



# Behind the Wheel

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## JOIN US! Help AgeWell Services at its Parties in the Park on July 22

Parties in the Park has been a summer tradition in Muskegon for over 35 years. AgeWell Services is ecstatic to be selected to host a party Friday, July 22, 2022, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Hackley Park in downtown Muskegon. Parties have a family-friendly atmosphere, and admission is free. Rain or shine.

Our party brings live music, beverage tents, local food vendors and a kid's zone. The bands are county music artist Hannah Ellis and the brother-sister duo Upcoast Kin.



We need 100 volunteers to host our party with two shifts: 4:45 p.m. to 7 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. Jobs include set-up, ID checker, ticket seller, rover ticket seller, water seller, craft beverage station server, beer and wine station server and kid's zone helper. Volunteers also are needed for setup beginning at 1 p.m. and tear-down from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. If you are unable to stand for long periods of time, we have a few stationary volunteer positions.

To volunteer, please contact Jessica Squires, volunteer coordinator, by calling 231-559-0476, emailing [Jessica@agewellservices.org](mailto:Jessica@agewellservices.org) or click to sign-up on VolunteerHub at [vhub.at/awspitp](http://vhub.at/awspitp). A background check is required on all potential volunteers.

Bring your ID to be banded to consume any adult beverages. Food vendors supply a variety of non-alcoholic beverages, and water is available for purchase. Domestic beer is \$4; craft beers, specialty beverages and wine are \$6. Water is \$1. All beverages are discounted \$1 during happy hour from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Nonprofit organizations go through a competitive application process to earn a chance to host a Parties in the Park and receive event proceeds. AgeWell Services' goal is to raise \$10,000 to support aging adults in our seven programs, Meals on Wheels home-delivered meals, Lunch & Activity Centers, Discount Dining, Wellness Programs, Driftwood Café at Tanglewood Park, Senior Medical Transportation and SafeSeniors.



Be a part of the tradition and enjoy your summer evening by spreading the message about AgeWell Services, raising needed funding to support seniors in Muskegon, Oceana and Ottawa counties, and - most importantly - have fun together!

## 7th Heels for Meals & More: A Resounding Success!



After a two-year hiatus, the 7th Heels for Meals & More was an unparalleled success for people who attended and for the aging adults who will be served by the money raised.

More than \$68,410 was raised, including a \$10,000 matching gift from an anonymous donor.

“It was so amazing to see all the people who attended posting on their social media about what a great time they had,” Executive Director Kris Collee said.

“Expanding the programs funded also energized more people to participate. Ultimately the aging adults who need all of our services will benefit and that’s very gratifying.”

Traditionally, a fundraising event to support Meals on Wheels and other nutrition programs, this year’s event added the “& More” to open up support for SafeSeniors, Senior Medical Transportation, the Wellness Center, Senior Activities and the Driftwood Café.

All the favorite elements of this fast-paced event were back: Greatest Needs, Live, Silent and Good Fortune Auctions, hand painted Signature Glasses, the rousing Heads or Heels game, the creative Best Shoe Contest, Signature Cocktails and a delicious dinner. The event was held at The Event Center at Fricano’s and catered by Harris Catering. CMF Marketing handled site logistics.

“People love attending our Heels event,” Advancement Director Diane Smith said. “We’ve really missed being able to hold it during the pandemic. Based on the attendance and support we received, so did the community.”

A total of 32 sponsors with combined contributions of \$19,630 including in-kind donations helped underwrite the event. Three auctions showcased more than \$15,000 in services and goods, the majority of it donated. The Live, Silent and Good Fortune Auctions raised a combined total of \$15,857. Many of the items were handmade by local artisans or were gift cards and free passes to local festivals, events or restaurants.

The Greatest Needs Auction, however, was the big winner of the night, providing an array of services for aging adults with the \$23,740 raised. This number was boosted significantly thanks to a generous anonymous donor who made a heartfelt gift to match the total raised up to \$10,000.

Planning is already underway for the April 22, 2023, event, which will celebrate AgeWell Services’ 50th Anniversary.

## AgeWell Services Wish List

**Each gift makes an impact. Easily connect and meet a need by funding an item on our Wish List!**

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| • Pay off 2018 Chevy Express Meals on Wheels van                 | \$1,906 |
| • Feed a homebound senior for a year                             | \$1,680 |
| • Seated elliptical machine for the Fitness Room                 | \$1,345 |
| • Wheeled food card (\$212 each, 3 needed)                       | \$636   |
| • Air compressor to inflate delivery vehicle tires               | \$150   |
| • Provide a round trip door-to-door ride to medical appointments | \$50    |

To make a wish come true, contact Advancement Director Diane Smith at 231-683-2651 or [diane@agewellservices.org](mailto:diane@agewellservices.org).

## Letter from the Director



Dear Friends:

“Meals, Motion and Morale” is a lived experience at AgeWell Services. Whether providing this direct service at Tanglewood Park or partnering with amazing organizations like Evergreen Commons, Oceana County Council on Aging, Four Pointes for Successful Aging (just to name a few!), our partnerships provide a holistic approach to health and wellness to nurture the mind, body and spirit.

I am grateful to everyone who helped make our Heels for Meals & More fundraiser so successful. After a two-year hiatus, it was fun to gather in person and celebrate to support our critical programs. Together we raised \$68,410, the largest amount ever raised for this fun, frolicking fundraiser.

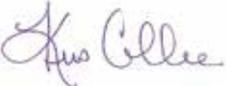
The need continues to grow, and your support makes a difference. Demand for home-delivered meals is at an all-time high and food costs have risen an average of 8%. Participation in our wellness programs is at capacity for our most popular programs.

This isn't a surprise to those of us who serve the rapidly increasing number of seniors in our community. Nationally, an average of 10,000 Baby Boomers turn 65 years old every day, seven people every minute.

AgeWell Services is growing to meet that need. We recently expanded our downtown Berkshire administrative offices to accommodate more staff and provide sufficient, secure storage for program and financial files. We continue to look ahead with sustainable growth as an agency dedicated to meeting the needs of our changing community.

That growth wouldn't be possible without your continued financial donations. Thank you for what you do to help our senior neighbors redefine their age!

Warmest regards,



Kris Collee  
Executive Director

P.S. Join us at Hackley Park in beautiful downtown Muskegon on July 22, 5-9 p.m. for Parties in the Park!

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### Mission Statement

AgeWell Services invites  
you to redefine age!

We provide vital  
connections to keep  
you nourished, active,  
learning and living  
independently.

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PLEASE HELP KEEP YOUR RECORD UP TO DATE!

Is your name and mailing address correct?

Please contact Colleen G. Steinman with any changes:

Email: [Colleen@agewellservices.org](mailto:Colleen@agewellservices.org)

Phone: 231-412-7966



# AgeWell Services Parties in the Park Fundraiser

Friday, July 22, 2022

5:00 PM-9:00 PM

Hackley Park, Downtown Muskegon

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 for seven senior programs. We need 100 volunteers for standing and sit down jobs. Scan the QR code or visit [vhub.at/awspitp](http://vhub.at/awspitp) to volunteer



Live Music, Local Food  
Vendors and Beverages

Scan to volunteer