Our Vision: Being Minnesota's favorite place.
Our Mission: Serve well. Deliver value. Drive results.
Our Values: Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.

AGENDA

Crow Wing County Committee of the Whole
Regular Meeting

11/17/2026
9:00 AM
County Board Room, 3rd Floor, Historic Courthouse, Brainerd MN

*Note: Times are approximate

The agenda has been published as shown below but is subject to change to include such business as may come before the Board.

ATTEND IN-PERSON OR BY MICROSOFT TEAMS (CALL 218-302-1725, CONFERENCE ID: 491 110 781#); LIVESTREAM AVAILABLE AT WWW.CROWWING.GOV OR ON THE CROW WING COUNTY YOUTUBE CHANNEL

ONE OR MORE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD MAY ATTEND REMOTELY

1. **9:00 AM - CWC Farm Family of the Year, Dan & Emily Caughey - Tony Hansen**

   CWC Farm Family of the Year

2. **9:10 AM - CWC 4-H Program Update - Sashanna O'Shea & Tony Hansen**

   Crow Wing County 4-H Report

3. **9:30 AM - Central MN Council on Aging - Lori Vrolson**

   Central Minnesota Council on Aging Presentation

For more information, call 218-824-1067
Crow Wing County Committee of the Whole meeting agendas are available online at
www.crowwing.gov



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION

Crow Wing County
2026 Annual Impact Report

Sashanna O'Shea, 4-H Extension Educator

Tony Hansen, Regional Director

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Minnesota 4-H is building a generation of youth *Beyond Ready*:



Ready to learn



Ready to lead



Ready to serve

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Crow Wing County by the numbers

Pequot Lakes Community Education Partnership introduced 4-H to **31** new youth

321

Total youth reached

92

New members

70%

of youth returned from last year

20%

of new members first generation

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Showcases are key to learning and leadership

184 youth showcased their learning at the **Crow Wing County fair** through

1,400 **projects**



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Crow Wing County youth expanded their opportunities

41
MN State Fair

7
State Dog Show

11
State Horse Show

35
NE Livestock Show

7
Regional Project Bowl

91
youth engagements in regional, state, virtual, and national activities



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Crow Wing County youth expand their opportunities

Evelyn E.

- 4-H member for 6 years
- 4 year State Horse Show participant
- youth officer in her club and horse pdc
- 2nd year county ambassador
- 2 year horse leadership winner
- 1st year Dan Patch top ten state finalist



“I am willing to take the time to put in effort to improve the skills needed to be a good leader.” -Evelyn

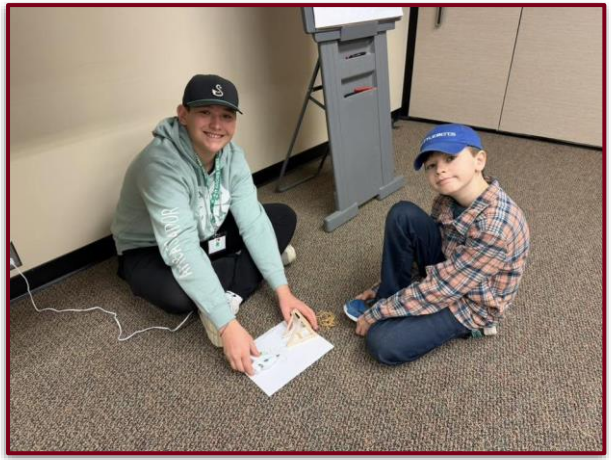
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Crow Wing County Ambassadors: Youth Teaching Youth

Building Leaders Through Experience







Clover+Club

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Community service is a key 4-H experience

94% learned how they can **help their community.**

3 out of 4 youth put their learning to practice by **serving their community.**

"I helped announce at an adaptive livestock show for youth."

"I was a State Ambassador and helped with disaster recovery education."

"Our club picked and donated 45 lbs. of blueberries to our local food shelf."

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4-H youth strengthen their communities through service





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Volunteers supporting Crow Wing County 4-H

83 Volunteers in Crow Wing County

Volunteers Support:

- Horse and Dog Training
- Shooting Sports & Wildlife Education
- Chaperoning Events
- Project Bowl Coaches
- Local Showcases
- Project Education
- Club & Project Development Committee Leaders



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Volunteer Spotlight: Making Opportunities Possible



“My experience as a chaperone at the MN State Fair this year was incredibly positive and rewarding, especially having the opportunity to experience it from a different perspective than I did as a child growing up as a 4-H’er myself. It was truly special to now be on the other side, supporting and encouraging today’s youth, watching them grow in confidence, build friendships, and showcase their hard work, while helping create the same lasting memories and experiences that made 4-H so special to me.”

- Jilene Hodgman, Crow Wing County 4-H Alum

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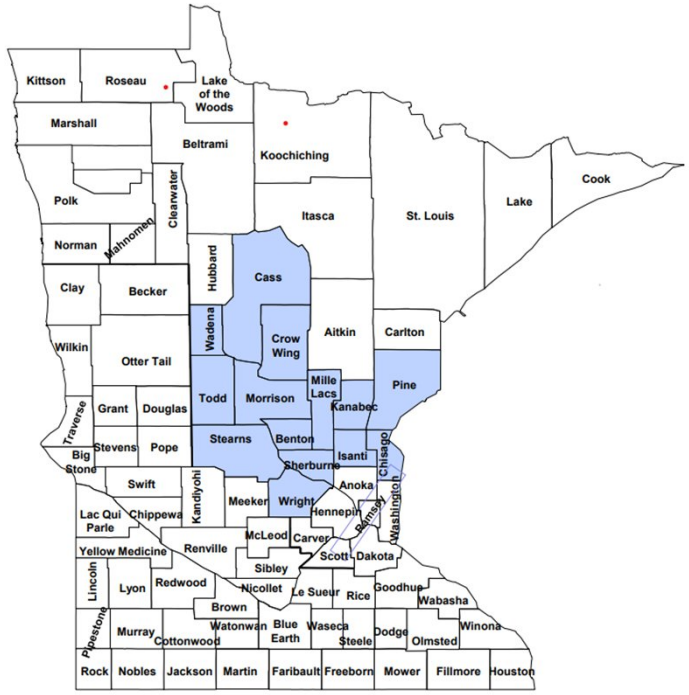
Thank you for your time



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CMCOA Planning and Service Area

- Benton
- Cass
- Chisago
- Crow Wing
- Isanti
- Kanabec
- Mille Lacs
- Morrison
- Pine
- Sherburne
- Stearns
- Todd
- Wadena
- Wright
- Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe



CMCOA Core Functions

Connect people with services and resources

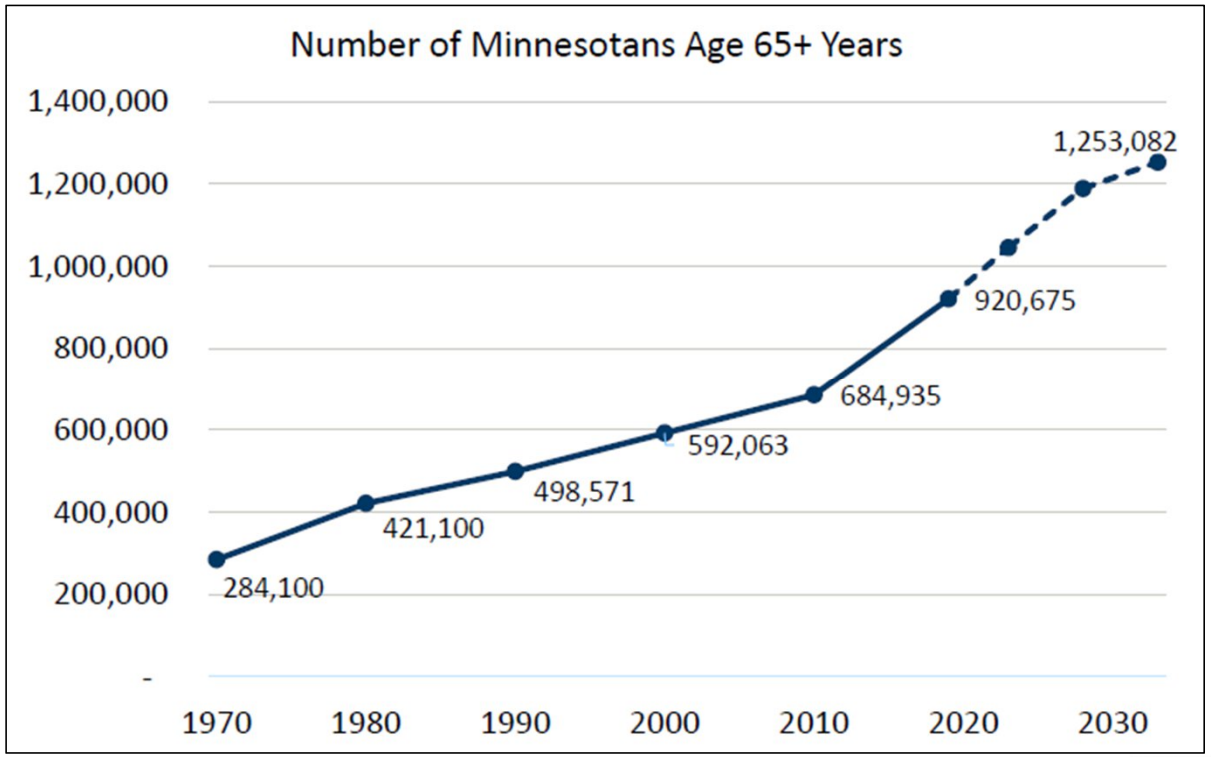
Fund community partners

Spur collaboration in service innovation

Advocate for resources and system change



The older adult population in Minnesota is projected to reach 1 million within the next year.



2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Minnesota State Demographic Center Projections

Central MN Council on Aging
cmcoa

Crow Wing's Older Adult Population

? **Older Population**

- **34.3%** of Crow Wing residents are age 60+
- Higher than the state average of 22%

Living Alone

- **28.6%** of Crow Wing's older adults live alone
- Over 1 in 4

Living with a Disability

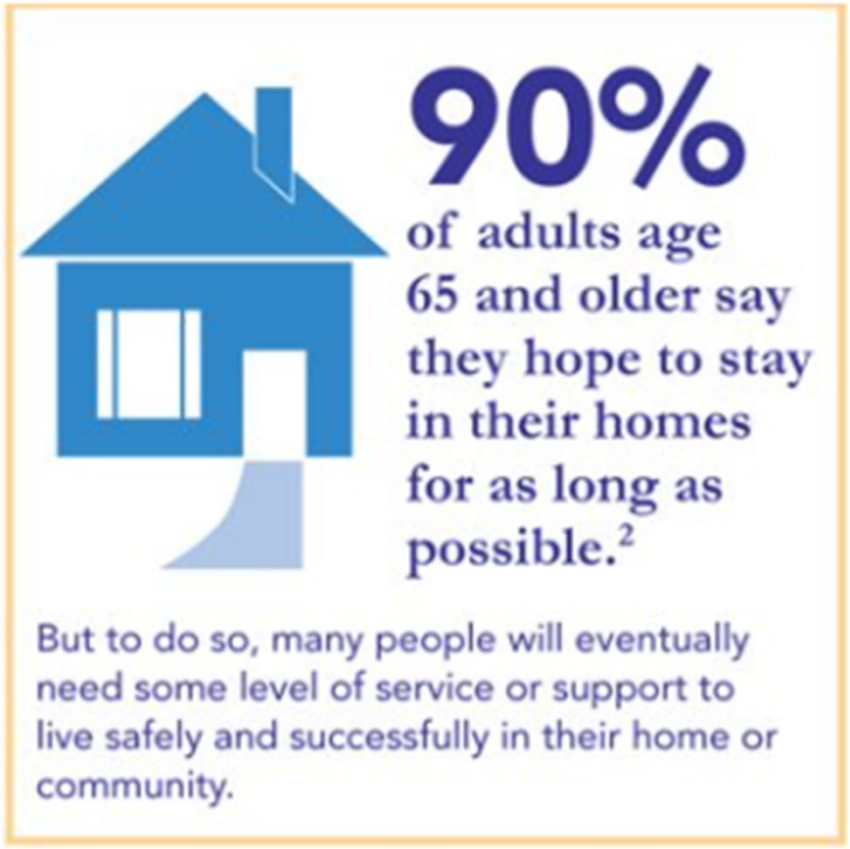
- **30%** of adults 65+ in Crow Wing County have a disability
- State: 30%
- Mobility, hearing, cognition, and independent living challenges

? **Living in Poverty**

- **9%** of older adults in Crow Wing County live below the poverty level

Central MN Council on Aging
cmcoa

Why This Matters



4.5% live in assisted living
About $45,000 average out-of-pocket per year

2.4% live in a nursing home
About $141,000 average out-of-pocket per year

$7.9B spent statewide each year on nursing home care
69% of it paid at public cost

Central MN Council on Aging
cmcoa

Central MN Council on Aging

In 2025 CMCOA supported over 21,280 Older Adults and Caregivers in Stearns, Benton, Sherburne, Wright, Todd, Morrison, Wadena, Cass, Crow Wing, Mille Lacs, Kanabec, Pine, Isanti, and Chisago Counties

Central MN Council on Aging

23 Contracted Title III

Federal Older Americans Act Service Providers

$3.7 Million Utilized by Local Partners to Provide Services & Supports to Older Minnesotans in 14 County Region

19,356	70,998	275,024	11,214	908	5,898	0000	1,639	1,989	505
Cases via the Senior LinkAge Line® with 12,490 Consumers served	Congregate Meals provided to 1,964 Older Adults	Home Delivered Meals provided to 2,616 Older adults	One-Way Trips provided to 548 Older adults and their Caregivers	Hours of Chore provided to 152 Older Adults and their Caregivers	Hours of Homemaker provided to 414 Older Adults and their Caregivers	Older Adults attended 000 Hours of Evidenced Based Classes	Hours of Coaching/ Counseling provided to 186 Caregivers	Hours of Legal Counseling to 2,109 Older Adults	Hours of Health Assessment to 334 Older Adults

134	3,686	14	65
Caregivers attended 450 sessions of Support Groups	Hours of Respite provided to 37 Caregivers	Information Sessions provided to 231 caregivers	Hours of Education to 64 Caregivers

Central MN Council on Aging
cmcoa

MINNESOTA
SENIOR LINKAGE LINE

In 2025, $261,830 of Older Americans Act Funds Were Invested in Crow Wing County

Service	Crow Wing County Residents 60+ Served Through Federal OAA Services in 2025
Minnesota Aging Pathways (Senior LinkAge Line)	2,015 options counseling sessions to 1,276 individuals
Assisted Transportation	1 individual with 2 rides
Homemaker	1 individual with 1 hour of homemaking
Evidence Based Health Promotion	1 individual participated in 1 multisession PEARL's Program
Congregate	70 individuals with 3,613 congregate meals
Home Delivered Meals	328 individuals with 26,678 home delivered meals
Caregiver Consulting	2 Caregivers with 6 hours of caregiver consultation.
Chore	1 individual with 11 hours of chore
Legal Assistance	229 individuals with 216 hours of legal assistance

Note in 2027 new contracts for expanded services by Lutheran Social Services and Horizon Health for homemaker, caregiver respite and caregiver consultation

Request: Administrative Match for OAA Funding

- CMCOA is requesting $6,890 in CY 2027 from Crow Wing County along with continued appointment of a representative to our Board
- $62,630 match request to the 14 counties is prorated based on the 60+ population in each county.

This funding supports services and support that help older adults remain independent.

Every older adult who is able to remain safely at home delays or avoids much more costly publicly funded long-term care services.

Crow Wing County's partnership demonstrates a shared commitment to helping residents age with dignity, independence, and choice.

We appreciate Crow Wing County's continued partnership and respectfully request continued support for 2027.

A Small Investment with a Big Impact

Central MN Council on Aging

cmcoa

Supporting our aging community

June 16, 2026

Kara Terry
Crow Wing Community Services Director
PO Box 686
Brainerd, MN 56401

Dear Kara:

Crow Wing County has provided financial support to Central Minnesota Council on Aging (CMCOA) since 2005. These funds enable CMCOA to match funding received from the federal Older Americans Act (OAA), which provides administration of the OAA funding to local agencies for in-home long-term care services. These services are critical to help people live at home without falling into the public safety net. CMCOA has a focus to re-balancing existing home and community-based services to keep older persons in their homes, in effect re-balancing the local long-term care system. **We are requesting $6,890 from Crow Wing County to assist in this effort for the fiscal year 2027.**

One of the primary roles of our agency is to administer at the local level, the federal OAA funding. Using a planning process to review needs and trends, CMCOA awards grants and contracts for services to ensure that a continuum of options and choices are in place that match the needs of the community. CMCOA **awarded $261,830** of federal OAA **funding for services in Crow Wing County in 2025.**

Based on 2025 data, this lists the total number of Crow Wing County individuals served through OAA funding through CMCOA:

Service	Crow Wing County residents 60+ served through federal OAA services in 2025
Minnesota Aging Pathways (formerly Senior LinkAge Line)	2,015 options counseling sessions to 1,276 individuals
Assisted Transportation	1 individual with 2 rides
Homemaker	1 individual with 1 hour of homemaking
Evidence-Based Health Promotion	1 individual participated in 1 multisession PEARL's program
Congregate Dining	70 individuals with 3,613 congregate meals
Home-Delivered Meals	328 individuals with 26,678 home-delivered meals
Caregiver Consulting	2 Caregivers with 6 hours of caregiver consultation
Chore	1 individual with 11 hours of chore
Legal Assistance	229 individuals with 216 hours of legal assistance

Please feel free to contact me with any questions and if you would like me to provide an in-person update to the county board. We greatly appreciate the support of Crow Wing County, and I look forward to our agencies' continued collaborations as we serve the seniors of Crow Wing County.

Sincerely,

Lori Vrolson
Executive Director

CC Jon Lubke

Memorandum of Agreement
January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027

A. Central Minnesota Council on Aging (CMCOA) will:

1) Information and Advocacy: Provide information and assistance through Minnesota Aging Pathways to older adults, family and providers who need help connecting to services. We project that we will provide at least 2,100 sessions of long-term care options counseling to older people from Crow Wing County.

2) Planning and Systems Development: Develop and annually update the Area Plan for Aging. Conduct regular assessments of the needs of the elderly. Collect, interpret, and disseminate data.

3) Grant/Contract: Develop, review, and fund grant/contract applications under Title III-B, C1, C2, D, and E of the federal Older Americans Act. All projects will be monitored on a quarterly basis and annually assessed.

4) Technical Assistance: Provide technical assistance to local units of government, non-profit agencies, and other organizations that wish to develop, upgrade, or expand projects that serve the elderly or that have concerns relating to the implementation and/or delivery of those programs.

5) Coordination: Hold meetings with area service providers to discuss program operations issues to facilitate coordination of service to the elderly.

6) Education and Training: Provide information on services and aging related issues to consumers, family caregivers, and/or service providers. Develop conferences as needed. Develop and/or fund other needed training for Aging professionals.

7) Program Development: Provide planning assistance on aging issues, trends, and service development needs for the region.

8) Research: Support and participate in research projects, which will provide information to help to more effectively plan, target, and develop services for the elderly of our area.

9) Financial Management, Reporting, and Budgeting: Complete and submit financial reports. Provide requested financial or program reports to counties. Prepare and present an annual budget.

10) CMCOA will defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Crow Wing County, its officers and employees against any and all liability, loss, costs, damages and expenses which the county, its officers or employees may hereafter sustain, incur, or be required to pay arising out of the CMCOA's performance or failure to adequately perform its obligations pursuant to this agreement.

B. Benton, Cass, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd, Wadena, and Wright counties will:

1) Appoint a county commissioner/representative to serve as their representative on the CMCOA Board of Directors as outlined in the by-laws. Appointment authority/representation on the CMCOA Board of Directors is contingent upon receipt of administrative cash match requested annually by CMCOA. The formula for the request amount is prorated based on the percentage of 60+ population of the planning and service area (PSA).

CMCOA requested Benton, Cass, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd, Wadena, and Wright counties in the PSA to provide cash match for the administrative operation of CMCOA. The match request is prorated based on the 60+ population in each county utilizing the 2020 census data.

Benton	$2,610
Stearns	$11,900
Sherburne	$5,637
Wright	$9,187
Cass	$3,757
Crow Wing	**$6,890**
Todd	$2,610
Morrison	$3,131
Wadena	$1,879
Pine	$3,131
Mille Lacs	$2,505
Kanabec	$1,879
Isanti	$3,131
Chisago	$4,384
TOTAL :	**$62,630**

C. Amendments:

1) This memorandum may be amended at any time with the agreement of all parties concerned.

2) The memorandum will be reviewed annually.

Central Minnesota Council on Aging

BY: _____

TITLE: Executive Director

DATE: 6/16/26

Crow Wing County

BY: _____

TITLE: _____

DATE: _____