

## Preliminary analysis of the Milwaukee County Area Agency on Aging Plan Response

This is intended as a sneak peek of community response to the Area Agency on Aging plan outreach, to inform discussions on goals. Survey responses are not fully tallied.

### Older Adult Survey

The survey was first published in the over 50 Plus News Magazine, then available online and linked through the MCDA web page on the County site, and distributed on paper to current clients, through vendors, through community outreach sites, and shared by Commissioners, and offered to religious and housing sites for distribution.

Responses to selected survey questions:

#### Do you have difficulty preparing or cooking your main meals?

21% of respondents said yes, 79% said no.

#### Prior to the pandemic, would you eat at a community meal site?

A third of respondents had eaten at community meal sites, either County-affiliated (27%) or another site (5%). The remainder were split with 30.0% being interested in doing so in the future, and 38% not interested.

#### How important is it for you to be able to live independently in your own home as you age?

Respondents very strongly think it's important to live independently, as 89% answered "Extremely" or "Very".

#### How often do you feel the following?

"I lack companionship" Most older adults (67%) responded "Rarely", but 27% said "Often", and 6% said "Always". "I feel left out".

#### Who responded?

| Race <sup>1</sup>                          | Survey respondents (55+)* | Milwaukee County older adults (60+) |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| American Indian and Alaska Native          | 1.1%                      | 0.4%                                |
| Asian                                      | 0.8%                      | 2.1%                                |
| Black or African American                  | 23.8%                     | 19.0%                               |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 0.3%                      | 0.0%                                |
| White                                      | 69.9%                     | 75.5%                               |
| Other                                      | -                         | 2.9%                                |

At this point, the racial distribution of respondents is similar to the the racial distribution of older adults who live in Milwaukee County.

<sup>1</sup> The racial diversity of the paper survey responses which are still being tallied are the surveys with the most diverse respondents racially. It is fair to assume that the shares of some races will change as these surveys continue to be tallied.

