

# **IREDELL SENIOR CENTER PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK**

Welcome to Iredell Senior Center! We are very happy that you have become a participant and member. Please read through this booklet to learn more about us and join us often!

## **History**

The Iredell County Council on Aging (ICOA) was organized in 1973 as a private, not-for-profit agency that serves adults 60 years of age and better. Iredell Senior Center is one of the programs offered by ICOA, whose offices are located within the senior center facility.

In 1979, ICOA and several other community organizations raised money, acquired a facility, and opened Iredell Senior Center in Statesville in 1980.

## **Purpose**

The philosophy of Iredell Senior Center is based on the premises that: aging is a normal developmental process; human beings need peers with whom they can interact and who are available as a source of encouragement and support; and older adults have the right to a voice in determining matters in which they have a valid interest.

## **Mission Statement**

In recognizing the need and ability for continued growth of older adults, Iredell Senior Center is dedicated to promoting the physical, emotional, and economic well being of older adults.

## **Advisory Council**

The Iredell Senior Center Advisory Council is comprised of Senior Center participant members. Advisory Council members work with the Senior Center Manager on program and service ideas, evaluation of programs, fundraising, and other aspects of Senior Center operations. Council members are asked to serve a one year term and are renewed annually.

## **Transportation**

Transportation to the Senior Center is available through Iredell County Area Transportation System (ICATS) for seniors who live within proximity of the facility. Call (704) 873-5171 to enroll and schedule a ride.

## **Notices**

The Senior Center may post notices of general interest. Notices are screened prior to posting to ensure consistency with the Senior Center's policy on commercial and political activity. If you wish to post a notice please check with Staff.

## **Prohibited Commercial and Political Activity**

Commercial and political activities are limited to the extent that they are educational and of value to all members using the Center. Overt solicitation and campaigning are strictly prohibited, will not be allowed, and may result in the suspension of a member's attendance privileges.

## **Other Prohibited Activities**

In keeping with the Center's emphasis on wellness, smoking is not permitted inside the building and is discouraged outside the building. Alcoholic beverages are not to be consumed on the premises. Disruptive behavior that interferes with the enjoyment of others taking part in Senior Center activities, vulgar or harassing language or sexual harassment will not be tolerated. Violation of prohibited activities may result in the suspension of a member's attendance privileges.

## **Photocopies**

There is a copier located in the second floor hallway. This copier is available for your use for a per page copy fee.

## **Lost and Found**

To claim articles left on the premises, see a Senior Center staff. The Senior Center reserves the right to dispose of property not claimed after six months.

### **Financing Center Operations**

The United Way, Older Americans Act monies, city and county government, fundraising efforts, and private donations fund Iredell Senior Center. The ICOA Board of Directors is responsible for developing and approving the Senior Center's budget and other operational matters.

Fundraising and private donations are a vital part of the operating budget. It is suggested that groups and individuals using the Iredell Senior Center support fundraisers or consider making annual donations to the Center.

### **Emergency and First-Aid Procedures**

In an emergency, please remain calm and do as instructed by activity leaders and staff. If members have a need for first-aid or emergency medical care please advise staff immediately.

### **Parking**

The Iredell Senior Center has limited parking. Members are encouraged to carpool or use the ICATS van. There is parking on Front Street in front of the Senior Center. All designated handicapped spaces and "No Parking" signs should be obeyed or a vehicle may be towed away at the owner's expense.

Groups meeting and leaving cars at the Senior Center to carpool should obtain prior approval from the Senior Center Manager. Unidentified vehicles will be reported to the Police Department and may be towed at the owner's expense. These precautions are necessary to protect participants and staff.

### **Your Input**

Please express comments or concerns to Advisory Council members and staff. Satisfaction and Interest Surveys are conducted annually and provide an opportunity for your input. Active Senior Center members are encouraged to inquire about serving on the Senior Center Advisory Council. Please speak with staff about any questions, concerns, and comments.

### **Staff**

The ICOA Executive Director is located in the ICOA offices on the first floor of Iredell Senior Center and is responsible for all ICOA programs. The Senior Center Manager is located in the Senior Center and is responsible for Senior Center programming, services, evaluation, advocacy, volunteers, and fundraising. The Senior Center Program Assistant is located near the entrance to the downstairs large room and is responsible for assisting the Senior Center Manager with duties and day-to-day operation. A Senior Center Office Assistant is located in the downstairs large room and provides reception, administrative, and telephone assistance to Senior Center staff and members. The Senior Center Maintenance is located in the Senior Center and is responsible for cleaning and upkeep of the interior and exterior of the building.

### **Instructors and Volunteers**

The Senior Center utilizes a large number of persons as instructors and volunteer leaders of various activities and services. Some instructors charge a fee, while others have volunteered their time and talents to assist with our activities and services. Volunteers are also utilized for day-to-day operation, to assist at special events, assemble the quarterly newsletter, and as Advisory Council members.

### **Participant Membership/ Registration**

New persons to the Senior Center are asked to complete a Participant Registration, which provides the Center with basic information. This is used to evaluate the type of older adult that we are serving and provides newsletter mailing and emergency contact information. Participant Registration information remains confidential. Senior groups using the Center are asked to complete registrations.

When you register you will receive a keycard to use for signing in with My Senior Center. My Senior Center is our "state of the art" computerized system you will use to sign in for attendance. It is user friendly with a large, colorful, and interactive touch screen. You will swipe your card and then make your selection

of the activity you are attending. You may sign in at either of two screens. The first one is near the reception desk on the ground floor and the second one is right when you get off the elevator on the second floor. The staff is always available to assist you with My Senior Center. There is no participant membership fee required to take part. Participation priority is given to Iredell County residents. Most activities have no fee, although some may have a fee for supplies or instruction.

### **Hours of Operation**

The Iredell Senior Center's regular hours are from 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday. The center is also open at night for specific activities as advertised or published in the monthly calendar.

### **Inclement Weather Policy**

Iredell Senior Center may close during periods of inclement weather to ensure the safety of members and staff. Please phone the Center before venturing out. If you reach the answering service please listen to the message regarding cancellations. If there is no message about cancellations, leave your name and telephone number. If the Center opens, staff will return your call.

### **Use of Facility**

The facility of the Iredell Senior Center is made available for primary use by Iredell County older adults aged 60 years and over. The Center is also available for use by various human service agencies dealing with aging concerns. All groups should schedule room usage with the Senior Center Manager. Outside agencies may be charged a fee and will be approved only in cases where participants attending Senior Center activities are not displaced.

### **Children at Iredell Senior Center**

*At the February meeting of Iredell Senior Center's ADVISORY COUNCIL, members unanimously approved a change in the Center's policy regarding children in the building. The new policy:*

Children are **NOT** allowed at Iredell Senior Center EXCEPT for sponsored intergenerational events such as an activity for Grandparent's Day or high school students acting as sponsored "tech buddies" for seniors getting instructions on how to operate a smart phone or tablet.

### **Services and Activities**

The Iredell Senior Center's monthly calendar posts the days and times when services and activities are available. A wide variety of educational programs and health screenings are offered regularly. Exercise classes, arts and crafts, music, computer classes, trips, cards, and games are scheduled. Annual events include socials and fundraisers. The Senior Center has billiards, table tennis, and shuffleboard courts for your use and enjoyment.

### **Open Drop-in Activities**

Iredell Senior Center has a number of activities available every day for drop-in use. These include billiards, exercise equipment, library, puzzles, cards, games, coupon center, computers with internet access, and crafts sale. Table tennis, shuffleboard, and bean bag toss may be played when the large room downstairs is available.

### **Calendar of Events**

Senior Center event information is published on the Senior Center's website, the Statesville Record and Landmark's website, in The County News newspaper, on Community Channel 20 with the city of Statesville, on the BBB Grapevine's website (Better Business Bureau) and reported on WSIC 1400AM radio, and WAME 55AM & 92.9FM radio.

### **Quarterly Newsletter**

Iredell Senior Center publishes a quarterly newsletter that contains useful information on senior topics as well as details on upcoming events, programs, and services. This newsletter is mailed free to active members, who are registered at the Center, and have a scan card.

## Iredell County Council on Aging

The Iredell Council on Aging (ICOA) is the lead agency in Iredell County for aging services. Services are available for residents who are 60 years of age and better. There is no set fee for services. For further information or to enroll in programs below, except Senior Centers, please call the ICOA at 704-873-5171.

**Congregate Meals** – group nutrition sites for a hot meal and fellowship are available in Statesville, Harmony, Troutman, and Mooresville.

**Home Delivered Meals** – home-bound older adults and their unpaid caregiver may be eligible for home delivered meals within Statesville, Mooresville, and Harmony city or town limits.

**Chore Service** – assistance with light cleaning, laundry, errands, etc.

**Respite** – qualified in-home aides provide personal care and assistance with light housekeeping to primary, unpaid caregivers responsible for 24-hour care of a spouse or family member.

**Senior Community Service Employment Program** – adults 55 years of age or better with a low income may work for local agencies, receive on the job training, and additional training towards permanent employment goals.

**Transportation** – transportation is available for older adults going to medical appointments, human service agencies, shopping, and nutrition sites. Reservations must be made in advance.

**South Iredell Senior Center** – 704-662-3337; located in down town Mooresville in the lower level of Charles Mack Citizen Center. A wide range of health, education, recreation, and social activities are offered.

**Iredell Senior Center** – 704-873-8568; located near down town Statesville. Please see this handbook for details.

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## IREDELL SENIOR CENTER

*A Program of the  
Iredell Council on Aging*



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**Iredell Senior Center**  
**344 E. Front St.**  
**Statesville, NC 28677**  
**704-873-8568**

**[www.iredellseniorcenter.org](http://www.iredellseniorcenter.org)**  
**Iredell Council on Aging**

