



**AREA AGENCY
ON AGING**

**937-223-HELP
info4seniors.org**

Support is Our Strength.

Community Health Needs Assessment

- Conducted August through September 2025
 - Collected feedback and data from 600+ older adult residents throughout our nine counties:
Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby
- Mailed 5,000 surveys to residents age 60+
 - Random mailing to older residents, proportional to number of older adults in each county (584 surveys returned)
- Conducted 5 Focus Groups
 - Focus groups for Rural older adults, Urban older adults, LGBTQ older adults, Caregivers, Recent immigrants (40 participants)
- Secondary Data Analysis
 - U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 2023 5-year estimates



Top Categories of Concern:

- **Finances** – affordability of housing, medical bills, prescriptions, utilities, home-care services, health insurance
- **Urban vs Rural resources** –varying access to health care, home-help services, nutrition, and transportation options
- **Awareness of Resources** –who to call in an emergency or to plan ahead. This includes identifying how different areas access information – television, radio, newspaper, church or local groups, internet, etc.
- **Social Connection** – Companionship vs isolation

The AAA will be using this information to develop a comprehensive four-year plan. The Agency seeks to strengthen existing partnerships and develop new ones toward providing resources and addressing gaps to help residents throughout our region to age in safety and contentment in their preferred homes.

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Finances:

- 97% of respondents felt that it was important to remain in their homes as they age.
 - However the 2nd and 3rd highest concern about accessing services were related to affording services; Respondents (64.24%) were concerned about the inability to qualify for assistance for the services needed and respondents (62.6%) were concerned not being able to afford the services needed.
- Only 10% of respondents were not concerned about affording services they may need.
- Fifty percent were confident they could pay for home maintenance and upkeep, less than half (44%) were confident they could pay for necessary home modifications related to changes in mobility.
 - This is significant as more adults over the age of 65 are projected to have both moderate and high needs for long-term care services in 2030. By 2040, more adults over 85 are projected to have both moderate and high needs.

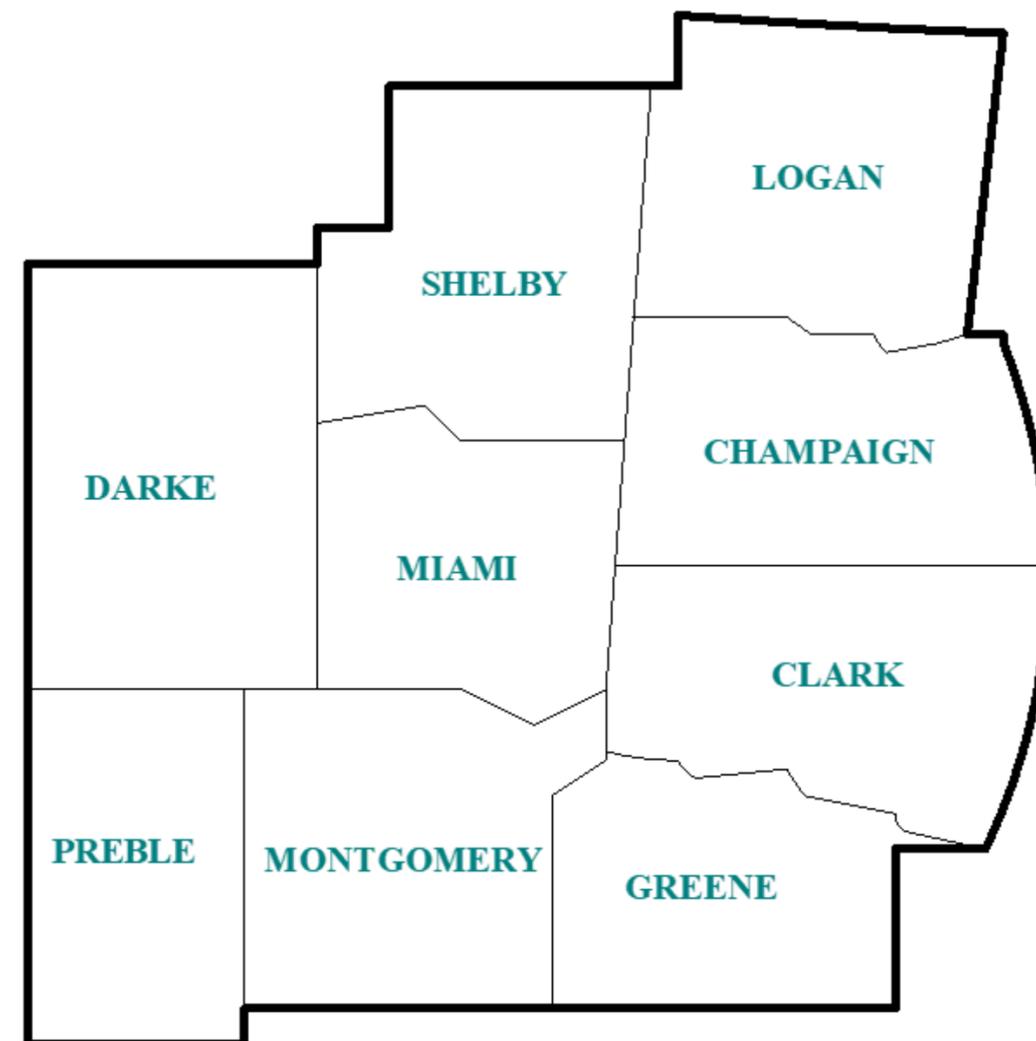
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Urban vs. Rural Resources:

- Five of the AAA nine counties are considered rural: Champaign, Darke, Logan, Preble & Shelby.
 - Counties with rural populations larger than 50% were coded as rural.
 - **45% of the region's older adult population live in rural areas.**
- 48% of older adults in the region were able to quickly get assistance related to their aging needs.
 - However, only 41% of older adults in rural counties felt the same compared to 50% of urban residents.
- Almost 60% of older adults in rural counties were familiar with the Area Agency on Aging, PSA 2.
 - Darke County had the smallest percentage of respondents who were familiar with the AAA, PSA 2.

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Awareness of Resources:

- One third of respondents reported knowing where to go or who to call when seeking assistance, but another third indicated this was the case only sometimes and the remaining third had no idea.
- The top three ways to access community resources included:
 - Telephone (79.8%)
 - Church (68%)
 - Flyers/bulletin boards (61.6%)
- The least comment ways to identify resources included:
 - TV Ads (21.3%)
 - Community newspaper (16.2%)
 - Radio Ads (14.7%)
- Survey respondents top reported unmet needs include:
 - Ability to manage financial strain of paying for services and rising costs
 - Finding reliable transportation
 - **Maintaining one's home**

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Social Connection:

- Almost a quarter (24.5%) of respondents indicated they rarely or never participate in social or community events.
 - This percentage remained the same when comparing respondents in either a rural or urban area and comparing race.
- Most activities include family gatherings, going out to eat, shopping or church activities.
- One third of respondents report always or sometimes feeling alone, left out, or that no one really knows them.
 - 32.9% feel that they lack companionship at least sometimes.

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