## 2024 Report to the Service Delivery Committee of the Commission on Aging MCC SENIOR CENTER & NUTRITION SERVICES



#### Please share a success from the second half of 2024.

A new partnership with Froedtert Health helped us improve access to basic health services for older adults. Through this collaboration, we provided on-site health screenings, hearing screenings, and nutrition and health education workshops, addressing the health needs of older adults and supporting their well-being.

A key initiative was the launch of our "What's in Your Stockbox" nutrition education series. This series was designed to help older adults make the most of the Stockbox, a program from Hunger Task Force that provides free boxes of nutritious food to low-income older adults. The Stockboxes contain items like rice, cereal, juice, beef stew, pasta, and vegetables. Many older adults would take what they liked from the box but were unsure how to use the rest, sometimes leaving ingredients behind at the center or on the streets. Through hands-on cooking demonstrations and educational materials, we empowered older adults with the skills to create healthy meals from basic ingredients. This initiative expanded their food security, boosted their confidence in the kitchen, and developed a sense of selfsufficiency. It served as a powerful reminder of the importance of providing not just food, but also the knowledge and tools to make that food nourishing and meaningful for our older adults.





# Please share a challenge from the second half of 2024.

A major challenge in the second half of 2024 has been the significant rise in food costs, which has put immense pressure on our senior center's nutrition program. What makes our program special is that we cook onsite, giving us the opportunity to hear directly from our older adults, adapt our menu, and ensure every meal is both nutritious and culturally meaningful. However, with food prices climbing higher than ever, keeping up with the quality and variety our older adults deserve has become increasingly difficult. The financial strain has forced us to set much higher fundraising goals just to sustain the program. Despite these challenges, our commitment remains strong and we are determined to find solutions so that no older adult has to worry about access to a healthy, satisfying meal.



#### Report on 2024 Performance Objectives

|  | GOAL/ACTUAL |
|--|-------------|
| Objective 1: % of responding surveyed participants will state they are healthier because they utilize the Center's fitness machines, exercise class and/or health programming and screenings offered | 95%/100%    |
| Objective 2: % of the responding surveyed participants will state the Center has an atmosphere of sociability, allowing them to combat isolation and make new friends                                | 95%/92%     |
| Objective 3: % of the responding surveyed participants will state they are happier and more satisfied with their life because they come to the Senior Center   | 95%/96%     |





### **Funding Summary**

- Total Agency Budget -\$5,635,620
- ADS funding amount \$103,550
- Percentage of agency budget 2%
- Contract spending \$36,919



# Please share one service improvement or planned change for the beginning half of 2025.

Milwaukee Christian Center is proud to announce the award of a generous grant from the Next50 Foundation, a national foundation based in Colorado that supports efforts to improve the lives of older adults. The funding will enable MCC to enhance workforce and technology training opportunities, helping older adults build confidence, access meaningful employment, and age in place with dignity.

With this support, MCC's Older Adults Program will expand its focus on increasing technology access by offering workshops and training sessions tailored to older adults. These programs will provide practical skills for navigating digital platforms, identifying accessible workforce opportunities, and applying for jobs. We will also create a welcoming environment for participants, including those with limited English skills and those new to the U.S. job market, to develop the tools they need for success.

#### **Expanding Experiences: Fall Outings**

















