Department Name	Aging
Account(s)	6772

Department Function
The Aging Department continues to enhance the well-being of older adults and their families or caregivers by providing valuable support services. These services aim to foster independence, empower individuals to make their own decisions, and uphold their dignity, ultimately leading to a better quality of life. The Department's approach involves implementing a range of inclusive services delivered both at home and within the community, with particular attention given to those facing significant social and economic challenges.

Current Year Highlights

- Albany County's Congregate Meals providers prepared and served over 10,175 meals to 2,133 Seniors.
- The County's Home Delivered Meals program delivered 93,169 meals to 677 seniors.
- Became the first Area Agency on Aging (AAA) in New York State to purchase a van that has a mobile office inside, which will allow our staff to reach any senior in Albany County.
- Hosted seven outreach events, which include Health and Wellness Fairs, as well as two SAGE events for the LGBTQ+ community. The purpose for these outreach events is to promote the services that the Albany County Department for the Aging provides and to promote awareness to the communities we serve.
- To date, we have reached over 1,033 seniors through outreach efforts. Our Health and Wellness has totaled nearly 700 in participants. Resource Fairs have totaled 232 and the SAGE Friendly has totaled 135 participants.
- Provided representation of the Seniors of Albany County on the Governor's Mater Plan initiative.
- Championed our yearly "Stop the Flu Project," an initiative that engages seniors about the importance of getting immunizations and staying healthy during flu season.
- Organized COVID booster and flu clinic.
- Collaborated with Impact Melanoma for the installation of 30 sunscreen dispensers at local parks and distributed 30 SPF natural sunscreen inserts, which has been instrumental in promoting sun safety practices and raising awareness about melanoma cancer prevention.

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Next Year Projects

- Enhance caregiving program to ensure we meet the needs of our seniors by giving more comprehensive care.
- Initiate and launch geriatric emergency room.
- Partner with Grandparents against Gun Violence an organization that engages with the community to stop gun violence in our community.
- Host annual support of "Remember Me" Veterans initiative that raises money and awareness for our fallen veterans.
- Conduct a study with the State University of New York to address ageism in our Communities. Ageism concerns refer to the stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination directed at individuals based on their age, typically affecting older adults but also impacting younger people.
- Provide a grief support program or designed to help individuals cope with the emotional pain and challenges associated with loss, typically the death of a loved one. This is done through counseling professionals, support groups, on-line resources, a crisis hotline contact, and memorial services and rituals.
- Launch a master gardening program to engage with and educate seniors on the rewards of gardening.
- Alzheimer's programming to combat isolation and improve memory.
- Unveil "Ramp and Roll" program formalizing a collaboration with area schools to build ramps at homes of the elderly.
- Explore avenues for a new collaboration for homeless shelter for older adults.
- Publish a newsletter to our constituents called "The Senior Class" to keep seniors informed about issues they care about.

Link to Website	https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/aging

Department Name	Aging
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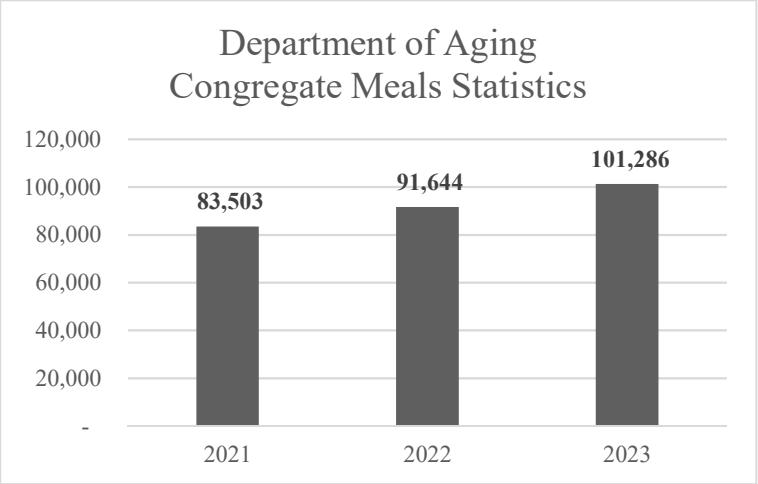
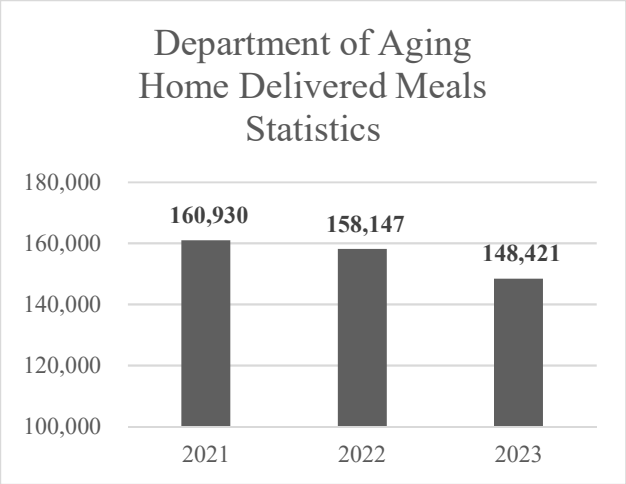
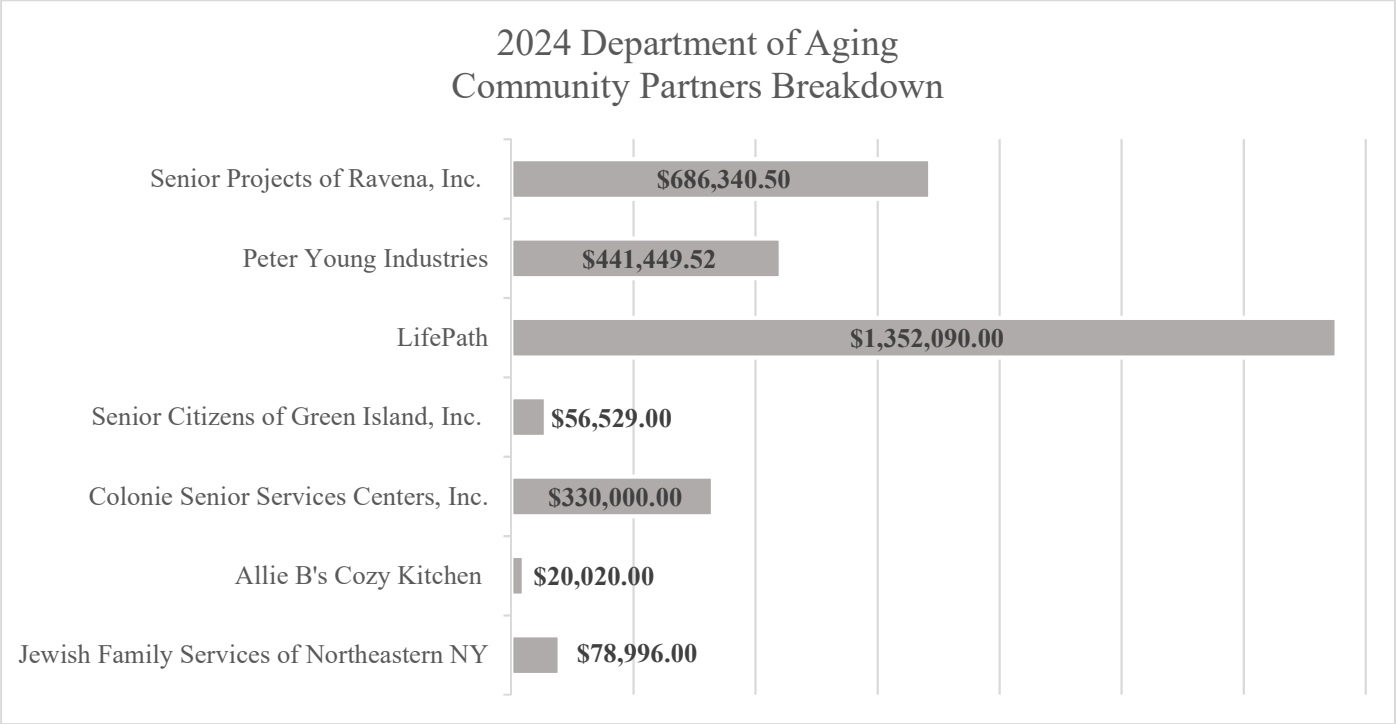
Programmatic Highlights – Congregate & Home-Delivered Meals Programs







The Department for Aging annually contracts with several community partners to provide nutritious meals for members of the senior community. Congregate meal sites located throughout the County allow participants to eat and socialize.

Link to Website	www.albanycounty.com/Aging