



Okeechobee Senior Services and the Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach/Treasure Coast hosted a senior forum on February 5, 2015 at the Okeechobee Senior Services Center. Approximately 70 seniors and their caregivers attended. The purpose of the forum was to fulfill the Area Agency on Aging’s responsibility under the Older Americans Act to “facilitate the area-wide development and implementation of a comprehensive, coordinated system for providing long-term care in home and community-based settings, in a manner responsive to the needs and preferences of older individuals and their family caregivers.” The survey below was intended to elicit feedback from Okeechobee seniors and caregivers in order to understand their needs and preferences.

Other participants in the forum included MorseLife Care Management and Counseling and Florida Rural Legal Services. Together with Okeechobee Senior Services and the Area Agency on Aging’s Helpline, Elder Rights and SHINE staff they made themselves available to answer questions regarding senior needs and services available to them.

OKEECHOBEE SENIOR FORUM PARTICIPANTS				
February 2015				
	RESIDENCY			
GENDER AND ETHNICITY	NOT SPECIFIED	YEAR ROUND	SEASONAL	TOTALS
Female	6	14	9	29
Male	2	10	8	20
Senior	7	24	16	47
English	6	23	16	45
Spanish				
Creole				
Not Specified	1	1	4	6
AGE				
Under 60				2
60-65				2
66-70				10
71-75				4
76-80				7
81-85				4
86-90				8
Over 90				3
Non specified				9

OKEECHOBEE SENIOR FORUM SURVEY RESULTS

February 2015

QUESTIONS	RESIDENCY			TOTALS
	NOT SPECIFIED	YEAR ROUND	SEASONAL	
My three biggest concerns are:				
Medical Issues/Health	5	15	9	29
In-Home Services	1	6	3	10
Housing		4		4
Money	2	12	2	16
Food		5	2	7
Crime	2	1	3	6
Transportation	3	8	3	14
No Response/None			1	1
If ___ were available to me, it would make my life better				
Housing		4		4
Help with Utilities		5		5
Affordable Health Care	2	6	1	9
Employment		1	1	2
Home Health Services		1	1	2
Less Crime	1	2	1	4
Health Insurance	1	2	1	4
Help with Mortgage Payments	2	4	2	8
Transportation	1	3	2	6
Financial Assistance		3	1	4
Help with Food		3	1	4
Help with Housekeeping/Chores		6	2	8
Legal Services	1	7	2	10
Help with Clothing		3	1	4
No Response/No Issues	2	2	6	10
I manage most things in my life pretty well except for:				
Money	2	2	3	7
Health	1	5	1	7
Transportation		2	1	3
Stress	2	8	5	15
No Response/Nothing	4	6	7	17

OKEECHOBEE SENIOR FORUM SURVEY RESULTS

February 2015

QUESTIONS	RESIDENCY			TOTAL S
	NOT SPECIFIED	YEAR ROUND	SEASONAL	
I enjoy life most when I:				
Go to Church	6	9	9	24
Am with Other People	5	12	11	28
Enjoying Recreation Time	2	8	4	14
Am with Family	3	12	9	24
Help Others	2	10	5	17
No Response			1	1