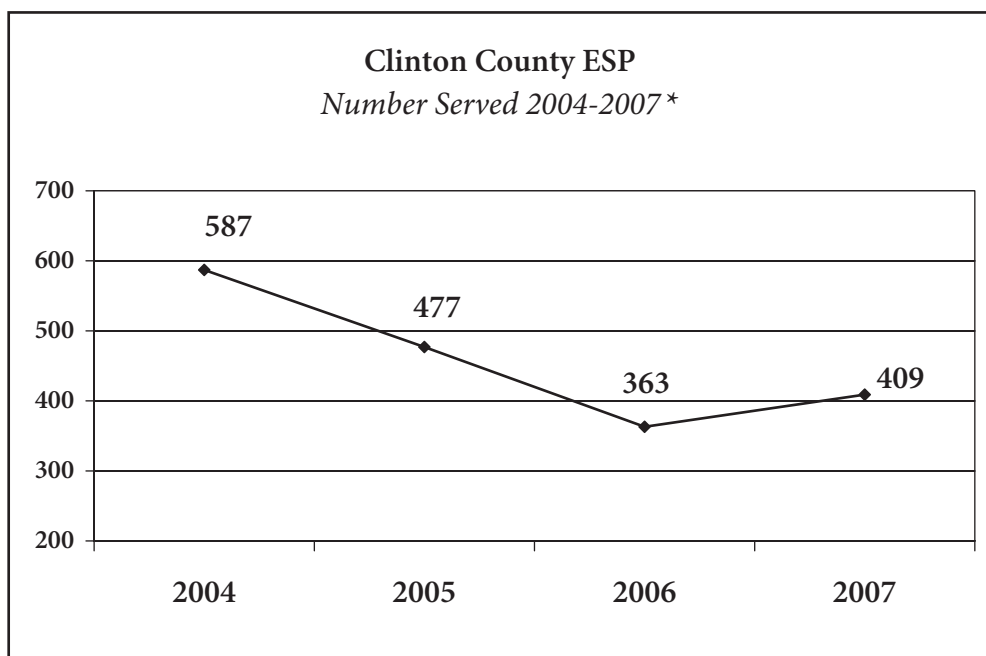
CLINTON COUNTY ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM: Reasons Why Clients Leave

We are proud of the fact that only a tiny fraction of ESP clients leave because they are dissatisfied with the program. A fourth remain on the program until they die. About 42 percent leave the program because their health changes - either improving or deteriorating and requiring more intensive services, perhaps through PASSPORT or in a nursing facility. The average length-of-stay on the Clinton County ESP is 39 months.



*"Other" may include reasons such as change in financial status.

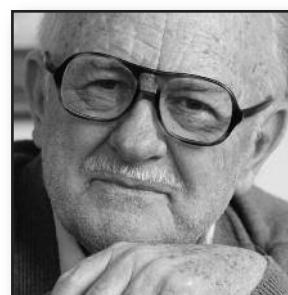
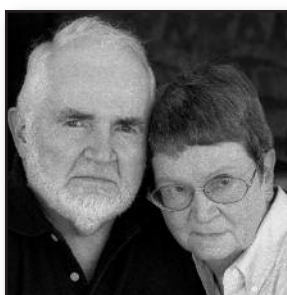
CLINTON COUNTY ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM: Number of Clients Served

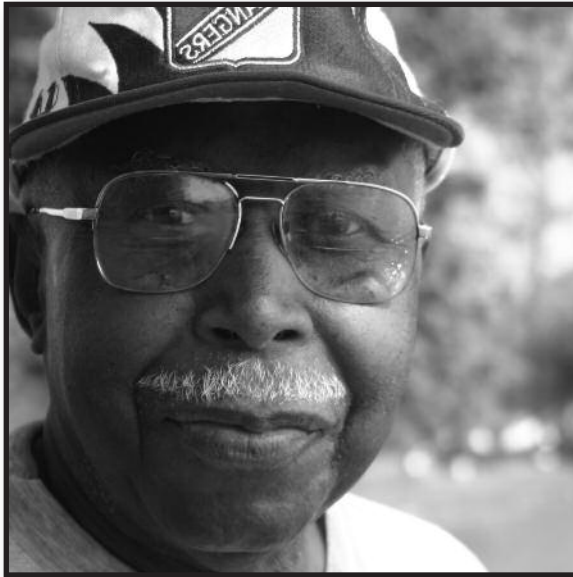


**Due to insufficient funding, the Elderly Services Program has had a waiting list since 2005. At the end of 2007, there were approximately 100 people waiting for services. In 2007, through managed enrollment, we re-opened the home-delivered meals portion of the program, which allowed for slight growth. With the passage of the levy in November 2007, the program will be able to serve more seniors in Clinton County with little or no waiting.*

CLINTON COUNTY ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM: Provider List

Acare Home Health	Meda-Care Transportation, Inc.
Advanced Medical Equipment	MedAdapt LTD
Algo Termite & Pest Control	Medicall, Inc.
All Gone Termite & Pest Control	Mercy Lifeline
American Ramp Systems	Milts Termite & Pest Control
Bathblest Renovations	Mullaney's Pharmacy & Home Health Care
Bernens Medical	Personal Touch Home Care of Ohio, Inc.
Black Stone healthcare	Response Ability Systems
CCCAP	Responselink of Cincinnati
Charter Home Services	Rural Metro Ambulance
Clinton County Adult Day Center, Inc.	S.M.S., Inc.
Deaconess Lifeline	Safeway Safety Step, Inc.
Edenvue	Senior Independence
Emerson Heating & Cooling Company	Senior Independence Adult Day Services
First Medical Staffing of Ohio	SP Contracting
Guardian Medical Monitoring, Inc.	Thermal-Shield, Inc.
Helping Hands Healthcare	Tri State Maintenance
Home Care Network, Inc.	U.T.S. Universal Transportation Systems
Home First Non-Medical	V & N Services, Inc.
Homeowner Solutions	VRI
International Quality Health Care Corp.	





Answers on Aging



Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio
175 Tri County Parkway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45246
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(800) 252-0155
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