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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*(Photos attached)*

**COMMISSION ON AGING SHARES MILLAGE MONEY  
WITH PARTNER COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS**

**TRAVERSE CITY:** – Under Special Order of Business, Chairman of the Commission on Aging Board of Directors Rodetta Harrand, made three individual check presentations to local partner agencies.

The Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan, the Meals on Wheels program and Catholic Human Service’s Senior Companion program touch the lives of COA clients daily.

Every year the Grand Traverse County Commission on Aging Board of Directors approves the distribution of funds to these programs.

For the year 2016 the amounts were as follows:

Meals on Wheels received \$20,000.\*

CHS Senior Companion Program received \$10,000.

Area Agency on Aging \$7,503. (formula based).

“The millage monies from the voters flow through the COA to help fund these critically important programs,” explained Laura Green, Deputy Director of the GTCOA.

“Every day,” noted Green, “Our respective staff members interact in the field to support and benefit county residents 60 years of age and older who wish to remain in their own homes.”

The Grand Traverse County Senior Center provides congregate meals for the Meals on Wheels program therefore, \$3,333. of their millage funds are included in the \$20,000. total.

### **ABOUT THE GTCOA**

Since 1975 the Commission on Aging has offered home and community based services to county residents 60 years of age and older. These community based services help the elderly remain living in their homes while enhancing their quality of life and safety, and also assisting family members and friends in caring for older adults.

The commission is governed by a 10-member volunteer board appointed by the Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners. Its activities are funded by a small operational millage of 0.5 mills voted by county taxpayers every six years, and will be on the primary ballot this August.

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