

HOUSING SERVICES OF THE TOMPKINS COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING

PRESENTED TO THE TOMPKINS COUNTY LEGISLATURE'S
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 20, 2017

LISA HOLMES, DIRECTOR, TCOFA

TOMPKINS COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING

Mission: To assist Tompkins County older adults to remain independent in their homes with quality of life and dignity for as long as possible and appropriate.

SERVICES TO SUPPORT SAFETY AND INDEPENDENCE AT HOME

- Personal Emergency Response Systems (538 people*)
- Falls Prevention Home Safety Assessments (16 people)
- Home Energy Assistance Program (597 people)
- Project CARE Home Visitor Program (118 people)
- Case Management and Home Care Services (Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program) (138 people)
- Home Delivered Meals (Foodnet) (557 people)
- Legal Assistance in cases of eviction, foreclosure (LawNY) (15 people)
- Yard Work/Snow Shoveling Referrals (123 people)

*People served in 2016

SERVICES TO SUPPORT HOME MAINTENANCE

- Weatherization Referral Assistance and Packaging (67 people)

TCOFA staff conducts home visits and packages energy, health and safety-related home repairs for low income senior households, leveraging funding from federal, state and private grants in order to enable individuals to remain in their homes.

SERVICES TO SUPPORT HOME MAINTENANCE

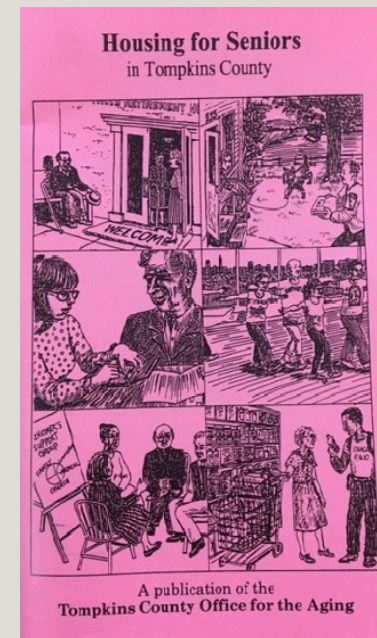
- Small Home Repair Program (60 people)

TCOFA contracts with Better Housing for Tompkins County/Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services. BHTC/INHS provides free labor to complete small home repairs, while income eligible senior homeowners pay only for the cost of materials.

HOUSING OPTIONS COUNSELING

- Housing Options Counseling: (619 people)

TCOFA staff provides individualized counseling regarding the housing and supportive services options available in Tompkins County. The Housing for Seniors guide provides objective and unbiased information about local housing options.



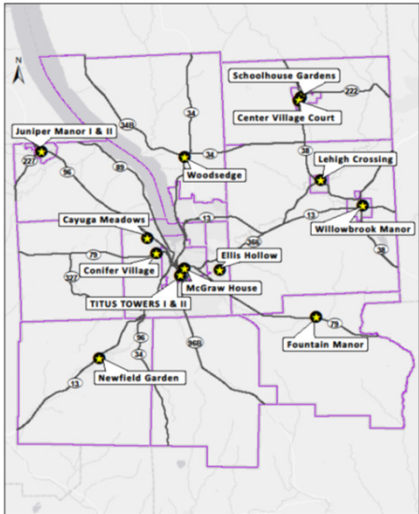
TCOFA ONLINE HOUSING RESOURCES

WWW.TOMPKINSCOUNTYNY.GOV/COFA/LOCAL/RESOURCES

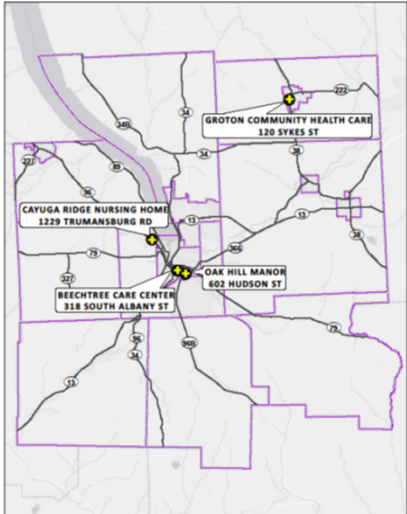
- **Housing**
- [Housing for Seniors in Tompkins County Guidebook](#)
 - [Map of Subsidized Independent Apartments for Seniors](#)
 - [Map of other Senior Apartments/Townhouses \(Market Rate\)](#)
 - [Map of Assisted Living and Lifecare Residences](#)
 - [Map of Nursing Homes](#)
- [New York State Housing Website](#)
- ["Design for a Lifetime" WCNY video segment on home design features enabling people to age in place, featuring Esther Greenhouse.](#)

TCOFA ONLINE HOUSING RESOURCES

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APARTMENTS INCOME RESTRICTED
Housing for Seniors in Tompkins County NY



NURSING HOMES
Housing for Seniors in Tompkins County NY

ADVOCACY FOR RESIDENTS IN LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES

- TCOFA coordinates regional Long Term Care Ombudsman Program serving Tompkins, Schuyler and Chemung County long term care facility residents.
 - 1841 facility residents in coverage area
 - 10 skilled nursing facilities with 1323 beds;
 - 8 adult homes, assisted living facilities, family-type homes and enriched housing with 660 beds

TCOFA HOUSING-RELATED SURVEYS, NEEDS ASSESSMENTS AND PLANNING

Age Friendly Ithaca and Tompkins County Action Plan (2016):
Identifies a vision for housing for older adults in Tompkins County, strengths/highlights, challenges/ opportunities, and goals for the immediate future

- Advocate for the development of additional accessible affordable housing;
- Advocate for additional home repair funding to enable lower income older adults to age in place;
- Advocate for the following programs and services within Tompkins County which are currently unavailable:
 - Medicaid funded Assisted Living Program (ALP);
 - Medical Model Adult Day Program;
 - Additional units of secure and affordable dementia care
- Disseminate information regarding accessibility and visitability in design for new housing development, rehab projects, and places of public accommodation. Provide tools to municipalities regarding planning and zoning to enable development that is age-friendly.

TCOFA HOUSING-RELATED SURVEYS, NEEDS ASSESSMENTS AND PLANNING

- Tompkins County Subsidized Senior Housing wait list survey (2017)
- Contacted managers of Tompkins County's 15 subsidized senior apartments.
- Depending upon area, wait lists of 6 months-3 years

TCOFA HOUSING-RELATED SURVEYS, NEEDS ASSESSMENTS AND PLANNING

- *Senior Housing Preferences Survey*: A survey of 331 Tompkins County older adults which identifies the factors most important in a future home or apartment (2014).
- Average age of respondent: 67
- Top factors:
 - Affordability
 - Single floor design
 - Access to public transportation
 - Sense of community
 - Energy efficiency
 - Close to grocery/drug stores

TCOFA HOUSING-RELATED SURVEYS, NEEDS ASSESSMENTS AND PLANNING

- *Tompkins County Housing Strategy (2017)*: TCOFA provided significant input on senior housing section
 - Meet existing deficit of 100-200 subsidized senior apartments
 - At least 1 Medicaid Assisted Living Program facility (requires certificate from NYSDOH)
 - Market-rate senior housing units with services and congregate care facilities to be determined based on future vacancies and waitlists given recent expansions