

***A Note from the Director Brian T. Butch MDIV, MSW, MA, LCSW***

I am excited to be the new Director of Neptune Township Department of Senior Services and the Senior Center! Since my arrival on November 1<sup>st</sup>, I have experienced a warm welcome from the Township Committee, the wonderful Staff of the Senior Center and the great people of Neptune who participate in the many activities and utilize the awesome services offered to them.

The Senior Center has numerous programs available including; exercise classes at various levels, yoga, Tai Chi, computer classes, knitting, bingo, cards games, art classes, ceramics, woodcarving, stained glass making, book club, guest lectures, choral group, and Zumba...as well as others! In addition there are social services available, volunteer lawyers who do legal services, a nurse from the Monmouth County Board of Health who comes monthly to conduct blood pressure screenings and provide referrals and volunteers teaching French and Spanish.

The Staff provides transportation to and from the Senior Center for those who are not driving, as well as transporting seniors to medical appointments. We have shopping days scheduled each month. What an amazing service!

Every day there is a Continental breakfast provided and at lunch our wonderful staff serves a hot nutritionally based lunch, complete with Teresa's famous homemade soups! Meals on wheels are sent out to our home bound seniors in partnership with Interfaith Neighbors.

The Outreach Services to our seniors targets the homebound and works with them and their families to identify programs and services that may be available to them. There are some government programs that help seniors.

If anyone has not visited the Senior Center I encourage you to come and tour the Center! Those who have reached the age of sixty are invited to become members! There is something for everyone at the Center and it is a great place to meet some new friends!

We have many volunteers who do great work at the Senior Center and we are grateful for them! Recently members of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Cabinet and students from The Poseidon Early College High School volunteered to help with our Thanksgiving and Holiday parties. They are great!

It is exciting to be the new Director. I am learning new things every day, meeting wonderful people, and working with the Staff to plan events. The seniors are truly a blessing to our community. They have such amazing insight, and they are eager to share wonderful stories with us!

I would like to invite you to stop by the Senior Center on December 29<sup>th</sup> between 1pm and 3pm for an Open House to meet all of you. We will have refreshments!

Thank you for the warm welcome. I look forward to getting to know you and invite you to come to the Senior Center. My door is always open!

Have a wonderful Holiday Season!