



MESSENGER

Serving Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca and Wyandot Counties

Area Agencies on Aging: Providing Quality, Cost Effective Services to Consumers, Receives 96% Consumer Satisfaction

The aging network consisting of the 12 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA's) are the front door to long term care, helping older adults find the best long term care resources they need where they live. Consumers are able to discuss their needs with trained professionals who determine the most cost effective ways to meet those needs.



market areas at the sacrifice of service. Area Agencies on Aging serve all 88 counties so that older adults receive quality care whether they live in an urban county with an abundance of health care services or in a rural county with fewer resources. In addition, our not-for-profit status enables us to obtain grants and work

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Aging is a Fact of Life, Not a Disease

AAA's are adept at assisting consumers with the aging process and holding down costs simultaneously. We think of aging as a process, with some people moving along a continuum from independence to needing personal care as medical conditions worsen. As these older adults' needs increase, we help them navigate and choose wisely the continuum of services that keep them in the community as healthy as possible for as long as possible. When people need intense services that culminate in a nursing facility or hospital ICU, costs are greatest.

Our Not-for-Profit Advantage

The state benefits in many ways from our private not-for-profit organizations. As not-for-profits, we don't have to chase lucrative

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Ohio District 5
Area Agency on
Aging, Inc.

Sponsored by a Title III Grant under the Older Americans Act, a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service, a State Services Block Grant, and other funds administered through the Ohio Department of Aging.

 Find us on
Facebook

Duana Patton
Chief Executive Officer
Bev Rosich
Communications Manager, Editor

Save the Date for this Year's Exciting Events!

Wednesday, May 9
Senior Spring Spectacular
 Renaissance Theatre, Mansfield

Monday, August 20
AAA Awards Ceremony (Outstanding Senior Citizens, Community Service and Safe Driver Awards)
 AAA Annex, Mansfield

Tuesday, September 25
Positive Aging Expo
 Richland County Fairgrounds, Mansfield

Thursday, November 8
Caregiver Conference (for informal/volunteer caregivers)
 Mid Ohio Conference Center, Mansfield

Thursday, December 6
AAA Annual Meeting
 Mid Ohio Conference Center, Mansfield

For more information, visit the AAA website at: www.aaa5ohio.org

with charities to leverage long-term care dollars.

You May Think You Know Us

You may think you know us through PASSPORT, the program for in-home and community care. But, that's only a part of what we do to benefit older adults needing long-term care services and the taxpayers who fund them.

Last year, there were nearly 300,000 contacts made to the AAA's statewide. Of those 300,000 contacts, only 9,000 were enrolled into the PASSPORT Program. The other 291,000 were referred to other community partners or were enrolled in a non-Medicaid waiver program offered through the local AAA. AAA professionals evaluate individual and family needs and link older adults to cost-effective in-home

care and community programs. Since the inception of PASSPORT in 1992, the rate of people receiving nursing-facility care compared to in-home care has decreased from more than 90% to 58%.



More than half of Ohioans who

contacted the AAA's merely needed a simple referral to a local program like a senior center or a meal provider. Even elderly persons with serious chronic diseases like diabetes can be effectively treated at home and avoid the costly

and undesirable stays in institutions.

The savings add up: it costs the state nearly \$20,000 annually for in-home care, compared to \$60,000 for nursing facility care.

Source: Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging

Area Agencies on Aging Achieve Superior Satisfaction Rating

Consumers gave Ohio's 12 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) a better than 99% approval rating throughout 2011.

On January 30, 2012, the Ohio Department of Aging released data reporting results of its consumer satisfaction survey for all AAAs. Consumers rated their satisfaction through participation in programs offered by AAAs at over 99% statewide.

Duana Patton, Chief Executive Officer of the Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. which covers Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca and Wyandot Counties applauds the Area Agencies achievement. "We see evidence of the success of the local Area Agency on Aging every day in helping consumers retain their independence. It is very gratifying to see statewide that consumers themselves are validating the quality services being provided through the 12 Area Agencies on Aging."



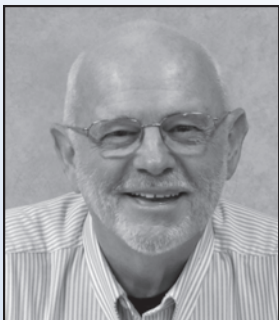
AAA Welcomes New Board Members/ Announces Officers

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc. is pleased to announce four new Board of Trustee members and the 2012 Officers of the Area Agency on Aging governing body.



Ms. Tamara "Tammi" Wolfe of Nevada (Wyandot County) will be serving as an at-large member. Tammi is the Education

Manager at Avita Health System in Galion and Bucyrus. She also provides onsite consultation for community outreach programs and development, employee wellness and health promotion management through Private Professional Counseling.



John D. Peterson of Marion will be serving as the Marion County Representative. Mr. Peterson, formerly a Senior Pastor, now serves as

the Producer and Host of Discovering the True Gospel television show and provides free spiritual counseling for citizens of Marion County. He serves as a mentor with Heart of Ohio Mentoring Program, participating in a mentoring program at Grant Middle School in Marion. John also serves as host of Prayer Line and Public Affairs along with Control Room Operation for TV 39 in Marion.



Attorney Jerod Them from Mansfield will be serving as an At-Large member. Attorney Them is a partner with Weldon, Huston, & Keyser, L.L.P. and serves as an Advisory Board member for the Salvation Army in Mansfield. Jerod is also Past President of the Mansfield Kiwanis Club and member of the Ohio Guardianship Association.



Mike Porter, Mayor of Mount Gilead (Morrow County), was elected as the Morrow County Representative. Mayor Porter has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and the First Presbyterian Church and serves on the Morrow County Senior Services Levy Campaign.

Officers for 2012 include: President, Kathy A. Daniels, Knox County Representative; Vice President, Marcia Rice, At Large Representative from Richland County; Vice President, John Stofira, Huron County Representative; Treasurer, Tom Joseph, Seneca County Representative; Secretary, Larry Bennett, Wyandot County Representative.

The remaining Board of Trustees include: Marilyn Byers (Ashland Co.); Jody Dobbins (Crawford Co.); Frank Russo (Richland Co.); John Capper (Knox Co.); John Garnes (Marion Co.); Beth Malaska (Richland Co.).

Nomination Forms Available for Outstanding Senior Citizens and Community Service Awards

The Area Agency on Aging is now accepting nominations for Outstanding Senior Citizen and Community Service Awards – the deadline is May 1, 2012

Outstanding Senior Citizen awards are presented to one individual or a couple from each county in Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca and Wyandot Counties.

One Community Service Award is presented to an organization for continuing service to Ohio's senior citizens.

Awards will be presented at the Area Agency on Aging Awards Ceremony on August 20, 2012 in Mansfield.

For additional information, contact Bev at 419-522-5612 or 800-522-5680, extension 1157 or visit the Area Agency on Aging website at www.aaa5ohio.org

Hawkins Corner Update

The Hawkins Corner Building Committee continues to move forward with plans to renovate the former Hawkins grocery store. The building, valued at \$2.1 million, was donated to the Area Agency on Aging Foundation in November of 2011. MKC of Mansfield has been selected as the architectural firm for this project.

2012 AAA Foundation Board Members

Kathy A. Daniels, Chair
(Knox County)
Beth Malaska, Vice Chair
(Richland County)
Jody Dobbins, Treasurer
(Crawford County)
John Capper, Secretary
(Knox County)
Marilyn Byers
(Ashland County)
Dr. Becky Strickland
(Crawford County)
Suzanne Bineau
(Crawford County)
Bill Danuloff
(Richland County)
Jeff DeVito
(Richland County)
Duana Patton, CEO,
AAA, Ex-Officio
(Crawford County)
Jim Hairston, COO,
AAA, Ex-Officio
(Richland County)

NEW Training Registration Option!

For your convenience, you are now able to register online for any of our training seminars and choose your preferred payment option – credit card, check or pay at the door. Visit the AAA website at www.aaa5ohio.org for our complete training calendar.

If you would like to be added to our e-mail list to receive the latest training brochures electronically, e-mail brosich@aaa5ohio.org.

March 22, 2012 - *Aging Sensitivity*

March 29, 2012 - *Establishing and Maintaining Professional Boundaries*

April 5, 2012 - *Medicare Update 2012*

April 10, 2012 - *Controlling Stress Before It Controls You*

April 26, 2012 - *Ethics of the Profession & Professional*

May 1, 2012 - *Increasing Optimism*

May 15, 2012 - *Ohio Nursing Law Update 2012*

May 24, 2012 - *Transitioning from Loss to Living Again*

June 5, 2012 - *Hoarding! What You Need to Know*

June 13, 2012 - *Marketing to the Mature 50+ Population*

June 19, 2012 - *Having Fun & Getting the Job Done*

July 10, 2012 - *The Skilled Helper: Understanding Grief & Loss*

July 17, 2012 - *Assert Your Best Self*

July 26, 2012 - *Aging Parents: When to Step In and How to Approach Critical Conversations*

August 7, 2012 - *I Can't Believe I Just Said That: Overcoming Negative First Impressions*

September 11, 2012 - *Memory Fitness Matters: What You Need to Know*

September 18, 2012 - *Bridging the Generation Gap: Dealing With Difficult & High Maintenance People*

October 2, 2012 - *Who Ruffles Your Feathers?*

October 16, 2012 - *Orientation the Aging Network & Services*

October 25, 2012 - *Aging Sensitivity*



Save The Date!

North Central Ohio Regional Respite Summit



*An Education & Sharing Event
to Address Respite Needs
in our Region*

**Wednesday March 28, 2012
12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

The James Kehoe Center for Advanced Learning
175 Mansfield Ave. (State Route 39) Shelby, OH 44875

**FREE event with an RSVP to:
Jack 419-522-5612 or 800-522-5680, ext. 1187**

This Summit for Parents, Family Caregivers, Respite Providers, Community Groups & Agencies serving those with developmental disabilities, chronic illness, aging, mental health conditions, etc.

Do You Want the Latest AAA News the Quickest Way?

If you would like to be added to our e-mail list to receive the latest news and announcements in the most timely manner, please email brosich@aaa5ohio.org to be added to our list.

Are You a Caregiver?

(does not need to be live-in or full-time) or know someone who is a caregiver? If so, we can provide FREE information to you to help you in your caregiver role. To receive the Caregiver Newsletter, please email jkoschnick@aaa5ohio.org and ask to be added to the newsletter mailing list.

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Eligible low-income Ohioans can get help with Utility Bills (HEAP)



For details or a HEAP application call the Consumer Assistance Unit

at 419-524-4144
or 800-860-5799

Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

*Those 60 & over can get in-home assistance with the application



780 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, Ohio
www.aaa5ohio.org

**Red Ball Jets
Spring Break
Bash 5K & 10K
Run/Walk to
Benefit AAA
Programs**

The Red Ball Jets Spring Break Bash 5K & 10K Run/Walk will be held on Saturday, March 31, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. (Registration opens at 2:00) to benefit Area Agency on Aging programs. Pre-registration \$15 (if postmarked by March 26) and includes a long sleeve t-shirt. Admission to Post Race Party at The Leiderkranz is FREE for those 21+ who register for the 5k/10k. For registration information, visit www.aaa5ohio.org

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AAAs were created by the Older Americans Act of 1965. The Act directs AAAs to advocate for and to serve older Ohioans, their families, and caregivers. In all 88 Ohio counties, AAAs provide information and referral to local programs and pre-admission screening and assessment for people seeking long term care. They also provide care management for older adults receiving long-term care services, including the PASSPORT program. The AAAs provide care transitions programs to keep people in their homes and communities rather than nursing facilities, and they offer elder rights, wellness, prevention, education and respite programs.



A PASSPORT consumer from Morrow County shared "I do not know

what I would do without the program. I am so satisfied with my personal care aides. I appreciate PASSPORT and so do my kids. I have had my share

of medical problems throughout the years. I feel comforted by the fact that I have people coming in to help me. My case manager always sees I get the equipment I need."

A PASSPORT consumer's daughter from Bucyrus: "PASSPORT has been a lifesaver. I could not have done it without PASSPORT. It has been a God send. It's enabled me to keep mom comfortably in her home; to keep her in a warm, comfortable home environment; to have the peace of mind for her and myself that she is well taken care of. It would have been impossible for me to do this on my own. She probably wouldn't still be here without PASSPORT. PASSPORT has saved my mom's life – literally."

AAA Announces Availability of Higher Education Grants & Scholarship

The Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging, Inc., is pleased to announce the availability of six (6) \$1,000 Grants and one (1) \$2,500 Scholarship for individuals pursuing higher education. Grants and Scholarship are made possible through revenues from sponsorships for the Area Agency on Aging Annual Meeting.

Grant applications will be accepted from anyone age 18 and over. Scholarship applicants must have at least a sophomore status in an accredited technical school, college or university for the 2012/2013 academic year.

For additional guidelines and application form, visit the Area Agency on Aging website at www.aaa5ohio.org. Deadline for all applications is April 2, 2012.



OMBUDSMAN CORNER

PERSON-CENTERED CARE: A CULTURE CHANGE

Culture change associated with person-centered care is a transformation of services for elders based on person-directed values and practices where the voices of elders and those working with them always comes first. It is a movement from a “traditional” model of care to a new model that emphasizes person-centered care and “HOME”.

The core values of person-centered or directed care are; Choice, Dignity, Respect, Self-determination and Purposeful living.

There are three broad objectives to promote culture change: 1. return decision-making control to the elder; 2. enhance front-line staff’s capacity to be responsive and 3. establish a “home”.

Person-centered care is a philosophical approach to nursing home care that knows and respects the homes of elders and those working closest with them. The principals and values are that every person has strengths, gifts and contributions to offer; dreams and desires; primary authority over their lives along with those who care for them; the ability to express preferences and make choices and that their preferences and choices should always be considered.

The Ohio District 5 AAA Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program received funding to conduct a project with goals to educate nursing home providers, residents, families and the communities on promoting the concept of culture



change in our long-term care settings, specifically nursing homes, and helping nursing home providers transition from the traditional medical model to a “home” model of living and caring.

We have conducted a survey of our 53 nursing homes in our area, gathering information to help us see where each is at in the process of culture change. We are working closely with four nursing homes including residents, families, and staff as to what changes they would like to tackle first. We are now scheduling forums in each of our counties. These forums will last up to one and half hours, participants will be people in the community who have had experience with nursing home living, loved ones in the nursing home or those who have had no experience at all regarding nursing homes. We want to find out what the perceptions are of nursing homes and how we can advocate for change in how and where we age. These meetings will be held in the local libraries in your area and will be posted. If you have any questions or would like to attend, please contact the Area Agency on Aging at 419-524-4144 or 800-860-5799 for detailed information regarding your area.

Denim Projects to Benefit Pat Kracker Breast Cancer Fund

AAA staff and board members have created 18 denim projects which are being used as a fundraiser to benefit the Pat Kracker Breast Cancer Fund. The projects are being raffled off - tickets are \$1 each or 6/\$5.

Winning tickets will be drawn on April 13, 2012.

The denim projects, made from denim donated by AAA staff members, include a memory photo board, checkers-to-go board, teddy bear, car organizers (different sizes available), tote bags, pillows, placemats and a wine tote.

To view the projects and for more information, visit the AAA website at www.aaa5ohio.org.



Ohio District 5
Area Agency on Aging, Inc.
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Mansfield, Ohio 44906

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Area Agency on
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Phone TTY/TTD: 419-524-4144

Toll Free: 1-800-860-5799

Fax: 419-522-9482

www.aaa5ohio.org

*The Area Agency on Aging is an
equal opportunity employer*



Information and Referral Offices

Information, referrals, and caregiver assistance!

Where the elderly can turn for help in finding services they need.

Where agencies can turn to find out about additional services available to their clients.

Ashland County Council on Aging	419-281-1477
Crawford County Council on Aging	419-562-3050
Senior Enrichment Services	419-668-6245
The Station Break	740-397-3841
Marion Multi-Purpose Senior Center	740-387-6100
Morrow County Services for Older Citizens, Inc.	419-946-6702
Lexington Senior/Civic Center	419-884-1676
Seneca County Commission on Aging	419-447-5792
Wyandot County Council on Aging, Inc.....	419-294-5733