From:
To: City Council
Subject: Senior Content

**Subject:** Senior Center Funding

**Date:** Thursday, March 7, 2024 11:22:57 AM

## **Dear City Council Members:**

I am writing to urge you to continue funding for the Sebastopol Senior Center. This organization is a cornerstone of our community and provides invaluable supports and services for and to our senior citizens. Thirty percent of Sebastopol's population is made up of people over the age of 60. Funding cuts will have a dramatic and detrimental impact on the essential services that this outstanding agency provides.

The following data captures the significant services that the Senior Center provided just last year:

- 21,000 plus visits to the Center
- Over 6,000 reduced-cost meals served through the Harvest Café
- Approximately 5,700 instances of seniors participating in fitness and balance classes
- More than 2,000 occasions where seniors attended support groups to enhance mental health
- Approximately 1,700 times seniors enjoyed engaging in LGBT+ activities or groups
- 3,000 rides provided by our dedicated volunteer drivers, primarily for healthcare appointments

As I thirty-year resident of Sebastopol (and a proud "senior") I urge you to continue funding the Center. Our community and our senior citizens need and deserve your continued support in order to benefit from the programs and services the Center provides.

Thank you.

Carlo Rossi

Sebastopol