

Community Aging in Place Grant

M-DASH

CITY OF HALLOWELL

AUGUST 5, 2021



Community Aging in Place Grant - Background

- Established by MaineHousing in 2017
- Pilot was modeled after Bath's Housing's Comfortably Home Program
 - Established 2015
 - Based on Johns Hopkin's University's CAPABLE Program
 - Comfortably Home offers no-cost home safety checks, minor maintenance repairs and accessibility modifications to eligible low income and disabled homeowners
 - Services enable recipients to continue living safely and comfortably in their homes
- Program has expansion since 2017
 - 2017 - 5 Partner Agencies
 - 2020 - 10 Partner Agencies (8 Public Housing Authorities (PHA) and 2 CAP Agencies)
 - 2021 - Expect further expansion
- Augusta Housing joined program in 2019
 - C and C Realty Management is maintenance partner for home repair and accessibility service
 - We market the this program as Comfortably Home

Community Aging in Place Grant - Eligibility

- Homeowners or those who live in a home owned by a family member
- Are 55 and over or have a disability
- Have an annual household income of 80% or less of area median income (AMI)
Example: Single Household \$42,250, Couple \$48,250 in Kennebec County
 - Income is self-reported
 - No asset limit
- Ownership Verification is done through town tax records
- Reside Partner Service Area (Augusta Housing's is below)

Augusta

Belgrade

Chelsea

China

Coopers Mills

Farmingdale

Gardiner

West Gardiner

Hallowell

Manchester

Monmouth

Mt Vernon

Pittston

Randolph

Readfield

Vassalboro

Whitefield

Windsor

Winthrop

Community Aging in Place Grant - Scope of Services

| Safety | Minor Repairs | Accessibility Modifications |
|--|---|---|
| Smoke Detectors CO2 Detectors Clean Dryer Vent Clean Refrigerator Coils Replace Light Bulbs Clean Furnace filters House Number | Flooring repairs Install/repair storm doors Clean/repair gutters Repair existing stairs Repair Ramps Winterizing Minor electrical and plumbing Custom Work (examples): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - repair interior wall or stairs - Shower water retainer - Construct shelf at entry way | Grab Bars Handrails Shower Wand Shower Seat Raised Toilet Seat Draw Pulls Door Bell Lighting Lever Door Handles Kitchen Faucet |

Community Aging in Place Grant - Services – **Typically out of Scope**

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Foundation | Mobile Home Skirting |
| Concrete Work | Drywall replacement and Painting |
| New Flooring installation | New Windows |
| Toilet Installation | Mold remediation |
| Install new Gutters | Walk-in Showers |
| Furnace, heating register replacement | New Ramp Installation |
| Hot water tank | Other Tasks determined to be infeasible by the PHA following Assessment |
| Wells | |
| Chimney cleaning/repair | |
| Major Electrical | |
| Appliances (stove, dishwasher) | |
| Roofing | |

Community Aging in Place Grant - Intake and Assessment

Intake

- Contact the Augusta Housing Aging in Place Coordinator by phone
- Normally contact is with the homeowners, but we will work with a family member/guardian or caseworker. We will also take referrals and do outreach to the household as well, usually by mail.
- Applicant is screened for eligibility (age, homeownership, location and income)
- If eligible, we will schedule a home assessment on a date and time convenient to the applicant
- If not eligible, we will refer to other resources

- Home Assessment
 - Participants are asked to sign an Participation Agreement
 - Initial Assessment is conducted
 - Walk through of home with the participant with the Coordinator and Maintenance Technician.

Community Aging in Place Grant - Work Plan and Installation

Work Plan

- Maintenance Technician completes a Work Plan based on the initial home assessment.
- Work Plan is mailed with a Consent and Release and Waiver for the participants signature. Coordinator will call to follow up in 3-5 business days to see if there are any questions or concerns, before scheduling installation.
- Once paperwork is approved by participant, materials will be ordered and installation will be scheduled by Maintenance Technician.

■ Installation

- Usually takes place over one or two days
- Once completed, costs of labor and materials are documented and sent back to coordinator to track.

■ Check-in

- Two to four months out, participant is contacted to see how modifications and repairs are working
- Remind them we will be calling aging for a final assessments six month from the installation

Final Assessment and Areas of Impact

- Final assessment is conducted at six months
 - Is designed to see if needs have been met
 - Look for program improvements
 - Evaluate the impact of completed work
- Areas of Impact
 - Falls - To reduce number and severity of falls related to home hazards by 20%
 - Fire – To reduce close call or actual home fires by 20%
 - Hospitalizations – To reduce number of hospital visits and admissions related to home hazards by 15%

Challenges and Opportunities

■ Challenges

- Manufactured Housing Repairs
- Availability of Materials
- Making referrals for out of scope repairs
- Marketing challenges
- Limiting program schedule due to COVID-19 concerns

■ Opportunities

- Promoting through community health providers and organizations such as Spectrum Generations
- Continue to compile listing of resources to address repairs outside of scope and other supports
- Setting expectations/focus on what we can do for a household
- Further learning opportunities with other Community Aging in Place Programs across the state

2021 Community Aging in Place Grant

- Awarded Grant this past Spring
- Work and Assessments are is underway now
 - We continue to take referrals
 - Have expanded Services to include Lincoln County starting this month

Community Aging in Place Grant

Questions?

Contact Information:

Nancy Hale

Community Aging in Place and Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator

August Housing, 33 Union St. Augusta, ME 04330

nancy.hale@augustahousing.org

Direct Line: 207-530-2105