



## **Public Notice:**

### **Re-designation of Hill County Older Americans Act Services**

Date: Monday, March 11, 2024

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) intends to submit Montana's Re-designation for Hill County Older Americans Act Services to the Administration for Community Living by April 30, 2024. DPHHS is conducting a hybrid public hearing to gather comments on this redesignation.

#### Background

On September 14, 2023, the State Unit on Aging (SUA) notified Area X Agency on Aging (AAA) in Havre, Hill County, Mont., that it would lose its designation due to not fulfilling the Area Plan requirement of the Older Americans Act (OAA). The SUA, under the DPHHS Senior and Long Term Care Division, Aging Services Bureau, aims to ensure uninterrupted OAA services.

Consequently, the Director of Area III, North Central Agency on Aging, agreed to allocate OAA funds to the Hill County Senior Center to continue service provision upon receiving Board approval. Area III, which includes the neighboring Blaine County, approximately 20 miles east of Havre, will manage the funding until June 30, 2024, as DPHHS works to officially expand their AAA designation to include Hill County.

A task force has reviewed the Intrastate Funding Formula for OAA funds allocation to AAAs in light of recent census data updates. The hearing will cover these revisions and provide a platform for public feedback.

#### **Public Hearing and Comment Process**

Details on the Hill County Older Americans Act Services Redesignation are available for review online at [dphhs.mt.gov/sltc/hearings](https://dphhs.mt.gov/sltc/hearings). The DPHHS Senior and Long Term Care Division office, located in Helena's Armory Building at 1100 N Last Chance Gulch, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Helena, Montana 59601, also offers paper copies of this information.

A hybrid public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 2024, from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., at the Conrad Senior Center Hall, 311 S Virginia Street, Suite 3, Conrad, MT, 59425. Interested parties may attend the hearing in person or via Zoom.

[Register online](#) to attend online. Instructions on how to participate will be provided upon registration.

For special accommodations, please contact the Aging Services Bureau at (406) 444-7788 or email [kreidelbach@mt.gov](mailto:kreidelbach@mt.gov).

The public comment period opens Monday, March 11, 2024, and closes April 10, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. (Mountain Time). To direct questions or comments about the re-designation for Hill County OAA Services, Aging Services Bureau, visit the above address, call (406) 444-7788, or email [kreidelbach@mt.gov](mailto:kreidelbach@mt.gov).