

Allegan County Commission On Aging



3255 122nd Ave., Suite 103
Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-3333
1-877-673-5333
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<http://www.allegancountycoa.org>

Chairperson: Don Black
Vice Chairperson: Terry Burns

Planning Session

COMMISSIONERS

Don Black
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(Shelbyville)

Terry Burns
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(Saugatuck)

SENIOR MEMBERS

Doris Hawkey
269-672-5181
(Martin)

Sarah Miller
269-672-7778
(Martin)

Eleanor Nielsen
269-673-2728
(Allegan)

George Waden
269-857-3472

Naomi Whetzel
269-793-0132
(Hopkins)

MEMBER AT LARGE

Sally Brooks
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Trinidad Perez
269-236-6460
(Pullman)

Patricia Pera
269-543-3791
(Fennville)

Paul Visscher
269-857-4522
(Saugatuck)

1. 1:30 to 1:50 - COA Member Time:

- Mission Moments: What's been happening in Member's individual communities (5-7 minutes each member)
- Advocacy:**

2. 1:50 to 2:00 – Ideas to Consider:

Director's recommendations:
 Vacant seat

Board ideas

3. 2:00 to 2:30 – Board Education

- Evergreen Commons Overview
- Q & A

4. 2:30 to 2:45 – Break

COA Business Meeting immediately following (See agenda)

Mission Statement

“Dedicated to serving Allegan County seniors by developing and coordinating services that support their independence, maintain their dignity, and preserve their quality of life”

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COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING – AGENDA

Tuesday, **September 21, 2010**– 1:30 p.m.

Spartan Room– Human Services Building
3255 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010

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CALL TO ORDER:

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 24, 2010 (**Attachment A**)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

INTRODUCTIONS:

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Sherry Torres (**Attachment B**)

DISCUSSION:

1. Modification of By-Laws – Don Black
2. Transportation Workgroup Update
3. Caregiver Retreat Update
4. COA members up for renewal

ACTION:

1. Recommend By-Laws revision to BOC

REPORTS / MISC:

1. Outreach Report – (**Attachment C**)
2. I & R Log – (**Attachment D**)
3. COA Action Items Log (**Attachment E**)
4. Financials (**Attachment F**)
5. Quality Surveys (**Attachment G**)

ROUND TABLE:

ADJOURNMENT:

NEXT MEETING: October 19, 2010 **Location TBA**

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COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 24, 2010 – 1:30 p.m.
Spartan Room – Human Services Building
3255 – 122nd Avenue, Allegan, MI 49010

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PLANNING SESSION: 1:35 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Chairperson, **Don Black** at 3:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Members present: Don Black, Sally Brooks, Terry Burns, Sara Miller, Eleanor Nielsen, Pat Pera, Paul Visscher and George Waden

Absent: Doris Hawkey, Trino Perez and Naomi Whetzel

3 guests present

MOTION TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 20, 2010: Pat Pera moved and **Eleanor Nielsen** seconded. **All voted yes – motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **George Waden** moved and **Terry Burns** seconded. **All voted yes – motion carried.**

INTRODUCTIONS: Introductions were made during the Planning Session.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: **Sherry Torres** presented her director's report which was included in the prepared packet.

DISCUSSION:

1. Assessments Update
2. New Website – member comments/feedback
3. Millage Renewal Wrap up – **Eleanor Nielsen**
4. Modification of By-Laws – **Don Black**
5. Establish Transportation Workgroup for 2011

ACTION:

1. Motion to confirm appointed members, **Eleanor Nielsen, Paul Visscher** and **George Waden**, to the Transportation Workgroup. **Terry Burns** moved and **Sara Miller** seconded. **All voted yes – motion carried.**
2. Generations contract modification – Information given by Kimberly Turcott of Generations.

Date:	8-24-10										
Subject:	Generations Contract Modification										
Moved:	Eleanor Nielsen										
Second:	Pat Pera										
Motion:	Modify Generations Transportation Contract to \$16,000 for the remainder of 2010.										
Black	Brooks	Burns	Hawkey	Miller	Nielsen	Pera	Perez	Visscher	Waden	Whetzel	
Y	Absent	Y	Absent	Y	Y	Y	Absent	Y	Y	Absent	

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3. Thank you letter for **Naomi Whetzel** – presented by **Sherry Torres**.
Terry Burns moved and **Paul Visscher** seconded.
All voted yes – motion carried.

4. Recommend grant to BOC for operating expenses.

Date:	8-24-10										
Subject:	Thome Grant										
Moved:	Eleanor Nielsen										
Second:	Paul Visscher										
Motion:	\$50,000 Thome Grant to offset 4% revenue reduction for 2011.										
Black	Brooks	Burns	Hawkey	Miller	Nielsen	Pera	Perez	Visscher	Waden	Whetzel	
Y	Absent	Y	Absent	Y	Y	Y	Absent	Y	Y	Absent	

5. Recommend grant to BOC for Personal Emergency Response Service (PERS) units.

Date:	8-24-10										
Subject:	DeLano Foundation Grant for Personal Emergency Response Service (PERS)										
Moved:	Eleanor Nielsen										
Second:	Pat Pera										
Motion:	\$5,000 grant application to Mignon Sherwood DeLano Foundation to leverage funds to provide 20 of the frailest and/or most isolated senior clients with Personal Emergency Response Service (PERS) for 2011.										
Black	Brooks	Burns	Hawkey	Miller	Nielsen	Pera	Perez	Visscher	Waden	Whetzel	
Y	Absent	Y	Absent	Y	Y	Y	Absent	Y	Y	Absent	

REPORTS/MISC:

1. Outreach & Assessment Report – Rebekah Walton
2. I & R Log
3. COA Action Items Log
4. Financials
5. Quality Survey Results

ROUND TABLE

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by **Paul Visscher** and seconded by **George Waden**.

All voted yes – motion passed. Meeting adjourned by Chairperson, **Don Black** at 4:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: September 21, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.
Spartan Room – Human Services Building

Respectfully Submitted: Tammy Chapin, Senior Services Secretary

Director's Report

Greetings and Happy Fall!

It has been a very busy month since we last met. The Thome Foundation grant we discussed last month has been finished and submitted. Unfortunately, the DeLano Foundation had some last minute requirements that rendered us ineligible (we are not a 501c3). We should hear something prior to our November meeting and you can rest assured that we will notify you as soon as we know.

Shortly after our last meeting, another grant came available from the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) that offered \$10,000 seed money to develop an Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition. This is a national grant, which usually means some stiff competition, but the grant came out on August 30th, with a deadline of September 16th, so that should narrow down the amount of grant applications. As you know, Elder Abuse is an impacting issue for me, and we have already done some work on this. I called a quick meeting and invited the prosecutor's office, sheriff's office, adult protective services and Marg Murphy. We brainstormed for a couple of hours on what we wanted to accomplish, and then I closed myself off and wrote the grant. It's also been submitted, and we should hear back no later than October 31st on the decision. This is a great opportunity to develop a network of people to assist the seniors of Allegan County should they find themselves victims of this crime.

We attended the senior day at the fair on the 14th, and it was wonderful! I don't think in all the years I've been doing this work; I have EVER given every single piece of marketing materials away in one day. But by the end of the morning, hundreds of Senior Preference and Wellness magazines, pill boxes, fans, jar openers and clips were GONE!! We were down to our last 25 brochures and our "thank you notes" for the millage by 11:00!! The good news is hundreds of pieces of information and goodies with our name and phone numbers are all over the county now, but the bad news is, it's time to re-order marketing supplies! If you have any good ideas for what we can stick our name on next, please share them with us at the meeting. Our staff is also (on their own dime) sporting beautiful T Shirts and Sweatshirts that say "Allegan County Department of Senior Services – Your Senior Millage \$\$s at Work". We will wear them at the next meeting so you can see. These will be great for the upcoming Caregiver Retreat, next years Speak Up Speak Out event, Senior Fest, and all the other things we do throughout the year.

Speaking of the Caregiver Retreat, it is coming along very nicely. We have selected October 26th as our date. Our wonderful staff once again amazed me

by finding the perfect setting for this day at Beech Point Camp on the other side of Dumont Lake. It is beautiful place set in the woods and should be absolutely gorgeous dressed in “fall colors” at that time. Our service providers have come along side to work with us on this as has Abby from Grace and potentially a few other members from the community. At the October meeting, we will have the arrangements finalized, but if you know folks who would like to participate in this event, please have them give us a call to reserve their spot. We have some wiggle room with respite and adult day funding, so we can arrange to have the loved ones cared for while the caregivers have a day off to relax.

Our first transportation sub-group meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 22, 2010 at 1pm, here in the DSS office. At our last month’s meeting, it was voted that Paul Visscher, George Waden, and Eleanor Nielsen would serve on this committee. Representatives from ACRDC also expressed an interest in attending, which I agreed to, with the understanding that the only voting members would be the COA representatives. Dan Wedge from ACT will also be attending this meeting.

Lastly, just a reminder to those of you who are at the end of your current term with the COA, you can be reappointed to remain on the board for three more years, but you will need to make application no later than October 15, 2010 so the BOC has time to process your application prior to the end of the year. If you are up for renewal, you will have a copy of the application with your packet. I hope that you will consider sticking with us, we are changing and growing and have exciting times ahead!

That’s all the news for now – as always, please remember, **you** are the bridge between the seniors in **your community** and the services we provide. You are **their voice** and **their advocate**. Please get out and talk to your friends and neighbors. Pass out brochures and marketing supplies and bring their ideas and concerns back to our meetings.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

Sherry

Outreach and Assessment Coordinator Report- August 2010

Prepared by Rebekah Walton

I do not have a whole lot to say this month (a rarity). It was a good month to play catch up from the previous months that literally had me running from one place to the other.

I mentioned during the August meeting how good the SOAR (SSI/SSDI, Outreach, Access, and Recovery) training was. There are seniors out there who may be eligible for benefits and not be aware. I wished to include the criteria to be eligible for this program, however was very complicated and I confused myself. If you know of a senior who is homeless (This may include living with friends and family. Each case will be different.) or at risk of being homeless, please give them my name and number to discuss whether he/she would be a good candidate for this program.

I'm sure Sherry will tell you all about our Lion's Club adventure. If she forgets, bring it up at the meeting and we can fill you in.

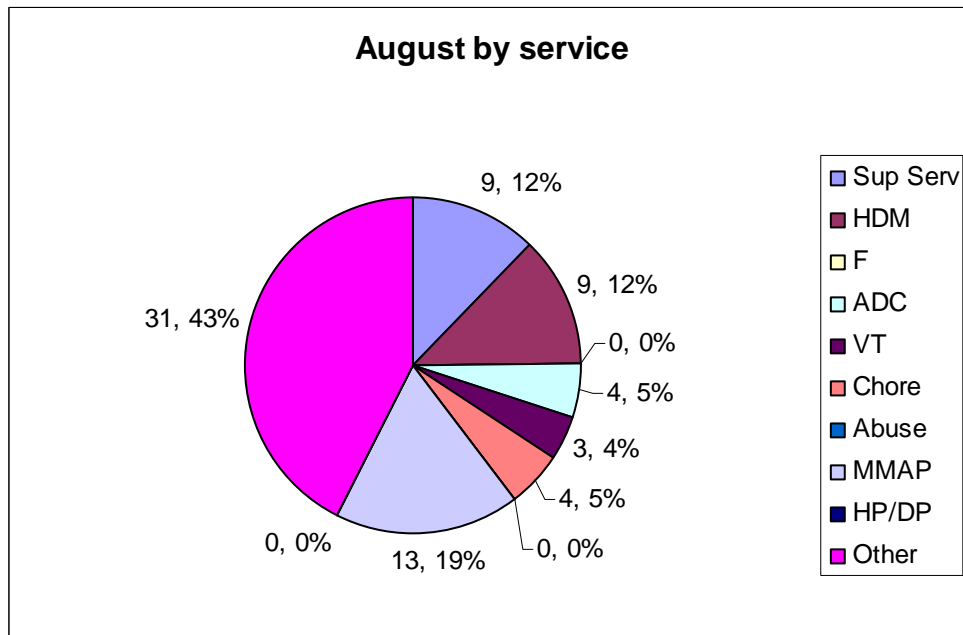
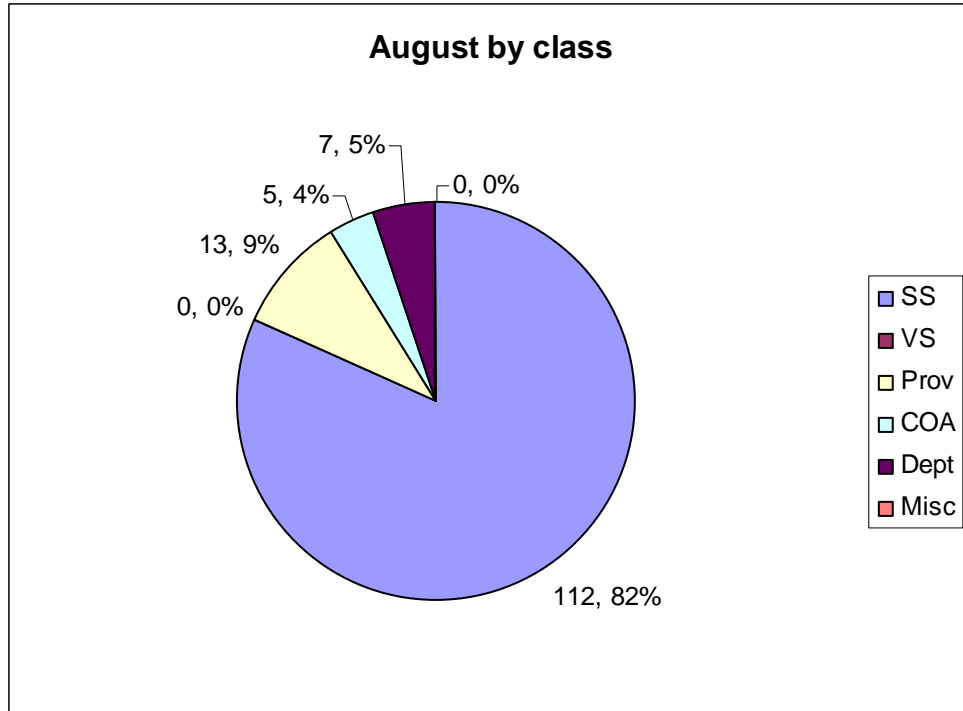
We had an interesting event take place right around the time of the August COA meeting. I received a call from a woman who resides in a seasonal RV park six months out of the year. In the past, she has traveled to Florida for the cooler months; however isn't an option for her this year. She called me asking if I could think of any place that would take her for just six months. Anyone that has ever rented before knows that without a one year lease, you'll probably end up paying through the nose for such a short period of time. I racked it over in my head over and over.

A few days after speaking to this woman, I had a home visit in the Douglas area. The senior said she has been trying to sell her home for years, and hasn't had "one bite". Throughout our conversation, she mentioned a couple of times how nice it would be to have a roommate. She told me, "I might be old, but I'm still kicking". I finished helping her with what I was there to do, and as we were wrapping things up, I thought of the senior in need of shelter for six months. I mentioned to the "Douglas" senior that I recently received a call from "RV" senior, and wondered if it would be okay to give her "Douglas" senior's name and telephone number. "Douglas" senior's eyes lit right up, and said "absolutely".

I returned to my office the next day and called "RV" senior right away, as she is a morning bird. I told her about my encounter the evening before and wondered if that would be something she would be interested in. She said it was worth a shot (this was two weeks ago) and she would indeed give "Douglas" senior a call. This morning I received a call from "RV" senior, who informed me that she and "Douglas" senior had met up and hit it off. Mid October, "RV" senior is going to move in for the six months she was looking for. No lease required and one senior helping another.

I'm sharing this story for one good reason, right when we don't think we have a solution, a solution may come trailing right behind.

I & R Log August 2010



COMMISSION ON AGING
ACTION ITEMS LOG
2010

ACTION ITEM	DATE PRESENTED TO COA	PASS/FAIL	DATE OF RFA TO BOC	DATE PRESENTED TO BOC	PASS/FAIL	STATUS
Thank you letter for Naomi Whetzel	8/24/2010	Pass	N/A	N/A	N/A	COMPLETE
Establish Transportation Workgroup consisting of Eleanor Nielsen, Paul Visscher & George Waden.	8/24/2010	Pass	N/A	N/A	N/A	COMPLETE
Recommend DeLano Foundation Grant to BOC for PERS units	8/24/2010	Pass	8/25/2010	9/9/2010	Pass	CANCELLED
Recommend Thome grant to BOC for operating expenses	8/24/2010	Pass	8/25/2010	9/9/2010	Pass	COMPLETE
Approval of Casco Transportation Contract	7/20/2010	Pass	7/21/2010	8/12/2010	Pass	COMPLETE
Change in unit rate for Generations Adult Day Care transportation. No increase in overall funding	6/15/2010, 8/24/10	Pass	6/17/2010	9/23/2010		COA meeting 8/24/10
Approval of Volunteer Transportation contract for recommendation to BOC	6/15/2010	PASS	6/16/2010	7/8/2010	Pass	COMPLETE
Approval of Proclamation to BOC for Elder Abuse Awareness Month	5/18/2010	PASS	5/19/2010	6/10/2010	Pass	COMPLETE
Recommend to the BOC that the ballot language for the senior millage be approved	4/20/2010	PASS	4/21/2001	4/25/2010	PASS	COMPLETE

COMMISSION ON AGING
ACTION ITEMS LOG
2010

Recommend the Contract Addendum for Alliance be approved by the BOC for additional funding	4/20/2010	PASS	4/21/2010	7/11/2010	Pass	COMPLETE
Recommend BOC approve contract extension for Casco	4/20/2010	PASS	4/21/2010	5/6/2010	PASS	COMPLETE
Approve provider presentations be reduced to one time annually	4/20/2010	PASS	N/A	N/A	N/A	COMPLETE
Recommend to the BOC that May 2010 be proclaimed Older American's Month in Allegan County	4/20/2010	PASS	4/21/2010	5/6/2010	PASS	COMPLETE
Recommend to the Boc that a discretionary fund be created in the amount of \$7,000 as a line item in the budget to assist seniors in emergent situations. Requests in the amount of \$300 or less would be at the discretion of the Director and either the Chair or Vice Chair. Requests in the amount of \$301 to \$1,000 would require a majority vote of the COA.	2/16/2010	PASS	2/17/2010	3/11/2010 - Executive Comm. BOC on 4/22/10	PASS	COMPLETE
Move forward with the transportation restructuring by providing transportation as a direct service, hiring a transportation coordinator and utilize all forms of transportation available throughout the county.	2/16/2010	FAILED	N/A	N/A	N/A	

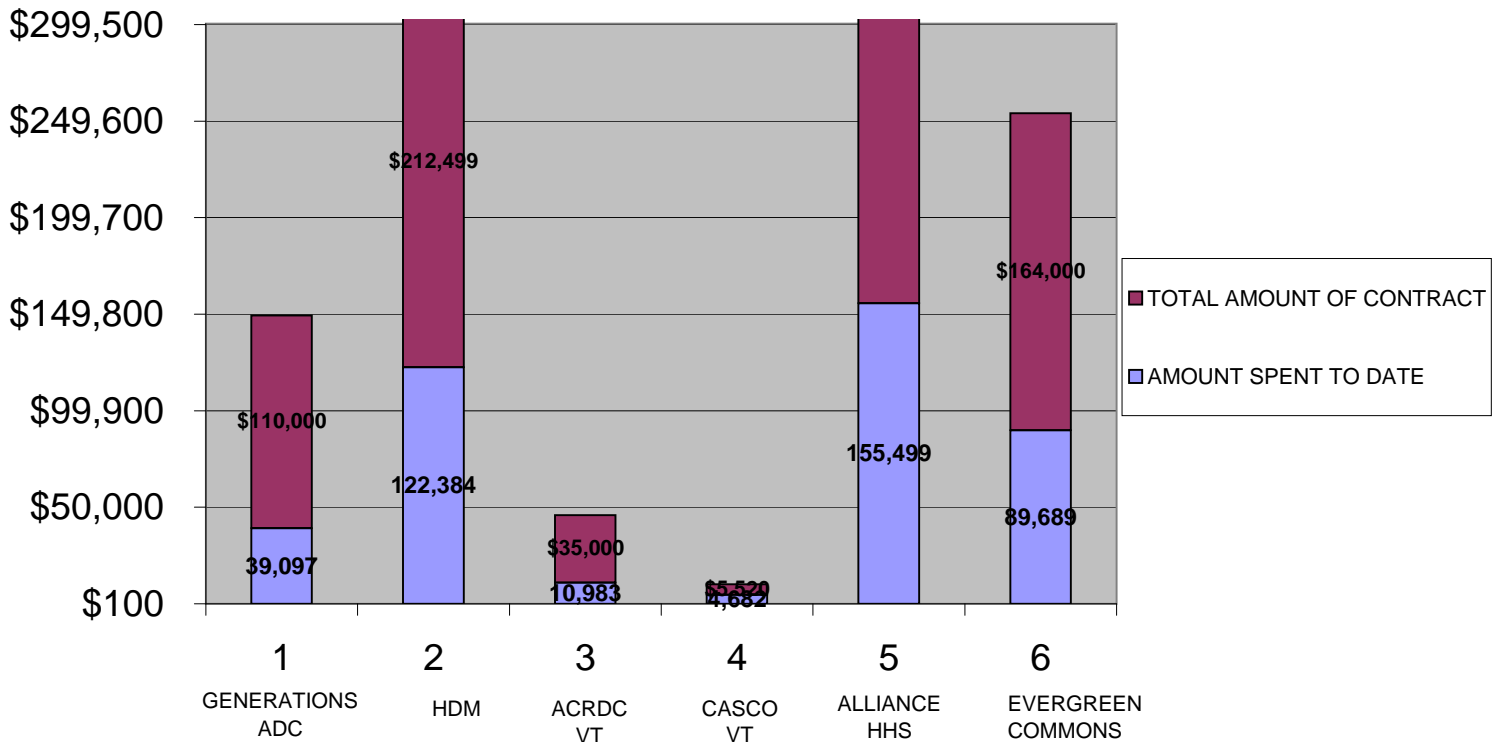
COMMISSION ON AGING
ACTION ITEMS LOG
2010

ELECT DON BLACK AS CHAIRPERSON	1/19/2010	PASS	N/A	N/A		COMPLETE
ELECT TERRY BURNS AS VICE CHAIR	1/19/2010	PASS	N/A	N/A		COMPLETE
Recommend to the BOC to move forward on the Mobility Manager Grant (and cash match) as part of the transportation program restructuring	1/19/2010	PASS	1/20/2010	1/29/2010	PASS	COMPLETE

Allegan County Commission on Aging
 Monthly Financial Report
 Through July, 2010

	Number Served		Number of Units		Cost	
	Current	YTD	Current	YTD	Current	YTD
ACRDC-HDM	208	1644	3,273	27,393	\$16,398	\$122,384
ACRDC-VT	34	68	5,967	11217	\$5,310.63	\$10,983.13
CASCO-VT	7	55	50	298	1,076.90	\$4,681.96
ALLIANCE HHS	112	770	1,244	8,559	22,401.00	\$155,499.00
EVERGREEN COMMONS	100	714	723	5058	\$13,014.00	\$89,689.00
GENERATIONS ADC	14	92	902	6,105.25	\$6,511.08	\$39,097.30

2010 CONTRACTS REPORT



Quality Survey Results for
Adult Day Care

September 2010	Comments
When asked if their family member enjoys the activities provided and if there is enough variety:	1. She enjoys the activities, they are great and there is enough variety. 2. Very much so.
100% responded yes	
When asked if their family member enjoys the meals provided:	
100% responded yes	
When asked if they would recommend the Adult Day Program to others:	1. I would extremely recommend, it's just wonderful!
100% responded yes	
When asked if they are aware of the other programs offered through the Senior Millage:	
100% responded yes	
Additional Comments:	
1. I think this is a great program with great staff and it's really helped our family out a lot! This is a fantastic program and we were happy to find one here in Allegan County.	

