



Contact: Sherborn Council on Aging  
Susan Kelliher, Director@sherbornma.org

### **For Immediate Release**

### **The Town of Sherborn is Conducting a Town-wide Community Survey**

*Residents 55 and over will be receiving a town-wide survey in April which will help identify needs, services needed to age in place.*

Sherborn, MA. The COA Board Chair, Peter Hoagland, is pleased to report that the Town of Sherborn and the Sherborn Council on Aging (COA) will be seeking feedback from residents in town this spring as they look to evaluate and address the needs of older adults.

The “2022 Sherborn Community Survey,” which was created in partnership with the Council on Aging and researchers at the UMass Boston Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging, will focus on the needs and interests of Sherborn's growing adult population.

The study will consist of a 40 - 45 question survey that will be made available mid-April, both online and through printed copies mailed to Sherborn residents aged 55 and over.

As part of the information gathering process, one - on - one interviews were conducted with Town officials and other key stakeholders to gain perspective on the adequacy of elder services in Sherborn, identify key service gaps and identify ways in which Town leaders can plan for growth for the aging population.

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The results of the study will be presented to the community in the fall and will help the town and COA plan for programs, policies and other town-wide efforts meant to ensure that Sherborn is a friendly, accessible and inclusive place for residents to grow up and grow old. "The over - 60 demographic is the fastest growing age cohort of Sherborn's population, and this cohort will achieve a more active and longer lifespan than its predecessors," said Council on Aging Board Chair, Pete Hoagland.

"As the town population matures, the needs and interests of its over - 60 citizens are evolving rapidly. This survey will provide critical input to the planning process, which is underway to identify the services, programs and other support that will be needed to fulfill a commitment to improving the quality of life for our most experienced residents."

"Our senior population is aging in place longer and living healthier lives than ever before," Hoagland said. "This survey is an opportunity to find out not just what our older residents are looking for, but concrete ways we can help them in both the short term and the long term. We hope to change the myth of what the Council on Aging offers. We offer vibrant programming, exercise classes, trips, referrals and assistance when the time comes. Our programs offer a variety of choices that people can participate in and share similar interests with others."

"This survey comes at a critical time for the COA, and the information gathered will guide the direction of the COA's long-range strategic planning efforts," Hoagland said.

The 2022 Sherborn Community Survey will be mailed out to residents on Monday, April 12, 2022. We encourage all residents 55 and over to please respond to the survey.

For further information, contact Sue Kelliher, Director of the Council on Aging at 508-651-7858 or email [coadirector@sherbornma.org](mailto:coadirector@sherbornma.org)

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