

Haywood Community Connections

Transportation Initiative



Goal: To enhance access to transportation to improve mobility, employment opportunities and access to community services for all persons who are transportation disadvantaged.

Accomplishments to Date:

- In partnership with Haywood Transit opened 2 new routes serving the Cruso and Fines Creek communities.
- Planned a Volunteer Transportation Program using volunteer drivers from participating community churches.
- Held educational programs for senior drivers.

Contact Person: Shirley Topper, Information Coordinator, Haywood Community Connections, 828 452 2370 ext. 113.

Helpful Hints/Tips: A helpful website: <http://www.haywoodtransit.com/>

Resources: More information about our Initiatives can be found in our Strategic Plan on Haywood Community Connections' home page - www.haywoodconnections.org. Please also go to our home page and click on the 'Resources' tab for information on the Drive-a-Friend program and Senior Drivers.

Call to Action: If you would like to connect with our initiative and/or volunteer or simply find out how you can contribute, contact Victoria Young, Project Director of Haywood Community Connections, 828 452 2370, ext. 127.



Haywood Community Connections, 81 Elmwood Way, Waynesville, NC 28787; phone 828-452-2370, ext. 127

Haywood Community Connection

Supportive Services for Independent Living and Caregiving Initiative



Goal: The community will provide aging citizens with increased options for supportive services and promote the highest level of independence desired and possible.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Held living wills and legal/financial planning.
- Created and conducted a seminar entitled “Day by Day: Attending to the Spiritual Needs of Family Caregivers” for clergy, lay leaders, congregation members, and all faith-based volunteers.
- Successfully advocated for the expansion of Project C.A.R.E. (Caregiver Alternatives to Running on Empty) into Haywood County.
- Developed a Caregiver’s Resource Manual and Care Package.
- Established a coordinating Council of In-Home Service Providers.

Contact Person: Cindy Miles, Area Agency on Aging, 586-1962.

Helpful Hints/Tips: Take advantage of local support groups:

3rd Thursdays 2:30 p.m.—Silver Bluff Village, Canton

4th Tuesdays 5:30 p.m.—First United Methodist Church, Waynesville

Resources: More information about our Initiatives is in our Strategic Plan found in our Strategic Plan on Haywood Community Connections’ home page, www.haywoodconnections.org. Also, on our home page you will find ‘Senior Enrichment’ and ‘Resources’ buttons that will provide access to many related subjects and programs.

Call to Action: If you would like to connect with our initiative and/or volunteer or simply find out how you can contribute, contact Vitoria Young, Project Director of Haywood Community Connections, 828-452-2370, ext. 127.



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Haywood Community Connections

Community Outreach and Information Services Initiative



Goal: Community members will know what services and programs are available and understand how to access them in order to live an independent life style.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Collaborated with United Way and established 2-1-1, a telephone assistance program.
- Created, published and distributed a Senior Resource Directory (7,000 copies).
- Published a calendar of events regularly.
- Created and maintained a website, haywoodconnections.org.
- Created regular public service announcements to keep seniors informed.
- Published articles of interest to seniors in local newspapers and in the *Encore Magazine*.
- Purchased billboards to promote 2-1-1 and website, haywoodconnections.org.
- Sponsored radio ads and conducted radio interviews.

Contact Person: Shirley Topper,
Haywood Community Connections, 828 452 2370, ext. 113.

Helpful Hints/Tips: A helpful website, <http://mountainprojects.org/volunteer/html/home.html>

Resources: More information about our Initiatives can be found:

- In our Strategic Plan on Haywood Community Connections' home page, www.haywoodconnections.org.
 - On our home page, click on the 'Resources' tab for information about:
 - "Are you ready?" test
 - Disaster preparedness chart; and
 - the 2-1-1 help network.
 - In our Senior Services directory.

Call to Action: If you would like to connect with our Initiative and/or volunteer or simply find out how you can contribute, contact Victoria Young, Project Director of Haywood Community Connections, 828 452 2370, ext. 127.

**Our Senior Services Directory is available
at Haywood Community Connections offices,
81 Elmwood Way, Waynesville, which is
the County Administration Office Building.**



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Haywood Community Connections

Dementia/Alzheimer's Initiative



Goal: Specialized supportive services will be available to caregivers and to individuals suffering from dementia, including Alzheimer's disease.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Collaborated with the Alzheimer's Association and Area Agency On Aging to coordinate a National Caregiver's Conference in Haywood County to be held in November, 2007.
- Promoted the Safe Return Program in Haywood County.
- Held a "Living Wills" workshop.
- Held a seminar titled "Day by Day" to educate pastors and lay persons on how to minister to those in their congregations with dementia.

Contact Person: Celesa Willett, The United Way of Haywood County, 452-2005

Helpful Hints/Tips: Sign up for free electronic newsletter at <http://www.caregiver.com>.

Resources: More information about our Initiatives can be found in our Strategic Plan on Haywood Community Connections' home page, www.haywoodconnections.org. Also, on our home page check out the items available on the 'Resources' tab.

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Dental Care Initiative



Goal: Senior adults will have improved access to dental care.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Creating awareness of the need for improved access to dental care, especially for the under and uninsured.

Contact Person: Carmine Rocco, Haywood County Health Department, 828 452 6675.

Helpful Hints/Tips: A helpful website,
<http://www.netwellness.org/healthtopics/dentalseniors/default.cfm>

Resources: More information about our Initiative can be found in the Strategic Plan on Haywood Community Connections' home page, www.haywoodconnections.org. Also, on our home page check out the items available under the 'Resources' tab.

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Haywood Community Connections

Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Initiative



Goal: Haywood Community Connections in collaboration with citizens and local agencies will work to decrease abuse, neglect and exploitation of older and disabled adults. The Project will also work to educate the public and create awareness regarding signs of abuse and reporting procedures.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Three agency grants were leveraged through the support of Haywood Community Connections.
- Aired radio spots promoting an awareness of signs of abuse and how to file a report.
- Promoted: May, National Adult Abuse Awareness month; June 15 World Adult Abuse Awareness Day. and October as Domestic Violence Awareness month.
- Informational flyers distributed to the medical community and adult services centers regarding helpful hints about signs of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Elder fraud fact sheets distributed to appropriate centers during August. .
- An Elder Abuse Awareness Fair hosted by REACH was held June 7, in Waynesville.
- Provided numerous workshops and inservice programs with professionals from AAA, DSS, and REACH.

Contact Person: Cheryl Washburn, Department of Social Services, 452-6620, and Sarajane Melton, Southwestern Commission - Area Agency on Aging, 586-1962, Co-Chairs.

Helpful Hints/Tips: A helpful website, <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/aging/fraud/cfalert.htm>.

Resources: To report abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation of a disabled adult, call Haywood County DSS, Adult Services 452-6620. For assistance and information regarding domestic violence call REACH 24 hour hotline 456-68798. More information about our Initiative can be found in the Strategic Plan on Haywood Community Connections' home page, www.haywoodconnections.org. Also, on our homepage check on the 'Resources' tab to access the following: 911 Alert by Address and Are You Prepared?

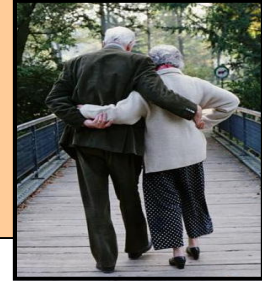
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Social and Recreational Initiative



Goal: Implement a comprehensive Senior Adult Activity Program throughout Haywood County.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Senior component was incorporated in the Haywood County Recreation master plan.
- Increased physical activity opportunities through a regular walking group, scheduled hikes, and additional Senior Games event practices.

Contact Person: Claire, Stewart, Haywood County Recreation and Parks, 452-6789

Helpful Hints/Tips: Find out about Senior Games at <http://www.ncseniorgames.org>.

Resources: More information about our Initiative can be found in the Strategic Plan on Haywood Community Connections' home page, www.haywoodconnections.org. Also, on our homepage check on the 'Resources' tab to access Senior Discounts.

Call to Action: If you would like to connect with our Initiative and/or volunteer or simply find out how you can contribute, contact Victoria Young, Project Director of Haywood Community Connections, 828 452 2370, ext. 127.



Haywood Community Connections

Wellness Initiative



Goal: Provide education regarding prescription drug management for citizens aged 55 and older in Haywood County.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Formed a Mental health Work Group
 - Instituted the Phone-A-Friend Program
 - Developed a brochure, “When It’s More Than Just Feeling Sad,” that provides information regarding depression and seniors.
 - Created and distributed Resource Manuals for mental health care professionals.
- Created a new Senior Resource Directory in Spanish provided to Healthy Haywood.
- Created a Physician’s Resource Manual developed and distributed to local medical offices.

Contact Person: Pam Shetley, Haywood Regional Medical Center, 452-8910

Helpful Hints/Tips: A helpful website, for a home assessment chart for fall prevention http://www.medicinenet.com/senior_health.htm

Resources: More information about our Initiative can be found in the Strategic Plan on Haywood Community Connections’ home page, www.haywoodconnections.org. Also, on our homepage check on the ‘Resources’ tab to access Senior Discounts and Managing Meds.

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Housing Initiative



Goal: Provide all citizens of Haywood County access to quality, affordable housing. Special focus should be on home ownership opportunities for all segments of the market, especially vulnerable, at-risk older adults, first time home buyers and those in entry-level positions in the workforce.

Accomplishments to date:

- Mountain Projects, Inc., lead agency for Haywood Community Connections, has undertaken the development of Barefoot Ridge and hopes to continue with similar projects in the future.

Contact Person: Darwyn VanGorp, 452-2585

Helpful Hints/Tips: Find tips for making your home a safer place at Home Safety Council's website <http://www.homesafetycouncil.com>.

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