

# CALDWELL COUNTY AGING PLAN (2010 – 2013)



A Livable and Senior-Friendly Community



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A Livable and Senior-Friendly Community

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The over sixty age group is the fastest growing population in the nation. Communities throughout North Carolina are seeing greater numbers of seniors. As a result of this dramatic growth, our state must be ready to meet the challenges and to realize the opportunities of an aging population.

In the 2003-2007 State Aging Plan, the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services introduced a new initiative, *Livable and Senior Friendly Communities* to raise awareness of the aging of our population and to promote North Carolina communities becoming senior-friendly as well as livable for all people through collaboration among citizens, agencies, organizations, and programs in both the public and private arenas.

The NC Division of Aging and Adult Services encouraged communities across the state to begin planning for and supporting the development of livable and senior-friendly communities to the benefit of North Carolinians of all ages. To that end, the Caldwell Senior Center and the Western Piedmont Council of Government Area Agency on Aging collaborated to establish the Caldwell Aging Leadership Planning Team to study the components of a Livable and Senior Friendly Community. The results of this study were compiled in a county aging plan that addresses the needs of adults age 60 and older for the period of 2010-2013.

In Phase I, the Caldwell Aging Planning Team considered four of the eight Senior Friendly components: Physical and Accessible Environment, Healthy Aging, Economic Security, and Safety and Security. Thirty-three team members representing government, nonprofit, business and consumer sectors met as a group or in committees from April 2007 to January 2008, when a final report of findings and recommendations was presented to the group.

Phase II of the Caldwell Aging Planning Team included twenty-nine members, also from a broad spectrum of the community. The four components considered were Access and Choice in Services and Supports, Technology, Social and Cultural Opportunity, and Public Accountability and Responsiveness. The Phase II process began in October 2008, and ended July 2009 when the final objectives report was presented.

Caldwell's project was the first in North Carolina to address all eight components of a Livable and Senior Friendly Community. The entire study was reviewed by the Caldwell Council on Aging at their monthly meeting on August 27, 2009. As the gatekeeper for the Planning Project, the Council on Aging will monitor the progress of the project.

In 2005 the number of people age 60 and over comprised 19.5% of the population of Caldwell County. It is projected that by 2030, that number will be at 28.7%. The recommendations of the Caldwell Aging Planning Team will assure that steps are taken to plan for this growth in the senior population and to make the community a livable place for all ages.

## CALDWELL AGING LEADERSHIP PLANNING PROCESS

**VISION:** Caldwell County will be a Livable and Senior-Friendly Community

### **OBJECTIVE**

The purpose of the Aging Leadership Planning Team is to provide leadership in a collaborative planning process that promotes a livable and senior-friendly community for Caldwell County.

*A livable and senior-friendly community offers a wide range of social and economic opportunities for all citizens, including seniors; values seniors contributions to the community; promotes positive intergenerational relations; considers the needs and interests of seniors in physical and community planning; respects and supports seniors' desire and efforts to live independently; and acknowledges the primary role that families, friends and neighbors play in the lives of older adults.*

### **OUTCOME**

A four year county plan that addresses the needs of adults age 60 and older for the period of 2010-2013.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Caldwell Senior Center will partner with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging in leading the planning effort in Caldwell County. Team members will be selected based upon the guidelines outlined in the handout “**State Design**”. Intent is that the Aging Leadership Planning Team is broad, non-traditional and diverse. During all phases of the project, the Caldwell Aging Planning Team will follow the handout “**State Design**”, utilizing the “**Livable and Senior-Friendly Community Initiative**” as a framework for the planning process.

During Phase I of the project, the planning team will focus on four of the eight components of the Livable and Senior-Friendly Community Initiative: **Physical and Accessible Environment, Healthy Aging, Economic Security and Safety and Security**. The remaining components of **Technology, Social and Cultural Opportunity, Access and Choice in Services and Supports and Public Accountability and Responsiveness** will be addressed during Phase II of the project. Staff from the Area Agency and the Caldwell Senior Center will serve on each of the work teams. Each work team will designate a chairperson. The entire team will meet quarterly with work teams meeting more often if needed. Work teams will assess the three components by interpreting objective data, collecting additional data and information from organizations and stakeholders contacts, determining projected needs/gaps of the older population and preparing recommendations specific to their component topic.

The proposed plan including recommendations will be presented to Caldwell County Commissioners for approval. Once the plan is approved, the Caldwell Council on Aging will serve as the gatekeeper of the plan to ensure implementation and sustainability.

## What are Livable & Senior Friendly Communities?

*A livable and senior-friendly community:*

- Promotes social and economic security for all citizens
  - Celebrates seniors' contributions to the community
    - Inspires intergenerational relations
- Encourages community planners to involve seniors and consider their needs and interests
  - Affirms senior efforts to live independently
- Builds responsive systems of long-term services and supports for people of all ages
  - Acknowledges important role that families, friends, and neighbors play in the lives of seniors, and enhances their capacity for caring

## Why are Livable & Senior Friendly Communities Important?

LIVABLE AND SENIOR-FRIENDLY  
COMMUNITIES  
NORTH CAROLINA

NC ranked **11<sup>th</sup> nationally in total population** and **10<sup>th</sup> in number of persons age 50 and older**

NC ranks **11<sup>th</sup> highest in proportion of poor among older adults**

NC is the **12<sup>th</sup> fastest-growing older population** among the 50 states

# Population - 2005

LIVABLE AND SENIOR-FRIENDLY  
COMMUNITIES

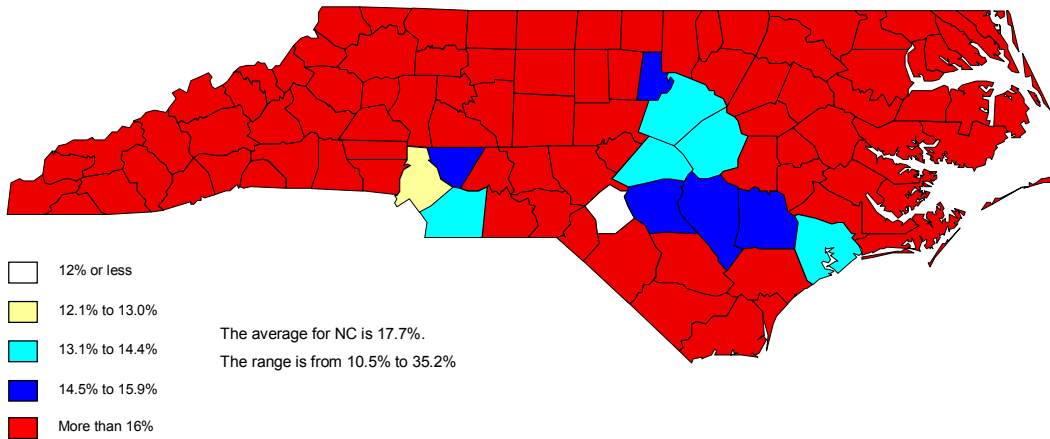
NORTH CAROLINA

## Age 65+ Population Estimates For Caldwell County

	Number, 65+	Percent, 65+
<b>2005</b>	11,077	14.0%
<b>2015</b>	14,328	16.9%
<b>2025</b>	18,137	20.3%

(North Carolina Division of Aging and Adult Services web site:  
<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/aging/services/colist1.htm>)

## Percent of Population Age 65+ in North Carolina, 2030\*



\*Based on July 2006 population projections



**CALDWELL AGING  
LEADERSHIP PLANNING  
PROJECT  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**LIVABLE AND SENIOR-FRIENDLY  
C O M M U N I T I E S**

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**N O R T H C A R O L I N A**

## **PHYSICAL & ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENT**

### **Transportation**

**Objective:** Identify existing public transportation resources within the Unifour area, cite planned future networks, and prioritize needs for expansion.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Partner with existing organizations on present and proposed transportation options, including public and private conveyances.
- Seek transportation alternatives to provide non-drivers mobility.
- Explore availability of requisite resources to fund new and expanded transportation assets.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Council on Aging
- Local elected officials
- NC Department of Transportation
- Chamber of Commerce
- Western Piedmont Regional Transit Authority
- Federal Transit Administration
- Federal, State, and Local elected officials

### **Air/Water Quality**

A recent survey of Caldwell County citizens revealed that 34% of those queried stated a need for better air quality while 28% cited the need for better water quality. Of greater concern is that of water *quantity*. Scarce water resources, underscored by current drought conditions, are a concern of all its citizens. Caldwell County's air quality is borderline. Remedial steps are currently being taken by local agencies.

**Objective:** Educate seniors on the impact of air and water quality on their daily living and involve them in maintaining and enhancing the quality of these important elements.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Develop a program to provide seniors an awareness of existing air and water quality levels within the region generally and Caldwell County specifically.
- Initiate a program which involves seniors in the promotion of enhanced air and water quality.

**Responsible Parties:**

- NC Department of Environmental and Natural Resources, Division of Air Quality and Water Quality
- North Carolina Conservation Network



- North Carolina 2010 Health Goals
- Mission Environment North Carolina

## **Neighborhood Organizations**

Neighborhood Organizations are viewed as a subject of minor concern inasmuch as these entities are established and governed by individual neighborhoods and little if anything can be done to influence them. However, as seniors move in to a new residence they need to be aware of what that particular neighborhood has in the way of organized groups to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life afforded its citizens. As an example, some residents may feel safer knowing that a “crime watch” is functioning in their neighborhood.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Seniors should make themselves aware of organizations that may be available in any neighborhood in which they contemplate residing.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce
- Realtors
- Local Police Departments, and Caldwell County Sheriff’s Department

## **Road Safety**

**Objective:** Identify senior driving safety issues with emphasis on the Unifour area.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Survey: Use questionnaires to identify drivers’ concerns.
- Education: Establish and expand senior defensive driving programs.
- Media: Highlight driver safety programs unique to seniors, increase awareness of hazards on the road. Establish website to inform seniors of causes and possible solutions.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- NC Department of Transportation
- NC Senior Driver Safety Coalition (SDSC)
- NC Highway Patrol
- County and Local police departments
- Local adult education facilities
- AARP Driver Safety Coordinator

## **Housing and Utilities**

There is a shortage of senior-friendly housing in Caldwell County at all levels of affordability. Preliminary plans for a demonstration home have been developed which would provide a prototype for realtors, developers, and contractors to use in their

construction of homes for active seniors. This universally designed home will utilize state-of-the-art materials, systems, and appliances in providing safe, user-friendly, low-maintenance, and environmentally sound living accommodations for seniors.

**Objective:** Construct demonstration home of universal design that is green leaning.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Develop a plan of action and milestones (POA&M) for building the demonstration home.
- Develop plans and specifications for the demonstration home.
- Locate a suitable site on which to construct the home.
- Seek partners who will assist in the financing construction and provision of components.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Retirement Alliance
- Caldwell County Community College & Technical Institute
- Caldwell County Realtors
- Caldwell County Home Builders Association
- Building Suppliers
- Local building officials

**Land Use and Zoning**

Land Use and Zoning provide the controls over how individual parcels and areas of land are utilized. Caldwell County has just completed a Regional Land Use Plan. Zoning is administered by officials of Caldwell County and the various municipalities within the County. These controls are up to date, comprehensive, and provide adequate guidelines for the administration and planning of how land is to be utilized. No action is deemed necessary in these two categories.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- None required

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Planning Board
- City of Lenoir Planning Board
- County and municipal elected officials
- Realtors

**Recreational Facilities**

Most active seniors are enthusiastic about recreational facilities. Fortunately, Caldwell County is blessed with a number of indoor and outdoor recreational features that serve the residents of this community at all age levels. Currently there is an aquatic center, several walking parks, four golf courses, a number of parks, areas for good fishing and

hunting, riding trails, etc. Additionally, there are a multitude of cultural facilities such as an extremely active arts council, a state-of-the-art civic center, and little theater groups.

**Objective:** Highlight the availability of recreational and cultural activities and provide opportunities for seniors to utilize, support and actively serve on advisory boards or serve as volunteer staff.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Seniors should become aware of recreational and cultural activities, utilize them, be involved with and actively support them.
- Seniors should voice their needs through local media.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce
- Caldwell Arts Council

**Shopping**

High on the list of wants on every questionnaire posed to seniors is adequate shopping facilities. Local seniors voiced a need for more specialty shops for items like quality shoes and clothing with broader selections of styles and sizes. Others would like to see “Big Box Shopping Centers” like K-Mart. Many spoke of wanting to “buy locally,” to support the local economy. Currently there are a number of retail outlets being planned, programmed and constructed within the county. As an example two Super Wal-Marts are currently under construction with several tenant stores being located within these two complexes. However, seniors need to continue to stress the need for adequate local shopping facilities.

**Objective:** Expand retail and commercial shopping opportunities in Caldwell County.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Seniors should become involved with and support various responsible parties.
- Voice needs through local media.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce
- Caldwell County Economic Development Commission
- Lenoir Economic Development Board
- Lenoir News Topic
- Local radio stations
- Local TV Network

## **Noise Control**

Noise, defined as “unwanted sound,” bothers everyone to a degree. Noise is particularly annoying to seniors. Caldwell County and the various municipalities within it have existing noise abatement controls which provide restrictions designed to protect the general public. Sometimes, however, an existing or proposed activity is viewed as a potential problem with noise. As an example, operators of a local auto race track applied for a permit to expand their agreed upon schedule of evening races. After local residents voiced their opposition at a public hearing, a compromise was reached to operate in such a manner as to abate the noise.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- None required

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Planning Board
- City of Lenoir Planning Board
- County and municipal elected officials

## **Dining**

Active seniors nationally eat out on average five or more times a week. Most seniors seek a variety of menus and price selection. In Caldwell County an adequate number of fast-food establishments exist but higher-end restaurants are all but non-existent and most of them are of the chain variety. Many Caldwell residents drive to other towns in the area to satisfy their dining needs. The Caldwell County Economic Development Commission is currently pursuing several new restaurants in this area and three new dining establishments have announced imminent plans to open their doors.

**Objective:** Pursue the recruitment of new and more upscale dining facilities

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Seniors should voice their need for more, diverse, and better restaurants in Caldwell County.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce
- Caldwell County Economic Development Commission
- Lenoir Economic Development Board

## HEALTHY AGING

### **Adult Immunization**

**Objective:** Identify needed immunizations for seniors and educate them about the importance and availability of immunizations. Educate the public about the devastating impact, precautions and steps needed to be taken in the event of an outbreak of Pandemic Flu.

#### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Meet with Caldwell County Health Department to determine needed immunizations.
- Determine methods for educating the public about the importance of immunizations.
- Collaborate with individuals/agencies to provide immunizations.
- Inform county residents of ways to access immunizations.
- Make public aware of disaster preparedness in the event of Pandemic Flu.
- Provide toolkits to include emergency essentials such as water, food, medications, light and heat.

#### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Health Department
- Emergency Medical Services
- Senior Community Partners
- Healthy Caldwellians
- Caldwell Senior Center

### **Preventive Care**

**Objective:** Identify and inform seniors of the opportunities for preventive care and educate them on the importance of utilizing such measures.

#### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Determine endorsed services for preventive care for seniors.
- Assess availability of these services in the county.
- Publicize opportunities for preventive services
- Collaborate with individuals/agencies to provide additional preventive services
- Make public aware of importance of diet, exercise, and smoking cessation as personal preventive measures.

#### **Responsible Parties:**

- Healthy Caldwellians
- Caldwell County Health Department
- Caldwell Senior Center and SHIIP (Senior Health Insurance Information Program)
- Caldwell Memorial Hospital and Quest4Life Wellness Center

## **Primary Care**

**Objective:** Communicate the importance of having a primary care physician to monitor a person's overall health in an on-going manner to encompass all of the following: prevention, intervention, urgent care, dental, and mental.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Offer presentations at senior center on importance of primary care physicians and correlation between maintaining health and independence.
- Direct seniors looking for a primary care physician to the local Yellow Pages and to the website of Caldwell Memorial Hospital.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Memorial Hospital
- Helping Hands Clinic
- Caldwell County Health Department
- Area Nursing/Assisted Living Centers

## **Dental Health**

**Objective:** Identify dental services available for seniors and collaborate with area dentists and health care agencies to determine ways to improve services.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Meet with area dentists to discuss concerns and understand level of service.
- Determine ways to improve service.
- Collaborate with individuals/agencies to provide service.
- Educate the public about the importance of dental health to overall health.
- Make public aware of ways to access dental service.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Healthy Caldwellians Dental Committee
- Caldwell County Health Department
- Area dentists
- Unifour Dental Task Force
- North Carolina General Assembly (legislation easing restraints on licensed hygienist service in nursing/assisted living facilities; legislation easing dental licensure reciprocity with other states).

## **Mental Health**

**Objective:** Identify and evaluate mental health services and find ways to educate the public about existing services and how to access them.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Contact Mental Health providers to determine available services for seniors and how to access them.
- Work with Caldwell County Commissioners during restructuring of provider services to strengthen services to seniors.
- Conduct awareness campaign regarding available services and accessibility

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Foothills Area Programs
- Area providers
- Caldwell Memorial Hospital
- Caldwell County Commissioners

## **Wellness/Fitness**

**Objective:** Encourage seniors to participate in the various wellness programs offered at parks and recreation centers, senior center, wellness organizations and churches throughout the county.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Meet with staff from Quest4Life, other providers, the faith community, and personnel associated with Senior Games about appropriate activities for seniors.
- Determine methods for educating the public about the difference between normal aging and wellness/fitness.
- Make public aware of opportunities for wellness/fitness utilizing Caldwell Senior Partners.
- Collaborate with individuals/agencies to provide additional wellness/fitness opportunities for seniors.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Quest4Life Wellness Center
- Healthy Caldwellians
- Senior Games
- Caldwell Senior Center
- Lenoir Parks and Recreation (Mulberry Recreation Center, Martin Luther King Recreation Center, Lenoir Aquatic Fitness Center)
- Hudson Recreation Center
- Granite Falls Recreation Center

## **Nutrition**

**Objective:** Increase the number of seniors participating in Congregate Nutrition and Home Delivered Meals programs. Educate and increase awareness about proper nutrition and low cost food distribution centers.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Recruit meal delivery volunteers via service agency newsletters, newspaper articles and presentations.
- Inform seniors about availability of meal programs, assistance and proper nutrition through newsletter, cable television, program and presentations.
- Publish “Cooking for One” recipes in senior center newsletter that are healthy, affordable, and appropriate for a senior who lives alone or with spouse.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Area churches
- Blue Ridge Community Action
- Area grocery stores
- Healthy Caldwellians
- Angel Food Ministries
- Caldwell Senior Center
- Department of Social Services
- Area physicians

## **Medications**

**Objective:** Educate seniors about the importance of possible interactions of medications prescribed by multiple physicians. Increase financial assistance to seniors unable to afford prescription drugs.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Offer presentations on medication management/interactions at senior center, congregate meal sites, and adult daycare; invite pharmacists and hospital staff to speak.
- Caldwell Senior Tar Heel Delegate will work with the NC Senior Tar Heel Legislature to advocate for an increase in financial assistance for prescription drugs.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Memorial Hospital
- Area Physicians
- Caldwell Senior Center
- Caldwell County Senior Tar Heel Delegate
- Local Pharmacies



## **Rehabilitation**

**Objective:** Encourage rehabilitation providers to provide seniors with simple, clear instructions for continued rehabilitation exercises that seniors can do at home, once they have been released from rehab center and after insurance benefits have been exhausted.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Meet with providers to modify instructions for at home rehabilitation exercises

**Responsible Parties:**

- Rehabilitation discharge planners
- Rehabilitation providers

## **Hospitals**

**Objective:** Partner with local hospital to ensure the facility is senior-friendly

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Set up meeting with key staff at Caldwell Memorial.
- Develop senior friendly assessment tool for evaluating facility
- Conduct assessment
- Suggest any needed improvements regarding signage, billing, outpatient, cafeteria, and parking.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Memorial Hospital
- Caldwell County Council on Aging
- Caldwell Senior Center

## **Leisure**

**Objective:** Encourage seniors and families to better utilize existing leisure opportunities

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Publicize leisure activities through local television, newspapers, churches, health care professionals, and other appropriate organizations geared towards seniors.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Today Television Program
- Lenoir News Topic (newspaper)
- Area churches
- Senior Center
- Chamber of Commerce
- Local physicians
- Senior Community Partners' Email List Serve

## **Vision/Hearing Care**

**Objective:** Advocate on behalf of seniors for ways to improve vision and hearing through services, products and community awareness.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Advocate for Medicare coverage to include vision and hearing services.
- Local providers to offer free vision and hearing screenings at health fairs and community events.
- Meet with local government re: increasing the size and clarity of street signs.
- Petition AT&T to print telephone directories in larger font.
- Caution seniors to beware of companies hawking hearing products.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Helping Hands Clinic
- Caldwell Memorial Hospital
- Caldwell County Health Department
- Area Nursing/Assisted Living Centers
- Faith Community
- Lions Club
- Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute
- Local Optometry Association/Doctors
- Caldwell County Department of Social Services, Services for the Blind

## **Medicare/Medicaid Acceptance**

**Objective:** Conduct public awareness campaign to inform residents about Medicare enrollment, coverage, cost, claims, preventive services and benefits. Encourage seniors to advocate for resolution of issues with Medicare Prescription Drug Plans and Insurance Scams.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Advocate for increased funding for Medicare Education, Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) training and counseling for human service agency personnel, seniors and the public.
- Provide advocacy training to seniors and human service personnel

### **Responsible Parties:**

- SHIIP (Senior Health Insurance Information Program)
- Caldwell Senior Tar Heel Delegate
- Social Security Administration
- Senior Center
- Department of Social Services
- Pharmacies

## **ECONOMIC SECURITY**

### **Job Training**

**Objective:** Provide new job opportunities in areas other than furniture and textiles.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Promote local community college system.
- Make Job Link accessible.
- Develop new job training techniques.

**Responsible Parties:** Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute

### **Job Discrimination**

**Objective:** Advocate for hiring older workers for higher paying jobs.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Promote the advantages of hiring older workers.
- Educate the public regarding the possibility of age discrimination among older working professionals

**Responsible Parties:** Employment Security Commission

### **Financial Planning**

**Objective:** Local businesses will encourage employees to participate earlier in retirement plans.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Educate businesses and industries on the importance of educating employees to save for the future.
- Encourage participation in retirement plans
- Publicize resources for assistance with financial planning.
- Promote the importance for younger people to plan for the future.

**Responsible Parties:** Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce

## **Health Insurance**

**Objective:** Encourage individuals to compare costs/benefits of various insurance plans to obtain affordable health coverage.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Educate individuals on importance of maintaining health insurance.
- Educate the public about the increasing costs of health insurance coverage for older adults under the age of sixty-five.
- Inform the public regarding the increasing loss of employer health insurance benefits for retirees.
- Inform the public about gaps in Medicare

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Senior Center
- Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP)

## **Income**

**Objective:** Encourage younger workers to begin planning for the future.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Encourage employers to inform workers of various opportunities to invest for retirement.
- Make the public aware that Social Security income will not provide a desirable standard of living in retirement.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Businesses and Industries
- Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce

## **Job Opportunities**

**Objective:** Encourage businesses to hire older workers.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Provide statistics to show value of hiring older workers.
- Encourage temp agencies to hire older workers.
- Focus on future impact of senior population on work force development due to fewer industries in the county, and movement to a more “service-oriented” income from this population.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Employment Security Commission
- Job Link

## **Job Retooling**

**Objective:** Encourage local community college to provide transitional training for workers who lost employment due to global trade.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Partner with local Employment Security Commission office to provide employment opportunities to older workers.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Employment Security Commission
- Job Link

## **Senior-Friendly Businesses**

**Objective:** Encourage businesses and municipalities to provide services/resources to access areas.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Educate businesses and municipalities to continue to develop plans to provide senior-friendly access to all facilities.
- Recognize Senior-Friendly businesses and municipalities.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Businesses and Industries
- Municipalities

## **Long Term Care Costs**

**Objective:** Encourage the purchase of long term care insurance.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Educate the public regarding the importance of long term care insurance.
- Encourage employers to offer long term care insurance to employees.
- Inform the public about the types of long term care: nursing home, rest home, home health, assisted living, etc.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP)
- Employers and Private Insurance companies

**Timeline:** Membership of Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce will be informed through their newspaper insert by December of 2010.

## **Tax Credits/Exemptions**

**Objective:** Establish tax exemptions or reduced taxes for older citizens.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Advocate for the continuance of tax exemptions such as the Homestead Exemption Act and for legislation that supports additional tax relief.
- Encourage lawmakers to consider tax breaks for older adults whose property is being surrounded by expensive development.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Senior Tar Heel Legislature
- Caldwell Council on Aging
- Caldwell County Tax Office
- Municipal Tax Offices

### **CALDWELL COUNTY PROPERTY TAX RELIEF**

North Carolina Law Provides Three  
Types of Property Tax Relief For  
North Carolina Residents

#### **Elderly or Disabled Exclusion**

#### **Disabled Veteran Exclusion**

#### **Circuit Breaker Property Tax Deferment**

Contact the Tax Assessor's Office  
for information.

(828) 757-1418

905 West Avenue, NW

Lenoir, NC 28645

Business Hours 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

[www.caldwellcountync.org](http://www.caldwellcountync.org)

## **SAFETY & SECURITY**

### **Emergency Response**

**Objective:** Secure funding for Project Lifesaver, an innovative rapid response program designed to aid victims and families suffering from dementia. Deploys emergency response staff to quickly locate and return wandering person to safety via a locator bracelet.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Present program on Project Lifesaver to key stakeholders
- Apply for grant for initial funding
- Develop plans for securing funds to sustain the program
- Once funding is secure, conduct outreach efforts to identify individuals who need the service

**Responsible Parties:**

- Emergency Management in Caldwell County has agreed to house equipment and provide oversight of Project Lifesaver.

### **Fraud/Exploitation**

**Objective:** To make senior citizens aware of scams, fraud, and identity theft and how to recognize it and where to seek assistance.

**Strategies/Recommendations:** A regional committee has been established and trained to identify and assist victims. Caldwell Senior Center and other agencies are providing programs to inform people about various scams. An Information and Assistance program is available through the senior center to assist seniors with these types of issues.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Senior Center
- Victim's Assistance Program Volunteers

### **Emergency Response and Outreach**

**Objective:** Train EMS staff on special needs of seniors when responding to calls.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- EMS staff will participate in geriatric training course led by EMS training coordinator
- Secure funding to purchase additional sensitivity training kits.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Office of Emergency Services

## **Outreach and Fire Safety**

**Objective:** Continue and strengthen efforts to provide outreach on Fire Safety and Home Fall Prevention, etc. to older adults in Caldwell County.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Broadcast PSA's and programs on Caldwell County Government Cable Channel.
- Offer programs at senior center, nutrition sites, etc.
- Include article in senior center newsletter.

**Responsible Parties:**

- EMS Staff

## **Emergency Response**

**Objective:** Publicize and distribute Weather/Emergency Radios specifically designed for the deaf and hard of hearing.

**Strategies/Recommendations:** Include information in the senior center newsletter.

**Responsible Parties:**

- EMS and Senior Center staff

## **Abuse/Neglect; Domestic Violence; Outreach**

**Objective:** Provide more education and training to the public on Elder Abuse and Neglect to help people identify and report appropriately.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Offer programs at nutrition sites, senior center, churches, LTC facilities, civic groups, etc.
- Recruit volunteers to assist with presentations.
- Establish Elder Abuse Task Force.
- Air presentations on Caldwell County Government Cable Channel.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Department of Social Services
- Caldwell Law Enforcement Agencies



## **Emergency Response**

**Objective:** Secure funding to print 1200 new Stat Cards which provide information for Emergency Response staff on personal and medical information of residents. Distribute cards to older adults in Caldwell County.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Secure funding for additional cards.
- EMS staff will assist Koinonia residents with completing cards.
- Distribute cards at Celebration of Life and throughout the county..
- Department of Social Services staff will assist clients with completing cards.
- Promote on Caldwell County Government Cable Channel.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- EMS Staff
- Ruritans (Service Project)
- Senior Center Staff
- Caldwell County Department of Social Services Staff

## **Fire Safety**

**Objective:** Distribute free smoke detectors to seniors in Caldwell County – specifically targeting low-income and most vulnerable populations.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

Note: Emergency Management secured grant from NC DHHS for 500 smoke detectors. At 5/31/07 meeting – staff reported only 70 had been distributed. Created a flyer to publicize and promote. Info was put in Senior Center newsletter and PSA's were done on government cable channel. Flyers were also distributed at nutrition sites and to home health clients. All detectors were distributed by the end of September. Group has been given 500 more detectors to distribute. Staff who install smoke detectors also perform a fire safety inspection of the home and give info, training, and suggestions for improvements to clients.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Emergency Management Services
- Caldwell County Fire Department

## **Driver Safety**

**Objective:** Offer Driver Safety course to all county seniors and advocate for NC Legislature to authorize insurance discounts for seniors who complete such a course (as has been done in 38 other states).

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- One course is offered in the county every year. The goal is to increase this to at least 3 courses and/or to publicize courses more effectively.
- Partner with AARP to lobby the NC General Assembly to authorize insurance discounts.

**Responsible Parties:**

- AARP Instructor
- AARP Area Coordinator

## **Fraud/Exploitation**

**Objective:** Host Scam Jam in Caldwell County to help educate seniors and their families about fraud and exploitation.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Enlist Area Agency on Aging to offer Scam Jam in Caldwell County

**Responsible Parties:**

- Department of Social Services
- Area Agency on Aging
- Caldwell Senior Center

## **Emergency Response**

**Objective:** Set up Special Needs Registry for Caldwell County

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Use NCcareLINK to register residents on Special Needs Registry.
- Publicize efforts and get people registered.
- Enlist County GIS Department to map shelters and registered individuals to assist emergency response staff.

**Responsible Parties:**

- AAA staff to coordinate efforts with EMS staff when NCcareLINK program is in place.

## **ACCESS AND CHOICE IN SERVICES AND SUPPORTS**

### **Information and Assistance**

**Objectives:** Strengthen coordination among the aging network to insure education and increased awareness of the resources available to older adults, caregivers and the general public are consistently provided.

Advocate on behalf of individuals or groups to obtain change in the delivery or availability of services.

#### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Coordinate additional education and training opportunities for aging service providers and staff about the various resources available to older adults and caregivers, so that they may better educate their clients and the public about senior issues and make referrals to appropriate service providers. Education opportunities would include “Learning About Senior Issues” programs sponsored by Senior Community Partners, organized programs via Webinars, Seminars and Workshops.
- Offer programs on resources available for older adults in rural settings. Information and Assistance for Older Adults brochures will be mailed with water bills and/or electric bills. Local television, radio and newspaper will publicize information about available resources and assistance.
- Continue to offer senior issues information through the Senior Community Partners (SCP) list-serve that currently has 122 contacts. Continue to extend the invitation to interested prospects who want to join the SCP list-serve.
- Provide a library of public information videos about senior issues created by Caldwell County Public Information Office, Senior Center, local library and Department of Social Services. These videos may be viewed at the Senior Center or are available for checkout.
- Establish an “Information and Assistance for Older Adults” website with links to 24 hour online Information and Assistance resources such as 2-1-1, Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute Job Link Resource Directory, Western Piedmont Council Of Government Resource Directory for Older Adults, Information and Assistance for Older Adults brochure, CARE-LINE and NCcareLINK, and Cooperative Extension Website.

#### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Senior Center
- Department of Social Services
- Caldwell County Library
- Senior Community Partners
- Caldwell County Today Television
- Lenoir News-Topic
- City of Lenoir

## **Caregiver Support**

**Objective:** Provide education, resources, respite and support to family caregivers.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Coordinate educational caregiving classes with Cooperative Extension, Senior Center, Parish Nurses and the Western Piedmont Council of Governments Family Caregiver Support Specialist two times a year.
- Advocate for an increase in Home and Community Care Block Grant funds for respite care to address unmet needs.
- Maintain a current list of support groups that will be distributed to the public through the SCP list serve, Cooperative Extension Service, Hospice and Palliative Care, WPCOG Caregiver Specialist, and Information and Assistance for Older Adults.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Cooperative Extension Service
- Caregiver Specialist at Hospice and Palliative Care
- Senior Community Partners
- Job Link at CCC&TI
- Parish Nurses
- WPCOG Family Caregiver Support Specialist
- Caldwell Senior Center

## **Drug Assistance**

**Objective:** Assist seniors with accessing resources for affordable/no cost medications.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Publicize and educate the community about Medicare Part D, NCRx, Low Income Subsidy, free prescription assistance from pharmaceutical manufacturers, and any other programs related to medication assistance, ( i.e. drug discount cards).
- Advocate for continuation of funding for prescription assistance programs.
- Outreach to local pharmacists to improve public awareness about prescription assistance.
- Continue to publicize medication assistance qualifications and guidelines to the general public through local television, newspaper, radio and Senior Center newsletter.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Senior Center
- Caldwell County Today Television
- Lenoir News-Topic
- Local pharmacies

## **Care Management**

**Objective:** Publicize information on the availability of care management in county hospital, skilled nursing facilities and behavioral health facilities.

### **Strategies/Recommendations**

- Provide a list of care management providers including contact information, job involvement, and guidelines for services. This list will be provided by the Senior Community Partners Clinical Consultative Committee.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Memorial Hospital
- Smokey Mountain Center
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Senior Community Partners Clinical Consultative Committee

## **Long Term Care Facilities**

**Objective 1:** Long Term Facility staff will receive appropriate levels of training in their specific area of service. Long Term Facilities will ensure adequate staffing to care for residents.

**Objective 2:** State budget will include additional funding to provide dental services in Long Term Care Facilities.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Increase the number of Certified Nursing Assistants available to support long term care facilities. The Hospice and Long Term Care Association will attempt to get funding to complete a compensation study that focuses on facilities staff salaries.
- Provide access to dental care through physicians and contractual services for residents in Long Term Care facilities, specifically the Medicaid population.
- Advocate for additional funding for dental services in Long Term Care facilities

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Hospice and Long Term Care Association
- Department of Health and Human Services
- NC Senior Tar Heel Legislature

## **Home and Community Services**

**Objective:** Provide easily identifiable and accessible services for seniors and disabled adults to remain safely in their own homes.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Increase the allocation of needed funds for senior programs.
- Collaborate with WPCOG on maintaining the coalition consisting of local in-home care providers, community, and agencies that serve aging and disabled adults.
- Secure funding for Project Lifesaver (protects wandering patients) which gives peace of mind to caregivers, families and community. This can be administered through the local Sheriffs Department.
- Increase the number of volunteer drivers assisting Meals on Wheels through volunteers organized by the NC Cooperative Extension Service, Caldwell County Chapter.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Western Piedmont Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging
- Blue Ridge Community Action Meals on Wheels
- NC Cooperative Extension Service, Caldwell County Chapter
- Caldwell County Sheriff Department

## **Senior Centers**

**Objective:** Continue to provide a centralized provision of services that addresses the special needs of older adults; providing opportunities for them to become more involved in the community. Promote personal independence and wellness by providing a broad spectrum of services focused on health, social interaction, education and recreation, not limited to the demanding needs of a special population of developing baby boomers.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Continue to request Senior Center General Purpose Funding from the State to support construction, expansion and renovation of Senior Centers.
- Continue to offer programs that meet the needs of a growing/changing population.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Senior Center
- Caldwell Council on Aging

## **Legal Services**

**Objective:** Develop and publicize programs providing legal information of benefits to older adults and information on how to access legal services.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Develop and publicize a list of Caldwell County attorneys, including addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, web sites, and brief description of areas of expertise. Publicize information about the N.C. Bar Association Lawyer Referral service.
- Determine areas of general legal interest to seniors. Plan programs on these areas using different formats such as speakers, panel discussions, “How-to” Sessions and study groups. These programs will provide basic legal information for personal use in areas in which older adults or caregivers may be able to represent themselves.
- Encourage Community College to develop study groups or courses for older adults that focus on legal issues, such as Long Term Care Planning, End of Life Planning, Financial Planning and Governmental Resources for seniors.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Senior Center, Information and Assistance for Older Adults
- Caldwell Community College

## **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren**

**Objective:** Provide support, information and resources for grandparents raising grandchildren.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- The Region E Family Caregiver Alliance will work with the Area Agency on Aging Family Caregiver Specialist to establish a Grandparents Raising Grandchildren network of information, resources, and support.
- Support the Family Caregiver Specialist in efforts to publicize and provide a Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Western Piedmont Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging
- Region E Family Caregiver Alliance

## **End-of-Life Care**

**Objective:** Continue to promote and enhance End-of-Life Care through organizations such as Caldwell Hospice and Palliative Care and the Caldwell Partnership for End-of-Life Care.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Educate senior population, and service providers about end-of-life services provided in the county including hospice, palliative care, and grief support.
- Partner with Caldwell Partnership for End-of-Life Care to promote completion of advance directives.
- Educate long-term care facilities, health care providers, and emergency management personnel about the Medical Order for Scope of Treatment (MOST) and its use for patients at the end-of-life.
- Encourage support for county hospice during construction of a second facility that will provide additional beds for respite and acute care while adding residential care to existing services.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Hospice and Palliative Care
- Caldwell Partnership for End-of-Life-Care
- Long Term Care Facilities

## **Guardianship**

**Objective:** Provide public awareness and education about the guidelines and process of establishing guardianship of an individual.

### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Create a televised presentation on Guardianship through the Senior Community Partners, including representatives from the Department of Social Services, Mental Health Services, Legal, and Court System. Program will be included in the library of senior issues program for viewing anytime.
- Partner with County Clerk of Court for referral of seniors seeking assistance with Advance Directives such as Power of Attorney and Health Care Power of Attorney, as a means of preventing guardianship. Referrals may be made to the Caldwell Senior Center, where Advance Directive Clinics are scheduled monthly.

### **Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Clerk of Court
- Senior Community Partners (“Learning about Senior Issues” Program)
- Department of Social Services
- Smokey Mountain Center
- Caldwell County Today (public television)
- Caldwell Senior Center



## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **Assistive Technology, Medical & Distance Learning, Lifeline, and Telehealth**

**Objective:** Awareness: Promote public awareness about the resources available for older adults and caregivers in the specified areas.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Provide information at Health Fairs and through presentations at senior center.
- Share information with physicians and health care providers.
- Identify agencies that might be able to assist in funding certain programs.
- Use press releases in the local newspaper.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Churches
- Individual agencies
- Caldwell Senior Center
- Chamber of Commerce
- Caldwell County Commissioners
- Local Media

### **Internet, Telephone, and Cell Phone Access**

**Objective:** Determine the extent and accessibility of internet, telephone, and cell phone access countywide and identify areas where gaps in service exist.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Contact telephone service providers to encourage construction of additional cell towers in areas with limited service, notably in the Northwest quadrant of Caldwell County.
- Communicate to seniors about available services and how to select the appropriate services for their particular needs.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell County Commissioners
- Area providers
- Caldwell Senior Center
- Lenoir News Topic
- Cable TV Channel 10

## **NC CareLINK**

**Objective:** List Caldwell County providers and services online with NCcareLINK – Statewide information and referral database of human services. Once information is in the system, make public aware of NCcareLINK.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Area Agency on Aging office will enter data into system.
- Publicize NCcareLINK to public and service providers through senior center newsletter, media and presentations to the community.

**Responsible Parties:**

- AAA
- Caldwell Senior Center



<http://www.nccarelink.gov/>

At one time or another, everyone needs helpful resources. Individuals who use the internet have a new source for information and services. NCcareLINK is designed for people looking for services for themselves, loved ones or someone they are assisting.

NCcareLINK provides up-to-date information from the everyday to the specialized in a user-friendly format on a one-stop website where visitors can tailor searches to their needs and location. Information available may range from assistance to people with disabilities and special needs to those who may be looking for help with housing, healthcare and transportation.

## **SOCIAL and CULTURAL OPPORTUNITY**

### **Volunteerism**

**Objective:** Promote and expand volunteer opportunities in Caldwell County.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Conduct public awareness campaign to promote volunteerism.
- Survey agencies/organizations regarding volunteer needs.
- Train and encourage non-profits and community leaders in the recruitment and retention of older volunteers (annual training event).
- Advertise and promote volunteer opportunities on Caldwell Today, in newspapers and agency newsletters.
- Partner with faith-based programs to promote volunteerism.
- Expand community transportation to include service for older adults participating in volunteer and civic opportunities - consider program similar to *Volunteers in Motion* (linking volunteers with county vehicles/school buses during off hours).

**Responsible Parties:**

- RSVP
- Senior Center
- Council on Aging

### **Libraries**

**Objective:** Create a more livable senior-friendly environment for patrons of all ages, focusing on improved access for persons with disabilities.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Conduct LSFC assessment of libraries.
- Share results of library assessment with library director.
- Meet with library staff, friends of the library to address areas of concern.
- Seek funding for improvements through grants, sponsorship.
- Present findings to county commissioners.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Council on Aging
- Caldwell County Library - Lenoir

## **Cultural/Social Programs**

**Objective 1:** Expand availability of daytime cultural programs and opportunities for older adults and persons with special needs, including compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Appoint study committee to contact civic center, symphonies, movie theaters and other entertainment sources regarding offering matinees, daytime performances.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Council on Aging

**Objective 2:** Caldwell County will have a senior center(s) that can accommodate the dramatic growth of an older population.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Conduct a feasibility study to determine if a senior center is needed in the southern part of the county and/or if a larger more centrally located center is needed.
- Determine if senior center development funding is available.
- Report findings to Caldwell County Commissioners.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Council on Aging
- Caldwell Senior Center
- WPCOG Area Agency on Aging

*Volunteering gives you a new lease on life!*



**Appalachian Retired and Senior Volunteer Program  
(828) 754-3000**

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS**

### **Public Benefits**

**Objectives:** Provide information about the various programs and services available for the senior population to county residents. Provide *a single access point* of information, in both English and Spanish, for all services available to senior citizens, as well as older adults moving into the county.

#### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Create an Internet-based, user-friendly *single access point* for seniors, their families and caregivers, to learn about programs and services available in the county. Alternative ways to access this information would include a phone line manned throughout the workweek, and an office for person-to-person contact.
- Publicize the *single access point* focusing on how it is reached and the information about the many services available to the senior population. Various means of publicity should be used, such as billboards, newspaper articles, television and radio public service announcements, the Senior Center newsletter, and announcements in church bulletins.
- Equip field staff, such as social workers and public health nurses, with technical equipment to be able to obtain information about services needed during home visits of the elder population.

**Responsible Parties:** Caldwell Senior Community Partners, with assistance from:

- Caldwell County government
- Caldwell Council on Aging
- Caldwell Senior Center

### **Community Needs Assessments**

**Objective:** To continually gather information about the quality of life for the senior population and the services provided for them.

#### **Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Continue to work with the Caldwell County Health Department on a county-wide assessment every four years.
- Survey senior citizens every year at *Celebration of Life*.
- Conduct a senior survey in the local churches and long term care facilities.
- Expand the role of *Caldwell Senior Community Partners* to include (1) serving as a repository for the needs assessment data collected in the Countywide assessment of elder needs; (2) creation of a *Caldwell County Consortium* representing agencies/organizations, (3) problem-solving; (4) oversight of aging initiatives and (5) follow-up to ensure that successful outcomes for seniors are accomplished in a timely manner.

**Responsible Parties:**

- For the county-wide study: Caldwell County Health Department, Department of Social Services, and Council on Aging.
- For surveying participants at Celebration of Life: Department of Social Services.
- Survey of elders within local churches and long term care facilities: Caldwell Senior Community Partners.
- Oversight for all aging initiatives: Caldwell Senior Community Partners.

**Planning and Coordination**

**Objective:** Deliver the results from all fact-gathering assessments to organizations for problem solving. Assure that all long-range planning includes a focus on the senior population. Verify that established needs from assessments be solved in a timely manner.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Through the auspices of the Caldwell Senior Community Partners, encourage such organizations as Caldwell 20/20 (*Consensus Community Strategy and Implementation Plan*), Advantage West, and Caldwell's Economic Development Commission to widen their mission to focus on the future needs of the aging population.
- Disseminate the findings from the 2008 Countywide Assessment (and future studies) to specific organizations, whose focus best fits the identified needs, and to facilitate problem-solving.
- Create a follow-up procedure to track the established needs from the fact-gathering assessments to ensure that strategies and systems are in place to solve the identified problems.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Senior Community Partners

**Public and Private Funding Sources**

**Objective:** Provide help to organizations that wish to seek funding for various projects for older adults.

**Strategies/Recommendations**

- Seek funding to create and maintain a website (single access point) containing a database &/or links to organizations offering services for the older population.
- Seek funding to maintain a phone line and an office to help citizens access the website.
- Seek funding to support publicity and publication needs for the website.
- Seek funding for technical equipment for field workers (such as social workers and public health nurses) to enable quick reference to information about an available service to help a client in need.
- Seek funding for an annual luncheon with public officials to share elder concerns

- Increase financial support from local government sources for the Caldwell Senior Center.
- Develop a comprehensive prospect list of likely private funders interested in Caldwell County and the aged.
- Develop a comprehensive community needs list and assist organizations/agencies by identifying possible funders, if needed.
- Develop partnerships with area non-profits who serve the aged in Caldwell County to seek ways to collaborate for private community funding.
- Provide support for initiatives/strategies identified in the Caldwell Aging Leadership Planning Project.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Caldwell Senior Community Partners
- Caldwell Council on Aging
- Service Providers
- Western Piedmont Council of Governments

**Representation in Public Affairs**

**Objective:** Seek support for programs benefitting older adults.

**Strategies/Recommendations:**

- Continually meet with public officials to inform them of elder issues.
- Provide an annual luncheon of elected officials to discuss elder issues.
- Provide a senior satellite center in the southern part of the county.
- Request the NC Department of Transportation and Caldwell County to (1) use larger print street signs, (2) improve and maintain all signage.

**Responsible Parties:**

- Elected officials
- Western Piedmont Council of Governments
- Caldwell County Council on Aging

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

## **CALDWELL AGING LEADERSHIP PLANNING PROJECT**

### **PHASE I**

#### **Healthy Aging**

Cyndi Daulton	Caldwell Senior Center
Ann Gilley	Caldwell Memorial Hospital
Roz MacGuire	Caldwell County Health Department
Jan Pritchard	Healthy Caldwellians
Rick Rash	American Red Cross
Jonathan Reece	Hudson Discount Drug
Shirley Story	Senior
Linda Walsh	Quest 4 Life Wellness Center

#### **Economic Security**

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Brenda Bentley	Appalachian Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
Sharon Berry	Caldwell Senior Center
Phyllis Huffstetler	Senior
Don Kincaid	Kincaid Insurance
Elaine Lockhart	Caldwell Community College
Kaye Reynolds	City of Lenoir
Brenda Smith	Employment Security Commission

#### **Physical and Accessible Environment**

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Reva Pennell	Pennell Properties
Karen Phoenix	Lenoir Park Assisted Living
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Barbara Town	Senior
Sheila Weeks	Western Piedmont Council of Governments

#### **Safety and Security**

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Tommy Courtner	Caldwell County Emergency Services
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Louella Kincaid	Senior
Tina Miller	Western Piedmont Council of Governments
Wanda Prince	Senior
Robert Reid	Caldwell Emergency Services
Sam Smith	Lenoir Fire Department
Jim Summerlin	Senior



## **CALDWELL AGING LEADERSHIP PLANNING PROJECT PHASE II**

### **Access and Choice in Services and Supports Committee**

Debbie Cox	NC Cooperative Extension Service
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Roz McGuire	Caldwell County Health Department
Jan Pritchard	Healthy Caldwellians
Rick Rash	American Red Cross
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Will Wakefield	Caldwell County Department of Social Services
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Candace McLean	Caldwell Tax Office
Brenda Smith	Employment Security Commission
Metaleen Thomas	Caldwell County Department of Social Services

### **Social and Cultural Opportunity**

Trilla Annas	NC Senior Tar Heel Delegate
Brenda Bentley	Appalachian Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
Debbie Eller	Communities in Schools
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Louella Kincaid	Volunteer, Retired
Sarah Greene	Caldwell County Library
Sheila Weeks	Western Piedmont Council of Governments

### **Technology**

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Sandy Hardin	Guardian Health Services
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Shelby Kennerly	NC Assistive Technology Program
Tina Miller	Western Piedmont Council of Governments
Chuck Scronce	NC Services for the Blind
Allen Stewart	Caldwell Retirement Alliance, Green Home Demonstration Project

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*Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce*

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*Caldwell County Council on Aging*

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*Caldwell County Resource Directory*  
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Department of Social Services

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Caldwell County Department of Social Services

*NC Senior Tar Heel Legislature Reports*

## PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

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Downtown Lenoir, Fall 2005 at Wilson Creek, Historic Happy Valley  
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Caldwell County Council on Aging  
Caldwell Senior Center  
P.O. Box 933  
Lenoir, NC 28645

Copies of the plan may be downloaded at:

[www.caldwellseniorcenter.org](http://www.caldwellseniorcenter.org)

## APPENDICES

- A. Community Survey
  - 1. Survey
  - 2. Survey Results
- B. Volunteer Survey
- C. Is Your Library Senior Friendly?
- D. PowerPoint Presentation – Phase I
- E. PowerPoint Presentation – Phase II
- F. Meeting Agendas and Minutes
- G. Demonstration Home Plan

**APPENDICES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**