Effective March 17, 2020, Social Security Offices Will Only Offer Phone Service (Online Services Remain Available)

All local Social Security offices will be closed to the public for in-person service starting Tuesday, March 17, 2020. This decision protects the population we serve—older Americans and people with underlying medical conditions—and our employees during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. However, we are still able to provide critical services.

Read more of the Press Release Here

Maine DHHS Acts to Ensure Access to Health Care, Food, and Basic Necessities While Protecting the Health of the Public and Employees. Read the Press Release Here.

Announcement from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

The Trump Administration today announced expanded Medicare telehealth coverage that will enable beneficiaries to receive a wider range of healthcare services from their doctors without having to travel to a healthcare facility. Beginning on March 6, 2020, Medicare—administered by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)—will temporarily pay clinicians to provide telehealth services for beneficiaries residing across the entire country.
To read the Fact Sheet on this announcement visit this link.

To read the Frequently Asked Questions on this announcement visit this link.

This guidance, and earlier CMS actions in response to the COVID-19 virus, are part of the ongoing White House Task Force efforts. To keep up with the important work the Task Force is doing in response to COVID-19 click here www.coronavirus.gov. For information specific to CMS, please visit the Current Emergencies Website.

Important Updates & Announcements from Maine's Area Agencies on Aging:

Aroostook Agency on Aging:

Aroostook Agency on Aging changes service delivery in response to coronavirus threat Click here for more information

----------------

Eastern Area Agency on Aging:
Update as of 3/17/2020

Eastern Area Agency on Aging is cancelling all wellness classes, community cafes and in person meetings through Friday, March 27th. Meals on Wheels deliveries will continue as we make it a priority to serve the most vulnerable members of our community. Our office staff in Brewer and Bangor will not invite in-person visitors or consumers until further notice. The team at EAAA will continue to take questions and concerns via telephone. We continue to monitor updates from the CDC and local public health officials to ensure that we minimize contact with those individuals age 60 and older, while still providing needed services. Governor Mills has asked that gatherings of 10 or more for individuals in high risk categories be cancelled. This will impact many of our services. Please contact our offices at 941-2865 if you have questions regarding any of our programs including the Commodity Supplemental Food Program distribution dates. Please continue to check our Facebook page for updates.

SeniorsPlus:

SeniorsPlus announces closings in response to Coronavirus

Out of caution and as concerns deepen regarding the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), SeniorsPlus, Western Maine's designated Area Agency on Aging, will temporarily keep its offices open by appointment only.

Some non-essential activities, specifically the following programs, have been halted temporarily:
* Social Dining;
* Education classes, including Healthy Living for ME workshops; and
  * The Fill the Plate Breakfast to benefit Meals on Wheels.

Meals on Wheels will continue with modifications. Clients of Meals on Wheels will be informed of these modifications.
The Fill the Plate Breakfast is expected to be rescheduled for the fall. (Tentative date: Friday, October 16, 2020.)

SeniorsPlus will continually re-evaluate the situation as information develops. Please refer to www.seniorsplus.org for updates as well as its official Facebook and Twitter pages.

We ask that you encourage handwashing, respiratory etiquette, and cleaning of high touch surfaces at home.

To help keep yourself informed, here are additional sources of information about novel coronavirus:
* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Traveler's Health Information: https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel

---------------

Southern Maine Agency on Aging:

Coronavirus (COVID-19): SMAA Operations Updates & What Older Adults Need to Know. Click here for more information.

---------------

Spectrum Generations:

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Announcement
Click here for more information.