

# AUGUST 2025 NARRATIVE REPORT

Department Name: Senior Center

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## Budget

The Senior Center's August budget supported standard operational expenses, including program structure, instructor salaries, food and snacks, office supplies, printed materials, and other routine needs essential for smooth daily operations.

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## Personnel

- **Staff Members:** Kate Slisky, Kristine Jackson, Elaine Kowalski, Craig Brownfield, Karen Lundgren, Kathleen D’Allassandro, Tony Bracco, Sheri Foley
  - Staff continued to schedule and utilize vacation time as planned. We are actively coordinating coverage throughout the month to ensure seamless operations during staff absences.
  - Updates regarding time-off requests are shared regularly to help the team plan and maintain adequate coverage.
  - Given our morning and early afternoon programming, staff often delay or shorten lunch breaks to ensure events run smoothly and participants receive appropriate support.
  - Staff continue to enter units into Mon Ami in accordance with APG requirements.
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## Senior Center Highlights

- A meeting was held with Stephanie M., Karen L., and Commission Chair Suely Fries to review the administration and reporting process for the **ROID Grant**. The grant period runs from **July 1 to June 30** each year. Previously managed solely by Trish, the responsibility for reimbursement submissions and documentation will now be shared by Karen and myself to ensure timely and accurate reporting.
- We are saddened to report the passing of **Tom Collins**, age 95. At the family’s request, \$350 in donations was made to the Senior Center in his memory. His daughter, Diane, was notified, and she has reached out personally to each donor. The donations will be used to cover the DJ for our **Fall Party**, and Tom will be honored in our event flyer.
- Seven weekly **exercise classes**, ranging from mild to advanced levels, continue to draw 40–50 participants per session. These are some of our most popular offerings, and we provide transportation for those in need.
- A meeting with **Fulfill of Monmouth & Ocean County** explored the possibility of bringing a **mobile food unit** to the center twice a month. No income verification or residency would be required.
- Our seniors enjoyed their **second trip to the Riverlady**, experiencing another beautiful day on the water.
- On **August 26**, our group traveled to **Surflight Theatre** in LBI to enjoy a **Buddy Holly performance**, followed by lunch at **Ott’s Garden**—a favorite summer tradition.
- Throughout August, we hosted **Lunch & Learns**, **Snack & Bingos**, and other free events that consistently drew **50–80 attendees**.
- **Hackensack Meridian** held another successful health screening, offering on-the-spot results for blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose, and stroke risk assessments.
- Member **Ellen Fazio** entertained attendees with a musical performance. Ellen also performs regularly at local rehab and long-term care facilities. Many seniors joined in singing, thanks to the familiarity and comfort of the music.
- Our **Ice Cream Social** capped off the month, complete with classic toppings like cherries, whipped cream, sprinkles, and nuts.

- **Attorney Chip Miender** once again volunteered his time to lead our **monthly legal forum**, a valuable resource for seniors with legal questions.
  - Popular **bus trips** this month included visits to **Ocean County Mall, Freehold area, and Jackson's Farmer Market.**
  - A festive **end-of-summer party** was held at **Bartley Healthcare**, one of our most generous sponsors. Seniors arrived by bus or drove themselves for an afternoon of music, dancing, food, and raffle prizes.
  - One of our dedicated exercise class participants, **Judy Clingerman** moved to Florida and sent us a thoughtful thank-you note, which is included with this report.
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## Building Update

- Kitchen completion is expected before the **Fall Party on September 19.**
  - Lobby floor resurfaced.
  - Interior and exterior slider doors installed.
  - Second bathroom closure completed.
  - Lobby and ceiling issues resolved.
  - **Correct-size refrigerator delivered on August 18.** The previous unit was inadequate. This new refrigerator is essential for both daily use and emergency situations, as the Center also serves as a **Heating & Cooling Station.** During emergencies, including recent fires and hurricanes, the **Red Cross** relies on our facility to store food and beverages.
  - Oven is currently on order.
  - Ongoing **AC issues** in the main room, despite maintenance work completed in August.
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## Busing Update

- We are working closely with **OceanRide** to outfit all three of our buses with **regulation-compliant wheelchair and scooter straps.**
  - All bus drivers and I brought our vehicles to OceanRide for inspection and to assess individual bus needs. A training session was also held.
  - OceanRide recommends **replacing the current buses** with newer models equipped with updated safety features, particularly **wheelchair lifts.**
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Respectfully submitted,  
**Kate Slisky**  
Senior Center

enjoyed attending  
the activities but must  
admit I am bias to  
the exercise classes! I  
will miss those wonderful  
moments and will keep  
the memories close to my  
heart.

Thank you for giving  
your time and talents  
to provide an opportunity  
for the Jackson Senior  
Community to grow in  
health, mind, and spirit.  
God Bless,

Judy Clingerman

July 15, 2025

Dear Kate, Elaine, Craig,  
Kristine and Staff,

It's hard to believe that  
7 years ago we arrived in  
Jackson and one of our first  
stops was the Senior Center.  
We were warmly greeted  
by Elaine who assisted us  
with our registration. It  
wasn't long before the  
Senior Center became my  
home away from home.  
I have become acquainted  
with many great folks  
some who have become  
dear friends. I have