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For Immediate Release

Contacts

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Consistent with the directive from Maryland Governor Lawrence Hogan, the Garrett County Community Action Committee will; close its Senior Centers, Congregate Meals sites, and Senior Fitness Center beginning Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> until further notice. The action is being taken as a precaution against the spread of coronavirus among older adults. Our goal is to protect the health of the county's older adults and take proactive steps necessary to keep seniors safe and healthy, stated Regina Gearhart, Director of the Garrett County Area Agency on Aging.

According to the Maryland Department of Health, while the vast majority of people recover from the virus, adults age 60+ and those with pre-existing medical conditions have a greater risk for serious illness.

The Garrett County Community Action Area Agency on Aging staff will be monitoring all program participants, by phone, and encourage seniors who need additional information or resources caused by the closure of their center to contact the **local Maryland Access Point (MAP) team at (301) 533-9000**.

Senior Centers & sites impacted by the closure:

- Mary Browning Senior Center
- Grantsville Senior Center
- Crellin Senior Center
- Kitzmiller Dine-In Meal Site
- Swanton Dine-In Meal Site
- Friendsville Dine-In Meal Site
- Flowery Vale Senior Fitness Center

Home Delivered Meals-on-Wheels participants will continue to receive meals each day. This program will continue to operate as normal.