

# Meet Your Commission on Aging Staff

The services and programs of the Commission on Aging require the helping hands of many people. Chief among them is a wonderful staff of folks who care about the elderly.

**Home Delivered Meal Drivers** are the folks responsible for delivering meals to homebound seniors throughout Ionia County. In addition to delivering meals, drivers are able quickly to assess the general well-being and surroundings of a homebound senior. If needed, a driver can make referrals for additional assistance.

Ronald Dankenbring  
Daryl Hillabrandt  
Diane Hillabrandt  
Allison Knoop

Dan McGraw  
Jenny Root  
William Shug

Anthony Webster  
Deb Wittenbach  
Joel Wittenbach



**Medical Transporters** provide transportation to seniors who need a ride to a medical appointment. Drivers ensure that seniors are delivered safely and in a timely fashion to medical services.

Conrad  
Campbell  
Gerald

Denhouten  
John Geisen  
Glen Harley

Phyllis Luttrell  
Daniel Reed



**Wayne Conley, Transportation Director**, is responsible for the transport services of both home delivered meals and medical transportation. Wayne ensures that vehicles are maintained and transportation services are handled efficiently.



**Food Service staff** are stationed at the Ionia Commission on Aging and are responsible for the preparation of meals for both the Friendship Dinner sites and the home delivered meals.

Susan Brauer  
Lynne Burns  
Connie Cerny-  
Nash  
Robin Yeasley,

Aide  
Caitlyn  
Hendrickson,  
Nutrition Director

**Site Hostesses** are stationed at each of the Friendship Dinner sites to greet senior guests, provide help with seating, serving and cleaning up after the meal. Site hostesses decorate their sites seasonally and usually have some interesting activity going on after the meal as well.

Barbara Green  
Janice Lackey  
Lea Lemke

Janice Manning  
Pamela Mason

Doris Richardson  
Judy Steele



**In-home Aides** perform routine tasks for seniors who need help. Homemaker aides perform household chores like floor care, cleaning bathroom, laundry, dishwashing, and other minor household tasks. Home health aides provide weekly personal care such as bathing, nail care, hair and skin care and other minor personal services. Respite aides relieve the primary care giver on a weekly basis for up to four hours.

Ellen Brewster	Shirley Furman	Carol Jarrett	Priscilla Nicewander
Sue Denhouten	Marie Gary	Sharon Jones	Shirley Quick
Brenda Dickerson	Barbara Green	Helen Janis Krebs	Deana Rodel
Ginger Emelander	Gayla Haines	Carol Lamphere	Betty Ross
Patsy Fisher	Bev Hicks	Theresa Mc Carn	Sandra Stout
Marcela Fracker	Diane Hilton		

A registered nurse [RN], **In-home Coordinator**, is responsible for scheduling and overseeing in-home aide workers. She assesses new clients along with the caseworkers, re-evaluates on-gong clients, meets with family and provides on-going support for client and family. Each quarter she is in contact with the senior client’s primary care physician to ensure that health needs are being met.

**Caseworkers, Debra Steele and Craig Stevens**, are assigned to each of Commission on Aging’s clients. They evaluate a senior’s service needs, serve as MMAP counselors, assist seniors with completing forms and other paperwork.



**Wellness Technician, Erin Coltvet**, conducts the various evidenced based fitness programs in several sites in Ionia County.



**Ron Thelen, Home Repair/Maintenance**, serves seniors throughout Ionia County who need minor indoor and outdoor

home maintenance.



**Lynette Seiler, COA’s administrator**, keeps all the programs of the Commission on Aging functioning well while keeping in line with a restricted budget. The administrator coordinates fund raising events, serves as liaison with various other country officials, and keeps the Commission on Aging Board apprised of the status and programs for seniors.

Besides the staff, many volunteers assist with the work of the COA. Without volunteers the services provided by the Commission on Aging would be quite limited. There are many tasks performed by volunteers:

receptionists	kitchen aides	decorators
meal drivers	fund raisers	
transportation drivers	newsletter folders/mailers	

A recent volunteer program is called Home Assistance Partners of Ionia (HAPPI). This program is designed to help elderly neighbors with tasks in and around their home. Why not check out this volunteer opportunity to see how you can help.

The Ionia County Commission on Aging is under the direction of its Board of Directors. The board meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month with the COA administrator to set policy, review and approve expenditures, monitor the budget and receive other timely updates from the administrator. Board members are appointed by the Ionia County Board of Commissioners.