

ACCESS TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES

INDEPENDENCE FOR OLDER ADULTS

GOAL: Older adults and their caregivers will have access to supports and services that support their goal of living independently and with dignity in the setting of their choice, as long and as healthy as possible

RATIONALE FOR INCLUDING INDICATOR: The growth in the number and proportion of older adults is unprecedented in the history of the United States. The population age 65 and over numbered 44.7 million in 2013, an increase of 8.8 million or 24.7% since 2003. Between 2003 and 2013 the population age 60 and over increased 30.7% from 48.1 million to 62.8 million. The percentage of older adults residing in Calhoun County is slightly higher than those in the state, although the overall population of Michigan is aging rapidly. The most recent available state projections estimate the growth of the aging population around 60% from 2010 to 2030, while the overall population growth will remain flat. Calhoun County is experiencing trends similar to other areas of the country. For instance, population estimates show that for the first time ever older adults will outnumber all children aged 18 and younger in Calhoun County sometime in the next 10 years, perhaps as early as 2017.

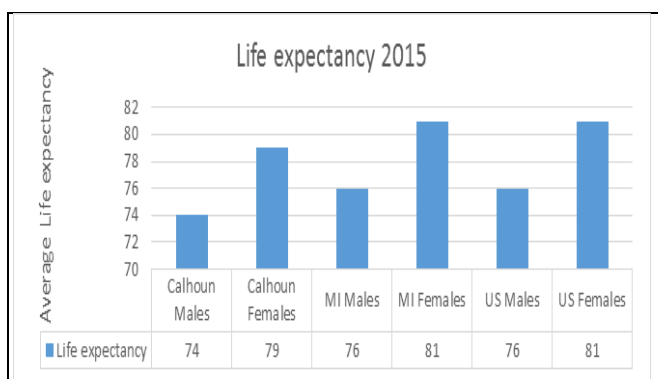
The number of Americans aged 45–64—who will reach 65 over the next two decades—increased by 20.7% between 2003 and 2013¹. About one in every seven, or 14.1%, of the population is an older American. Persons reaching age 65 have an extended life expectancy of 19.3 years (20.5 years for females and 17.9 years for males). Extended life

expectancy for Calhoun County is just 4.4 years higher than the average life expectancy of 74 year for males and 79 for females². (5.4 years for females (79) and -1 year for males) Each is lower than the national average of extended life expectancy. Overall, in the United States there are 67,347 persons aged 100 or more in 2013 and older women outnumber older men at 25.1 million older women to 19.6 million older men.

In Calhoun County, the three leading causes of YPLL are cancer, heart disease, and unintentional injuries, which includes falls and substance abuse deaths. YPLL is trending in the positive direction overall; however, the rise in deaths related to Alzheimer's Disease is an area of concern. Prior to 2010, AD and related disorders did not register in the top ten causes of death in Calhoun County— Alzheimer's Disease is now the 9th leading cause of death for those 65-74 years, the 5th leading cause of death for those over age 74 and the 3rd leading cause of death for those 85+ years.

In terms of the geographic distribution of seniors, service provision is dispersed throughout the county, with greater density in urban centers such as Marshall, Albion and Battle Creek. Transportation remains the single greatest need reflected in the 2016 Community Needs Survey³. The lack of transportation options, in-home healthcare, information sources, chore services/home repairs and prescription drug assistance were the top five services that seniors needed throughout the county.

All of this points to the expectation that those eligible to receive senior services in the county will grow by at least 45,000 in the next 25 years—a significant increase. To accommodate this growth and plan for adequate future resources will require community monitoring, along with prioritizing of services, a stronger focus on prevention, and on activities that contribute to sustained good health. Poor health not only impacts longevity, but also has significant implications for levels of independence, quality of life, and cost of care as people age in place. Without this multi-level focus, it will be difficult to meet the needs of seniors and positively impact the trends most impacting Calhoun County seniors.



Demand for Senior Services is Expected to Grow by 45,000 in the next 25 Years ⁱ

ⁱ 2016 Senior Needs Assessment. Carewell Services SW, Calhoun County Office of Seniors Services. With A. Griffin, AGS Data Analytics Consulting, LLC and P. Porter.

ⁱⁱ U.S. Census, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010; and American Community Survey 2014 as cited by Carewell Services SW.