



# MEMORANDUM

*Senior Services & LINX Transit*

Date: April 1, 2024

To: Mayor Jackola and City Council

From: Kindra Oliver, Senior Center & LINX Transit Director

Subject: Monthly Report

Senior Center:

Gardening is kicking into full swing as the warmer weather of spring appears across the valley. Gardening classes currently have at least 70 people signed up. Therapeutic Gardening Club is meeting one Saturday a month working on various projects. All of the raised garden bed plots at the Senior Center have been adopted and are starting to get cleared out for the season in anticipation for planting.

Having a young volunteer come and mentor the use of iPads on Wednesdays has seen a regular turn out of seniors to learn how to create their own digital images using the Procreate application. Seniors that have never used a computer before are among those participating. Connecting something that they love to do in the “real” world to something they can do in a different way in the “digital” world has helped stir that interest. Seniors are delighted by the idea of getting to share their efforts with their younger family members.

We continue to be impressed by the turn out of participants to some of our exercise classes. Some seeing a regular attendance of more than 20 participants...sometimes pushing 30! That number is beginning to rival the regular turn out to Bingo. If this continues, we will get to claim a new “most popular” activity at the Center: Line Dancing, Easy Cardio, or Strength & Flex (Geri-Fit).

In April, we will be recognizing the wonderful volunteers that help staff accomplish our goals at the Center. These are an incredible group of people with a broad spectrum of talents and skills that they share to enrich our offerings to seniors in our community. We will also be holding an

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afternoon tea. As we continue to bring back larger events, we rely on our volunteer team to help make these happen.

We are also looking ahead to May, National Older Americans Month, which is not surprisingly one of our favorite months. We are holding our first ever sticker contest in April in hopes of having the winning sticker printed for distribution in May. Sticker entries should focus on positive aging messages. We will also be working on some other plans to bring new information, resources and celebration to the month of May to honor the most experienced members of our community.

#### LINX Transit:

At the end of Q3, LINX has provided 47,158 rides. At the end of last fiscal year, we had provided 47,851 rides. We've provided almost as many rides in nine months this FY, as we did in twelve last FY.

LINX Transit has a new part-time driver starting the training process on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

LINX Transit is currently recruiting for a part-time dispatcher. As the growth of the LINX program has continued, it has become vital to add another part-time dispatcher to assist the two full-time dispatchers to provide coverage, Monday through Saturday, 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. LINX Transit is funded primarily through state and federal grants. The new part-time dispatcher position will be funded through the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (HB2017), which was brought forth for new and enhanced transit service in Oregon.

LINX Transit is working on a grant for a new electric van through a competitive federal grant process for low-no emission vehicles. Grants are due on Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.