

**PLYMOUTH AREA COMMUNITY SURVEY
ON CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS**

**Mailed (9/14/2006) 2,485
Returned 611
Response Rate 24.6%**

The Plymouth City Council created a Committee on Aging to address the issues and needs of our aging population. More specifically, the committee was given the responsibilities of examining the need for future activities and programs for older adults at the local level, gathering and disseminating information regarding services, activities, programs and facilities for seniors, and to conduct a continuous program to stimulate public awareness and understanding of the needs and potential of older adults.

*The committee, in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin-Extension Sheboygan County, developed this survey to obtain your input on the needs of older adults in the Plymouth area. **Your input is important and will be used by the Committee on Aging!** We would appreciate your completed survey by **Monday, October 2, 2006.** Thank you for your help...we look forward to your response. The City of Plymouth Committee on Aging.*

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. How do you define "Senior?" (check all that apply)

- 12.5% Upon reaching a specific age (please indicate age) (120)
 - 0.6% 50 (4) 20.1% 60 (135) 11.5% 70 (77) 6.8% 80 (46)
 - 10.6% 55 (71) 37.1% 65 (249) 8.3% 75 (56) 5.0% Other (specify) (34)
- 30.8% Retired/no longer employed (295)
- 32.6% On Social Security/fixed income (312)
- 13.9% Limited/reduced abilities (133)
 - 7.6% Unable to drive (73)
 - 2.5% Other (specify) (24)

2. Do you consider yourself as a "senior"?

- 48.6% Yes (297) 49.6% No (303) 0.7% Don't know (4) 1.1% No response (7)

If yes, what are the interests/concerns you have as a senior?

If no, what interests/concerns do you think you might have when you become a senior?

3. Where do/would you go for the interests/concerns you identified in the previous question? (check all that apply)

- 10.2% Your spouse (207) 5.9% City/town government (120)
- 13.7% Your children (277) 4.0% County government (81)
- 9.3% Other family members (189) 4.3% State government (87)
- 11.5% Friends/neighbors (234) 4.5% Federal government (91)
- 10.5% Local church members/religious organizations (212) 4.0% Don't know (81)
- 6.6% Nonprofit organizations (133) 1.9% Other (39)
- 2.8% For profit businesses/services (56)
- 10.8% Plymouth Senior Center (219)

PERCENT OF COLUMN TOTALS

	Frequently (several times per week)	Moderately (several times per month)	Occasionally (several times per year)	Infrequently (at least once per year)
Noon meal	<u>11.5%</u> (13)	<u>17.8%</u> (16)	<u>20.7%</u> (18)	<u>18.9%</u> (20)
Recreational opportunities (ceramics, cards, games, etc.)	<u>24.8%</u> (28)	<u>37.8%</u> (34)	<u>6.9%</u> (6)	<u>10.4%</u> (11)
Educational opportunities (AARP driving course, "how to" classes, etc.)	<u>3.5%</u> (4)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)	<u>12.6%</u> (11)	<u>14.2%</u> (15)
Health programs (exercise classes, foot clinics, etc.)	<u>22.1%</u> (25)	<u>11.1%</u> (10)	<u>20.7%</u> (18)	<u>10.4%</u> (11)
Cultural programs (intergenerational programs, library videos, etc.)	<u>7.1%</u> (8)	<u>4.4%</u> (4)	<u>9.2%</u> (8)	<u>15.1%</u> (16)
Support services (tax assistance, support groups, etc.)	<u>8.8%</u> (10)	<u>4.4%</u> (4)	<u>9.2%</u> (8)	<u>17.0%</u> (18)
Socialization	<u>19.5%</u> (22)	<u>18.9%</u> (17)	<u>16.1%</u> (14)	<u>11.3%</u> (12)
Other (specify)	<u>2.7%</u> (3)	<u>5.6%</u> (5)	<u>4.6%</u> (4)	<u>2.8%</u> (3)

8. What programs/services would you like to have available and use at the Plymouth Senior Center? (check all that apply)

- 11.1% Recreational opportunities (specify) (68)
- 8.8% Educational opportunities (specify) (54)
- 11.8% Health programs (specify) (72)
- 4.6% Cultural programs (specify) (28)
- 5.2% Spiritual programs (specify) (32)
- 7.4% Support services (specify) (45)
- 10.1% Socialization (specify) (62)
- 1.3% Other (specify) (8)
- 39.6% No response (242)

9. The Plymouth Senior Center offers a noon meal Monday through Friday for adults 60 and older. Do you participate in this noon meal?

- 7.0% Yes (43)
- 25.4% No (155)
- 67.6% No response (413)

If no, why not? (check all that apply)

- 12.8% Don't like the food/menu (20)
- 3.2% Don't like the setting/atmosphere (5)
- 21.2% Not age 60 (33)
- 4.5% Transportation not available (7)
- 58.3% Other (specify) (91)

10. Regarding the noon meal program, what could be offered/changed to make it better if you currently participate or attract you to attend if you do not?

11. The location of the Plymouth Senior Center is: (check all that apply)

- 26.2% Easy to find (160)
- 1.1% Difficult to find (comment) (7)
- 15.7% Conveniently located (96)
- 2.1% Inconveniently located (comment) (13)
- 54.8% No response (335)

12. Is the current staffing of the Plymouth Senior Center adequate?

17.2% Yes (105) 1.0% No (6) 14.9% Don't know (91) 66.9% No response (409)

If no, how can staffing be improved? _____

13. The Plymouth Senior Center provides a welcoming environment and friendly atmosphere.

7.0% Strongly agree (43) 14.1% Agree (86) 4.1% Neutral (25)
0.3% Disagree (2) 0.0% Strongly disagree (0) 6.4% No opinion (39)
68.1% No response (416)

14. Please indicate your level of satisfaction with the following provided by the Plymouth Senior Center.

PERCENT OF ROW TOTALS

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Unsatisfied	Very unsatisfied	No response
Location	<u>10.8%</u> (66)	<u>8.3%</u> (51)	<u>5.1%</u> (31)	<u>0.8%</u> (5)	<u>0.2%</u> (1)	<u>74.8%</u> (457)
Programs offered	<u>4.6%</u> (28)	<u>9.3%</u> (57)	<u>6.7%</u> (41)	<u>0.2%</u> (1)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)	<u>79.2%</u> (484)
Staffing	<u>5.6%</u> (34)	<u>9.7%</u> (59)	<u>6.2%</u> (38)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)	<u>78.6%</u> (480)
Noon meal	<u>2.3%</u> (14)	<u>4.1%</u> (25)	<u>7.5%</u> (46)	<u>2.0%</u> (12)	<u>1.3%</u> (8)	<u>82.8%</u> (506)
Resources/information/referrals	<u>4.6%</u> (28)	<u>7.0%</u> (43)	<u>5.6%</u> (34)	<u>0.2%</u> (1)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)	<u>82.7%</u> (505)
Atmosphere/welcoming environment	<u>7.5%</u> (46)	<u>9.8%</u> (60)	<u>3.9%</u> (24)	<u>0.2%</u> (1)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)	<u>78.6%</u> (480)

PERCENT OF COLUMN TOTALS

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Unsatisfied	Very unsatisfied
Location	<u>30.6%</u> (66)	<u>17.3%</u> (51)	<u>14.5%</u> (31)	<u>25.0%</u> (5)	<u>11.1%</u> (1)
Programs offered	<u>13.0%</u> (28)	<u>19.3%</u> (57)	<u>19.2%</u> (41)	<u>5.0%</u> (1)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)
Staffing	<u>15.7%</u> (34)	<u>20.0%</u> (59)	<u>17.8%</u> (38)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)
Noon meal	<u>6.5%</u> (14)	<u>8.5%</u> (25)	<u>21.5%</u> (46)	<u>60.0%</u> (12)	<u>88.9%</u> (8)
Resources/information/referrals	<u>13.0%</u> (28)	<u>14.6%</u> (43)	<u>15.9%</u> (34)	<u>5.0%</u> (1)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)
Atmosphere/welcoming environment	<u>21.3%</u> (46)	<u>20.3%</u> (60)	<u>11.2%</u> (24)	<u>5.0%</u> (1)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)

15. Would you be willing to pay a membership fee to the Plymouth Senior Center?

1.5% Yes (9)
18.3% Yes, but depends upon the fee and the services provided (112)
10.8% No (66)
69.4% No response (424)

16. Is the Plymouth Senior Center a worthy opportunity for you to consider volunteering your time?

11.3% Yes (69) 12.8% Maybe (78) 7.7% No (47) 68.2% No response (417)

If yes or maybe, which of the following would you consider?

8.9% Boards/committees (21) 4.2% Fund raising (10)
19.0% Assisting with meals (45) 17.3% Receptionist/telephone (41)
11.0% Entertainment and decorating (26) 5.1% Party planning (12)
14.8% Friendly Visitors (35) 13.5% Greeters (32)
6.3% Other (specify) (15)

17. Is the title “Plymouth Senior Center” appropriate, or should it be called something else?

- 24.1% The title is appropriate (147)
- 1.1% The title is not appropriate (please indicate an appropriate title) (7)
- 8.2% Don’t know/no opinion (50)
- 66.6% No response (407)

Users of the Plymouth Senior Center: please skip to Question 26

Non-users of the Plymouth Senior Center: please answer the following questions:

18. If you are over age 60 please indicate the reasons for not using the Plymouth Senior Center (check all that apply)

- 8.7% Don’t consider myself a “senior” (53)
- 1.5% Not aware of the Plymouth Senior Center (9)
- 1.6% Transportation not available (10)
- 12.8% Programs not of interest to me (78)
- 22.7% Other (specify) (139)
- 52.7% No response (322)

19. If you’re currently under age 60, what programs/services in the future would you come to a senior center for? (check all that apply)

- 19.2% Recreational opportunities (specify) (205)
- 16.6% Educational opportunities (specify) (177)
- 19.0% Health programs (specify) (202)
- 8.5% Cultural programs (specify) (91)
- 5.1% Spiritual programs (specify) (54)
- 11.7% Support services (specify) (125)
- 16.6% Socialization (specify) (177)
- 3.2% Other (specify) (34)

20. If the programs/services you identified in the previous question were offered in the future the Plymouth Senior Center, would you use/participate in them?

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <u>9.2%</u> Definitely yes (56) | <u>19.8%</u> Yes (121) | <u>23.7%</u> Maybe (145) |
| <u>4.1%</u> No (25) | <u>0.3%</u> Definitely no (2) | <u>42.9%</u> No response (262) |

If “no” or “definitely no”, why not? _____

21. The Plymouth Senior Center offers a noon meal Monday through Friday for adults 60 and older. Would you participate in this noon meal?

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| <u>20.9%</u> Yes (128) | <u>46.0%</u> No (281) | <u>33.1%</u> No response (202) |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|

If no, why not? (check all that apply)

- 6.3% Don’t like the food/menu (21)
- 46.8% Not age 60 (155)
- 3.0% Transportation not available (10)
- 43.8% Other (specify) (145)

22. The location of the Plymouth Senior Center is: (check all that apply)

- 43.7% Easy to find (267)
- 7.0% Difficult to find (comment) (43)
- 27.7% Conveniently located (169)
- 7.7% Inconveniently located (comment) (47)
- 13.9% No response (85)

23. Would you be willing to pay a membership fee to the Plymouth Senior Center?

- 4.3% Yes (26)
- 45.2% Yes, but depends upon the fee and the services provided (276)
- 24.2% No (148)
- 26.4% No response (161)

24. Is the Plymouth Senior Center a worthy opportunity for you to consider volunteering your time?

- 16.7% Yes (102)
- 40.8% Maybe (249)
- 16.4% No (100)
- 26.2% No response (160)

If yes or maybe, which of the following would you consider?

- 10.8% Boards/committees (63)
- 15.6% Receptionist/telephone (91)
- 21.3% Assisting with meals (124)
- 7.9% Party planning (46)
- 12.9% Entertainment and decorating (75)
- 11.1% Greeters (65)
- 14.4% Friendly Visitors (84)
- 6.0% Other (specify) (35)

25. Is the title “Plymouth Senior Center” appropriate, or should it be called something else?

- 47.9% The title is appropriate (293)
- 3.8% The title is not appropriate (please indicate an appropriate title) (23)
- 21.8% Don’t know/no opinion (133)
- 26.5% No response (162)

PLYMOUTH INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER

The Plymouth Intergenerational Coalition was formed to explore the idea of combining child care and senior facilities in order to realize the benefits of intergenerational programming, shared facility resources, expanded programs, services, and increased community involvement.

It has developed into a unique, “grassroots,” public – private partnership of organizations and individuals centered around the mission of developing an intergenerational center to serve the Plymouth/Sheboygan area. This will include a Senior Center, a Child Care Center, a Head Start program, and a Family Resource Center.

26. Given the brief description provided above, do you support the concept of an intergenerational center in Plymouth?

- 23.9% Definitely yes (146)
- 25.2% Yes (154)
- 15.9% Maybe (97)
- 6.9% No (42)
- 5.6% Definitely no (34)
- 9.2% No response (56)
- 13.4% Don’t have enough information to make an informed decision (82)

27. Please indicate the level of importance for the following opportunities if they were incorporated into the Plymouth Intergenerational Center.

PERCENT OF ROW TOTALS

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion	No response
Opportunity for young people and seniors to interact	<u>30.4%</u> (186)	<u>30.0%</u> (183)	<u>7.9%</u> (48)	<u>5.4%</u> (33)	<u>5.2%</u> (32)	<u>2.8%</u> (17)	<u>18.3%</u> (112)
Opportunity to volunteer	<u>14.1%</u> (86)	<u>31.4%</u> (192)	<u>19.3%</u> (118)	<u>4.6%</u> (28)	<u>4.1%</u> (25)	<u>4.4%</u> (27)	<u>22.1%</u> (135)
Opportunity to teach/share skills	<u>18.0%</u> (110)	<u>33.6%</u> (205)	<u>11.1%</u> (68)	<u>6.9%</u> (42)	<u>3.8%</u> (23)	<u>4.4%</u> (27)	<u>22.3%</u> (136)
Opportunity for joint community service projects	<u>18.5%</u> (113)	<u>30.3%</u> (185)	<u>13.9%</u> (85)	<u>7.0%</u> (43)	<u>3.4%</u> (21)	<u>4.3%</u> (26)	<u>22.6%</u> (138)
Opportunity to share resources and create synergy to maximize limited resources	<u>22.1%</u> (135)	<u>31.1%</u> (190)	<u>10.8%</u> (66)	<u>5.4%</u> (33)	<u>3.6%</u> (22)	<u>4.4%</u> (27)	<u>22.6%</u> (138)
Opportunity to learn issues/experiences of another generation	<u>22.9%</u> (140)	<u>33.6%</u> (205)	<u>9.0%</u> (55)	<u>4.6%</u> (28)	<u>4.6%</u> (28)	<u>4.1%</u> (25)	<u>21.3%</u> (130)
Other (specify)	<u>1.0%</u> (6)	<u>1.3%</u> (8)	<u>0.5%</u> (3)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)	<u>0.3%</u> (2)	<u>2.6%</u> (15)	<u>94.4%</u> (577)

PERCENT OF COLUMN TOTALS

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Somewhat important	Not important	No opinion
Opportunity for young people and seniors to interact	<u>24.0%</u> (186)	<u>15.7%</u> (183)	<u>10.8%</u> (48)	<u>15.9%</u> (33)	<u>20.9%</u> (32)	<u>10.4%</u> (17)
Opportunity to volunteer	<u>11.1%</u> (86)	<u>16.4%</u> (192)	<u>26.6%</u> (118)	<u>13.5%</u> (28)	<u>16.3%</u> (25)	<u>16.5%</u> (27)
Opportunity to teach/share skills	<u>14.2%</u> (110)	<u>17.6%</u> (205)	<u>15.3%</u> (68)	<u>20.3%</u> (42)	<u>15.0%</u> (23)	<u>16.5%</u> (27)
Opportunity for joint community service projects	<u>14.6%</u> (113)	<u>15.8%</u> (185)	<u>19.2%</u> (85)	<u>20.8%</u> (43)	<u>13.7%</u> (21)	<u>15.9%</u> (26)
Opportunity to share resources and create synergy to maximize limited resources	<u>17.4%</u> (135)	<u>16.3%</u> (190)	<u>14.9%</u> (66)	<u>15.9%</u> (33)	<u>14.4%</u> (22)	<u>16.5%</u> (27)
Opportunity to learn issues/experiences of another generation	<u>18.0%</u> (140)	<u>17.6%</u> (205)	<u>12.4%</u> (55)	<u>13.5%</u> (28)	<u>18.3%</u> (28)	<u>15.2%</u> (25)
Other (specify)	<u>0.8%</u> (6)	<u>0.7%</u> (8)	<u>0.7%</u> (3)	<u>0.0%</u> (0)	<u>1.3%</u> (2)	<u>9.1%</u> (15)

YOUR BACKGROUND/STATISTICAL INFORMATION

28. What is your age?

27.0% Under age 50 (165)
17.3% 65-74 (106)
5.2% No response (32)

19.0% 50-59 (116)
16.5% 75-84 (101)

8.5% 60-64 (52)
6.4% 85 or over (39)

29. Are you:

35.8% Male (219)

62.2% Female (380)

2.0% No response (12)

30. What is your race?

93.0% White (568)
0.2% Asian (1)
4.9% No response (30)

0.3% Black (2)
0.7% Native American Indian (4)

0.3% Hispanic (2)
0.7% Other (please explain) (4)

31. Are you:

64.3% Married (spouse still alive) (393)
4.4% Single (never been married) (27)

18.2% Widowed (111)
4.7% No response (29)

8.3% Divorced (51)

32. Do you live alone?

26.4% Yes (161)

67.1% No (410)

6.5% No response (40)

33. Do you have easy access to transportation?

89.9% Yes (549)

3.9% No (24)

6.2% No response (38)

34. Do you rent or own property in the City/Town of Plymouth?

10.1% Rent (62)

81.7% Own (499)

1.6% Rent and own (10)

6.5% No response (40)

35. Do you consider yourself a seasonal City/Town of Plymouth resident or permanent resident?

1.6% Seasonal (10)

92.1% Permanent (563)

6.2% No response (38)

36. How long have you lived in the City/Town of Plymouth?

9.2% Less than 5 years (56)
11.9% 5 – 10 years (73)
7.7% 50 years or longer (47)

15.1% 11 – 19 years (92)
12.8% 20 – 29 years (78)
15.1% Lifetime resident (92)

11.1% 30 – 39 years (68)
11.6% 40 – 49 years (71)
5.6% No response (34)

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

THANK YOU!!!

The City of Plymouth Committee on Aging thanks you for your input and cooperation.

PLEASE return the completed survey by Monday, October 2, 2006.

Fold at dotted line, staple or tape, and mail to:

Please
affix
39 ¢
postage

Dave Such, Community Resource Development Agent/
Jane Jensen, Family Living Educator
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