

January-March 2024

Celebrating **43** Years

January Social
“ENCHANTED MASQUERADE BALL”

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024
6:00 – 8:00PM

THE REIKART BALLROOM • 5000 MAIN ST • AMHERST, NY 14226 (right off Rte 290)

Cost \$30 RSVP BY: THURSDAY, JANUARY 18TH

Includes food stations & one drink ticket • Cash Bar • Members Only

Register right on our home page www.networkinaging.org.

**Elegant masks and hidden faces, join us for a magical
Masquerade Ball! Your presence will make the night shine!**

ENTERTAINMENT BY THE RED BLAZER MEN'S CHORUS



RED BLAZER
MEN'S CHORUS

Honorary charity: Friends to the Elderly Program

A non-profit organization located at the Dorothy J. Collier Community Center on E. Utica Street in Buffalo. Friends has both a senior social care program providing activities aimed at reducing food insecurities and increased social and physical activities, along with educational programs for the seniors. They also serve as a bread and pastry pantry, while increasing access to fruits/vegetables.

Jan-Mar 2024



Est. 1981

Network in Aging
of Western New York, Inc.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE November 2, 2023

Congratulations to our 2023 annual meeting award winners! The **Program of Excellence** was awarded to **Barb Johnson** for The McGuire Group's Journeys Palliative Care Program.



Speakers

Thank you to our speakers who donated their time to present to us at the annual meeting. Presentations from our keynote speaker **Greg Olsen** (Acting Director, NYS Office for the Aging) and **Nancy Weil** (The Laugh Academy) were well received by all attendees.

The **Dr. Evan Calkins Meritorious Service** award was presented to **Anne Binga** from Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo. The award was to honor lifetime contributions to the field of aging in WNY.



Lucky winner of 50/50 raffle was April Romanowski!

Facebook Members Only contest winner was Beth Schneider



Basket Raffle

THANK YOU to everyone who donated to our basket raffle! We appreciate your support! (4 unclaimed baskets will be auctioned off at the January Social).



More pics are now on our website!



SPONSORED BY



DIAMOND
Bristol Village, Tennyson Court, Brookdale Senior Living



EMERALD
Harris Beach PLLC, Health Foundation for Western & Central NY, PB Elder Law, Alzheimer's Disease & Memory Disorder Center



RUBY
Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo, Laping, Surdej & Associates, Trusted Choice Homecare



SAPPHIRE
Aging Well Care Mgmt., Amberleigh (Sonida Living), Brompton Heights, CarePatrol Buffalo Niagara Rochester Syracuse, Center for Elder Law & Justice, Erie County Senior Services, Family Choice NY, FeedMore WNY, Glenwell, Health Force, Heathwood Assisted Living & Memory Care, Nascentia Health, Niagara Hospice, People Inc., Simply The Best Cleaning Services, Solstice Senior Living, The Olear Team, Walsh Duffield Companies, Wheatfield Commons & WNY Coalition Pooled Trusts

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRESSIVE COCKTAIL PAIRING EVENT Thursday, October 19th - Sto Lat Bar

Great conversation, delicious food, creative cocktails!



Thank you to our sponsors!





Est. 1981

Network in Aging
of Western New York, Inc.

OFFICERS

President

April Romanowski
Lawley Insurance

V.P. — Community Relations

Paula Venné-Clendening
Walsh Duffield Companies, Inc.

V.P. — Networking

Stephanie Mruzec
Solstice Senior Living at East Amherst

V.P. — Professional Development

Pam Ricksgers Pace
Amazing Home Care

Secretary

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Treasurer

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Angie Crawshaw

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Dr. Evan Calkins

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Brothers of Mercy*

Sharon Plant

People Inc.

Crystal Selk

West Side Community Services

Lynn Westcott

Alzheimer's Association WNY Chapter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE APRIL ROMANOWSKI



Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. As we step into 2024, I am filled with excitement and gratitude for our thriving membership.

Our Annual Meeting in November was a resounding success! Greg Olsen and Nancy Weil, our esteemed speakers, shared valuable insights and tools to assist us in our mission. A big thank you to our sponsors, presenters, and basket raffle contributors for making the conference unforgettable.

Kicking off the New Year, we invite you to our Enchanted Masquerade Ball on January 25th at the Reikart Ballroom, supporting Friends to the Elderly. Let's celebrate and welcome in the New Year together! Find registration details on our website.

I'm thrilled to welcome new board members Crystal Selk from the West Side Community Center, Deborah Mathur-Reil from Brookdale Niagara and welcome back to Sharon Plant from People Inc. Their expertise will undoubtedly contribute to our continued success.

Our committees are hard at work planning exciting events for the year. Check our website regularly for updates, and consider joining a committee to be more actively involved.

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated members who have renewed for 2024. Your ongoing support means the world to us.

As we embark on this new year, let's dream big and believe in ourselves. May 2024 bring you happiness, success, love, and countless blessings. Happy New Year!

Warm regards,

April Romanowski
Network in Aging President

WELCOME NEW MEMBER AGENCIES



PROSTHETIC HOME SERVICES, INC.



EMPIRE SENIOR ADVISORS



PRUDENTIAL



MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR NETWORK MEMBERSHIP BY JOINING A COMMITTEE TODAY

ALL MEETINGS VIA ZOOM

COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS & MEETING INFORMATION

Please be sure to verify meeting date, time and location as there are occasional changes!

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Establishes and directs the Network's print and online communications with its members and the public. Meetings are on the **second Tuesday** of the month at 10:00am.

CO-CHAIRS

Pamela Pace
pamela@amazinghc.com
716-863-9035

Paula Venné-Clendening
pvenne@walshduffield.com
716-255-1593

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Plans and carries out educational programs/workshops on aging related issues, along with planning and preparation for the annual meeting. Meetings are on the **second Thursday** of each month at 9:00am.

CO-CHAIRS

Crystal Selk
cselk@wscsbuffalo.org
716-884-6616

Julie Whitbeck-Lewinski
jlewinski@carepatrol.com
716-463-2966

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Reviews and recommends changes in membership dues and benefits; coordinates ongoing membership recruitment efforts. Meetings are on the **fourth Thursday** of each month at 8:30am. No meetings in August and December.

CO-CHAIRS

Jane Nogowski
jnogowski@brothersofmercy.org

Sue Nawojski
snawojski@tennysoncourt.com
716-632-9496

NETWORKING COMMITTEE

Plans and carries out member-to-member functions, including Networking events. This committee meets the **first Thursday** each month at 8:30am. Additional dates may be scheduled.

CO-CHAIRS

Stacy Jasinski
sjasinski@depaul.org
716-608-7000

Stephanie Mruczek
eastamherstdsm@solsticeseniorliving.com
716-688-7880

Nancy Maira
nlmaira@verizon.net
(317) 727-7532

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

Plans social functions for the Network, including the January Social, Taste of the Network and annual meeting venue. Meetings are on the **fourth Tuesday** each month at 8:30am. No meetings in January, July and December.

CO-CHAIRS

Bonnie McMorrow
bmcorrow@feedmorewny.org
716-822-2002

Sharon Plant
splant@people-inc.org
716-817-9229

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

This committee solicits and accepts nominations for positions on the Network in Aging Board of Directors and presents a slate of officers and directors to the membership for their consideration.

CO-CHAIRS

Ann Marie Klosko
amklosk@hotmail.com
716-440-0933

Dr. Kara Calandrelli
kcalandrelli@sonidaliving.com
716-689-4195 ext 111

Time to Renew Your Membership!

Membership renewals are due 1/31/2024.

Due to the rising cost of credit card fees, **we are only accepting CHECKS for renewals.**

It's that time of year to renew your membership with the Network in Aging! We look forward to continuing our mission in providing outstanding programs, events and exciting networking opportunities in the coming year!

Please visit our Membership Page to determine which membership level best suits your business or organization. We appreciate your ongoing support.

Go to www.networkinaging.org and under Membership, select Renew.

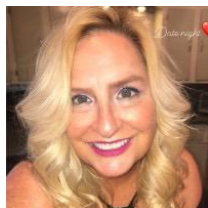
Checks can be mailed to: Network in Aging, 7954 Transit Road, #254, Williamsville, NY 14221

Contact Lisa at lisa@networkinaging.org if you require an invoice or need your password reset.

2024 NEW INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS



Sharon Plant
People Inc.



Deb Mathur-Reil
Brookdale Niagara



Private Group for Members ONLY

Haven't joined our MEMBERS ONLY Facebook group yet?

- Share resources and expand referral network
- Announce events and post job opportunities at your organization
- Engage in discussions with other NIA members
- Ask for recommendations and pose questions
- Share ideas

This page can only be viewed by other NIA members – not to the public. If you belong to or are associated with a member agency, go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/niamembers> and request to join! Or go to our home page and click on Join Members Only page at the top.

LIKE



2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Seated: Angie Crawshaw, Ann Marie Klosko; 2nd row: Julie Whitbeck-Lewinski, Lynn Westcott, Paula Venne-Clendening, April Romanowski, Sharon Plant, Sue Nawojski, Jane Nogowski, Mimi Piciullo, Erin Mahoney. Back row: Ben Kanaley, Deb Mathur-Reil, Stacy Jasinski, Stephanie Mruczek, Lisa Boron (NIA coordinator), Steve Buzzelli. (Not shown: Pam Pace, Mary Baty, Kara Calandrelli, Tom Lang, Nancy Maira, Bonnie McMorro.)

PROSTHETIC HOME SERVICES, INC.

by Mark Zuchlewski CP, founder & president

“Success can only be measured when a patient has reached his or her full potential”

Early on in my career in prosthetics, an experienced mentor once told me, “A prosthesis is not a replacement for a limb that is lost, it is simply an alternative to using nothing.” Taken at face value, that quote holds true on many levels. If, however, you look a bit deeper, there is a second meaning that stuck with me and guided me down a path to creating Prosthetic Home Services, Inc.

Artificial limb technology has come a long way since I began my prosthetic career 35 years ago. Neuro-integration of magnets implanted in muscle tissues allows an amputee who is missing an arm to sense and control the individual fingers of a prosthetic hand. In the case of missing legs, researchers have successfully been able to attach metal anchors directly to the bone of a missing limb, allowing prosthetic components to be attached to an amputee without the use of cumbersome prosthetic socket. Every year as technological advancements in prosthetics accelerate, we are moving closer to the idea that a prosthesis may in fact, someday, be a suitable replacement for a lost limb.

So, what is there to say about the alternative to using nothing? Sadly, there are multiple reasons why an amputee might end up with “nothing” as their alternative if they become frustrated with their first prosthetic experience.

In Western New York, it is all too common that new amputees are “ASSIGNED” a prosthetic company who will be working with them immediately after an amputation. When the assigned prosthetic company is not a “good fit” for the new amputee, the prosthesis ends up in the closet and the amputee becomes restricted in their activity and independence. Possible reasons include:

- A poor fitting prosthesis
- A prosthesis that is too difficult to put on
- Lack of transportation
- Financial hardship
- Inadequate insurance coverage
- A poor relationship between the amputee and the prosthetist

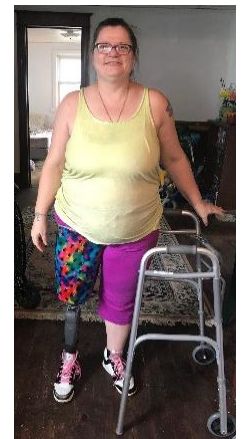
Prosthetic Home Services, Inc. is an American Board-Certified prosthetic company that specializes in assisting amputees who have become frustrated with their prosthetic experience. As a sole proprietor, I am individually responsible and entirely devoted to achieving promising prosthetic outcomes for every amputee I work with. My company provides FREE homecare to amputees living in the rural and suburban areas of all 10 Western New York counties. There is NEVER a charge for home care appointments.

The success of the company thus far has come mostly by referrals from various home healthcare agencies. Homecare physical therapists and home healthcare aides are often the first to identify a home bound amputee who is not satisfied with their prosthesis. A simple phone call to schedule a free consultation can completely change the trajectory of an amputee’s activity level and degree of independence. **Regardless of where an**

amputee may have had their current prosthesis made, they have a RIGHT to switch prosthetic providers at any time.

At Prosthetic Home Services, all custom artificial limbs are fabricated on site at my American Board-Certified facility located in Clarence, NY. As an American Board-Certified Prosthetist, I am the sole contact for evaluations, castings, fabrications, and deliveries of every prosthetic device I custom measure and design. In addition, I am responsible for all patient encounters including, scheduling, patient care, billing, and all prosthetic related concerns. In essence, when you contact my company, you are speaking with the individual who will be addressing your concern. Prosthetic Home Services provides a team approach to prosthetic care that includes the amputee, surgeon, physician, physical therapist, and health insurance provider.

In Western New York, Prosthetic Home Services, Inc. is the only prosthetic facility that is dedicated, full time, to bringing American Board-Certified prosthetic services to the homes of WNY amputees. 🌸



UB CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Forgetfulness What's Normal?

Knowing the difference between what is normal versus not normal as we age

We have all been there, you walk into a room and have no idea what you came into the room for. So you retrace your steps in hopes that your thought will come back to your mind. And usually it does; but what if it doesn't?

Many people become more forgetful as they get older. But when does mild forgetfulness become a serious memory problem, like Alzheimer's disease and how do you tell the difference? Also, what is the difference between dementia and Alzheimer's disease?

What is Dementia?

Dementia is the loss of cognitive functioning, thinking, remembering, and reasoning – to such an extent that it interferes with a person's daily life and activities. (NIA, 2022) Often a spouse, relative, or other informant notifies a clinician of changes including repetitive memory loss, but family are often delayed in recognizing symptoms of dementia and consider it "normal aging." Dementia itself is an umbrella term that includes a variety of diagnoses, including but not limited to Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, frontotemporal dementia, and Lewy body dementia.

What is Alzheimer's Disease?

Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia and early signs of the disease can be masked by the thought that this is just what happens when you age. Alzheimer's disease is defined as a progressive neurodegenerative disease that begins with mild memory loss and will gradually impair a person's ability to carry out normal daily activities of living such as taking medications correctly or driving a car. By 2060 it is estimated 14 million individuals aged 65 and older will have AD. (CDC, 2019) Future dementia related healthcare costs are projected to exceed \$1 trillion.

Normal Aging vs Alzheimer's disease

Typical normal aging forgetfulness can include missing a monthly payment once and a while, sometimes forgetting which word to use, misplacing items from occasionally with the ability to find them again, and making a poor decision from time to time.

In contrast, people with Alzheimer's can make poor decisions frequently, have difficulty learning new information (how to use a new cellphone), difficulty remembering appointments, getting lost in conversation, misplacing items frequently without the ability to find them, forgetting and/or not knowing what day it is, trouble paying bills on time regularly, and the inability to manage their medications.

If you feel like you or someone you know is having memory difficulties that are concerning then they should be evaluated by a healthcare provider.

The Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center at UBMD Neurology is one of 10 Centers of Excellence for Alzheimer's disease in NYS and offers comprehensive evaluation by a multi-disciplinary team. This team includes a board-certified neurologist, nurse practitioner, RNs, neuropsychologists, psychiatrists, neuroimagers, and medical social workers. Patient cases are discussed at our weekly consensus conference to ensure an accurate diagnosis is made, and an individualized medical treatment and care plan created. The center has two offices, one in downtown Buffalo (1001 Main Street, 4th Floor, Buffalo, NY 14203) and the other in Williamsville, NY (5851 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221). Telemedicine appointments are available. For more information and to schedule an appointment please call 716-829-5056. 🌸



Niagara Hospice provides care to Niagara County residents whose prognosis is approximately six months or less, if the illness runs its normal course, regardless of diagnosis.

You need not try to determine if you qualify- our staff are available to provide an informational consultation at no cost & with no obligation to accept services.

If you think hospice may be right for you or a loved one, contact us & we will do the rest.

(716) 439-4417
NiagaraHospice.org



Dedicated to providing the right care, in the right place, at the right time since 1988.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RECOGNITION!

Recognizing Our Volunteers at the Skilled Nursing & Rehab Center



The Brothers of Mercy Nursing and Rehab Center is genuinely blessed to have more than 35 active volunteers return after our Covid shutdown. Our volunteers are individuals who want to help others, are retired, concerned citizens, professionals, friends/family members, former rehab patients, college students required to learn and gain experience, and high school



students completing community service. The dedication and compassion of our volunteers is truly impressive.



Our volunteers provide an extra dimension to add to the comfort, care and happiness of our residents/patients. They are scheduled to specific assignments by the volunteer coordinator. Some assignments include in-house therapy transport, activities, spiritual care, gift shop, clerical, friendly visitor, dog visits, in-house beauty shop transport,

in-house podiatrist transport, sewing, sorting and delivering mail to staff, residents and patients. The rapport between volunteers, residents, patients, staff and visitors contributes to our great community reputation and makes for a successful program of activities that help improve quality of life for our campus residents.

As money is not part of the volunteer's incentive, motivation is achieved in other ways. Encouragement, respect, support, flexibility and friendship are essential to coordinate a successful, organized volunteer program.

We would like to congratulate three of our wonderful volunteers for being named 2023

Volunteers of the Year

- Mary Sondel was a volunteer for 19 years; she, sorted and delivered mail and also completed many other assignments
- Mike Coon has been a volunteer for 11 years; he is a Eucharistic Minister in the Spiritual Care Department
- Bob Coffey has been a volunteer for six years; he is also a Eucharistic Minister in the Spiritual Care Department.

We recognized all three volunteers at a special luncheon held at the Brothers of Mercy Nursing and Rehab Center during National Volunteer Recognition Week in April. They were also recognized at a Leading Age banquet in May at Samuel's Grand Manor.

If you are interested in volunteer with The Brothers of Mercy, please contact the volunteer coordinator at 716-759-7617 or visit BrothersofMercy.org/Volunteer-Services to fill out an application.



Stacy Bastian, RN, BSN, LNHA, of the Town of Tonawanda, has been appointed administrator of the **McGuire Group's Harris Hill Nursing Facility** in Williamsville.

In this capacity, Bastian is responsible for planning, developing and directing the overall operations of the 192-bed facility in accordance with all state, federal and local regulations.

Bastian had previously worked at Harris Hill for 23 years advancing through the ranks and holding positions as a certified nursing assistant, LPN, RN, director of nursing and assistant administrator. For the last three years, she has worked for a sister portfolio as the administrator at Absolut Care of Aurora Park in East Aurora.

Bastian holds an associate degree and bachelor's degree in nursing from Trocaire College and earned a long-term care administrator certificate from Saint Joseph College of Maine.

Bastian is a member of the Professional Nurses Association of WNY and the East Aurora Chamber of Commerce. She was the 2022 recipient of the ACHCA's New Administrator of the Year Award and Business First's Excellence in Health Care Award.

Harris Hill Nursing Facility provides skilled nursing care, subacute rehabilitation and respite/short-term care.



"Centenarian Celebration" at The Brothers of Mercy Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Clarence

As part of the upcoming 2024 centennial for The Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus, the Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center staff honored nine residents who are 100 and older with a centenarian celebration on November 16. The nine centenarian residents who were honored are:

Freda Hilczmayer, 100	Buffalo
Evelyn Garlock, 100	Lockport
Virginia Kloc, 101	Snyder
Florence Niziol, 101	Clarence
Evelyn Behr, 102	Buffalo
Jeanette Schonfeld, 102	Del Ray Beach, CA
Estelle Ozimek, 102	Buffalo
Louise Punaro, 102	Lockport

The Brothers of Mercy is a nonprofit Catholic provider of comprehensive, compassionate residential, health care and rehabilitation services for Western New Yorkers. For more information, call 716-759-6985, email info@brothersofmercy.org or visit BrothersofMercy.org.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RECOGNITION!



Mark Dirlam, DPT, LNHA, has been promoted to the position of regional vice president for the **McGuire Group**, with oversight of its five Western New York-based skilled nursing and rehabilitation facilities.

In this role, Dirlam is responsible for the management and operation of more than 1,100 beds and 1,900 employees at Autumn View Health Care Facility in Hamburg, Garden Gate Health Care Facility in Cheektowaga, Harris Hill Nursing Facility in Williamsville, Northgate Health Care Facility in North Tonawanda, Seneca Health Care Center in West Seneca.

Dirlam holds a doctorate in physical therapy from the University at Buffalo, where he was valedictorian of his graduating class, and a bachelor of arts in interpersonal communications from Bowling Green State University.

Prior to his appointment, he served as the Administrator at the organization's Garden Gate Health Care Facility. Dirlam is a member of the executive committee for Western New York NYSHFA and is a past member of the Trocaire College nursing advisory board and a legislative liaison for Western New York APTA.

The McGuire Group provides skilled nursing care, subacute rehabilitation, memory care, hospice and palliative care, in-house dialysis, telemetry services and respite/short-term care. The organization and its sister portfolios, RCA Healthcare Management/ Absolut Care, Taconic Health Care and VestraCare provide care to more than 2,800 individuals across the state. To learn more visit: www.livinglegendshealth.com.

Kate Gahr has been appointed as the assistant administrator at **Absolut Care of Aurora Park**, one of six nursing and assisted living facilities in the Absolut Care portfolio. Absolut Care is part of an enterprise that is jointly branded as Living Legends and includes sister portfolios, the McGuire Group, Taconic Health Care and VestraCare. Together they provide care to more than 2,800 individuals across New York state.



In this role, Gahr is responsible for assisting with the planning, development and operational oversight of the 177-bed skilled nursing and rehab facility in accordance with all state, federal and local regulations. Prior to her appointment, Gahr held roles at Elderwood as an occupational therapist, director of therapy and assistant administrator.

Gahr holds a master's degree in occupational therapy from the University at Buffalo. She resides in Alden with her husband and children.

Absolut Care of Aurora Park provides skilled nursing care, subacute rehabilitation, memory care, hospice services, in-house dialysis and respite/short-term care. To learn more visit: www.livinglegendshealth.com.

Amy Schleer, RN, BSN, WCC, LNHA, has been appointed administrator of the **McGuire Group's Garden Gate Health Care Facility** in Cheektowaga.



In this capacity, Schleer is responsible for planning, developing and directing the overall operations of the 184-bed facility in accordance with all state, federal and local regulations. Schleer began her journey at Garden Gate as a volunteer when she was 13 years old. Over the last 30 years, she has advanced through the ranks at a number of McGuire Group facilities holding positions as a certified nursing assistant, cart nurse, unit coordinator, associate director of quality & education, assistant director of nursing and director of nursing. Most recently, she served as a regional quality assurance nurse at the McGuire Group's corporate center.

Schleer holds an associate degree from Trocaire College and a bachelor of science in nursing from American Sentinel University. She received her long-term care administrator's certificate from St. Joseph's College of Maine.

Schleer has been a member of the Professional Nurses Association of WNY, the Association for Professionals in Infection Control & Epidemiology, Specialized Medical Alert Response Team and Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society.

Garden Gate Health Care Facility provides skilled nursing care, subacute rehabilitation, complex medical care and telemetry monitoring, and respite/short-term care.

Absolut Care of Gasport, a five-star nursing and rehabilitation provider, is pleased to announce that **Amber Wiehe, LMSW, LNHA**, has been appointed as administrator.



In this capacity, Wiehe will be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operation of the 83-bed facility, ensuring regulatory compliance, implementing innovative best practices and continuing to enhance the facility's culture for five-star care.

Prior to her appointment, Wiehe served as the administrator at Absolut Care of Allegany in Allegany, NY and assistant administrator at Autumn View Health Care Facility in Hamburg, NY. The facilities are part of a four-portfolio enterprise that is jointly branded as Living Legends and includes the McGuire Group, Absolut Care, Taconic Health Care and VestraCare. Together they provide care to more than 2,800 individuals across New York state.

Wiehe has worked for the McGuire Group portfolio since 2019 holding roles as administrator and director of social work at Garden Gate Health Care Facility in Cheektowaga and serving as a social work consultant for the Absolut Care portfolio. She holds a bachelor of arts in sociology and health/human services and a master's in social work from the University at Buffalo. She resides in East Aurora with her husband and children.

Absolut Care of Gasport provides skilled nursing care, subacute rehabilitation and respite/short-term care. To learn more visit www.livinglegendshealth.com or www.medicare.gov.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RECOGNITION!



Governor Kathy Hochul signed a historic bill to remove medical debt from credit reports, making New York State a leader in protecting patients from the impact of health care bills.

Together we are going to #EndMedicalDebt and make health care a right for all.



West Side
Community Services

On Friday, December 15, West Side Community Services hosted their annual Christmas luncheon for local seniors. In total, more than 70 older adults from West Side Community Services, The Belle Center, Autumnwood Senior Center, Baptist Manor, and Timon Towers attended the event.

Guests enjoyed a catered lunch, donated and served by the Butler Mitchell Alumni Association. There was also live music by Ade Adu, Christmas portraits by Brendan Bannon, and a door prize raffle. Each guest received a Christmas ornament, courtesy of the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center.

“We love hosting this event,” says Crystal Selk, executive director at West Side Community Services. “It’s a great opportunity for our program to interact with other senior programs across the City and enjoy each other’s company.”

WSCS will host another senior luncheon in May for Mother’s Day.



Very proud and thankful to have the distinction of being the **Evans Bank small business of the month for November!** Our replica trucks in all WNY area branches and the corresponding digital display have been well received by their staff, friends of mine, and the community at large. Evans has been a truly supportive partner in our growth and this gesture is one that makes me happy and proud of our association.

KUDOS to the **Autumn View Health Care Facility** team for helping the facility achieve the ranking of 29th out of more than 600 facilities in New York state and among the nation’s top 750 out of 12,273 facilities analyzed for Newsweek’s 2024 Best Nursing Homes report.



Congratulations, and thank you for your work! This is one of five facilities that have been recognized by the American Heart Association (AHA) and American Medical Association (AMA) for their commitment to helping improve blood pressure (BP) control rates among the patient populations they serve, earning **Gold+ level recognition as part of the 2023 Target: BP™ Recognition Program.**



Clarity Group is proud to announce the opening of our 5th location at 494 Center Road in West Seneca. Just in time for Medicare Annual Enrollment time!



ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RECOGNITION!



Congratulations to all of the managers and team members for helping us make receiving this award possible! **Congratulations Juniper Glen!**



Congratulations to **Peter Eimer**, the CEO of The Brothers of Mercy, for being honored by Business First of Buffalo as a member of the 2023 Class of C-Level Executive Award winners! <https://brothersofmercy.org/>



AGING WELL CARE MANAGEMENT, LLC

Aging Well Care Management, LLC recently acquired Geriatric Care Managers of WNY. With a business expansion comes a need for more employees. We are so excited to announce that **Andrea Kukoda** has accepted the position as our new Office Administrator! She is amazing and a jack of all trades. We are so lucky to have her! Please join us in welcoming Andrea to our team.



Sacred Heart Home

Assisted Living & Memory Care

Comfort & Safety in a Peaceful Setting



- Neighborhood Atmosphere
- Private Rooms & Circadian Lighting
- Resident Courtyards
- Personalized Activities

BrothersofMercy.org

716-759-2644 / 4526 Ransom Rd., Clarence

Our Assisted Living & Memory Care community features six “Wellness Neighborhoods” that include living & dining spaces, country kitchen, fireside lounge & patio or secured courtyard. Choosing the right facility for a loved one can seem daunting, but let us help ease your mind during the decision-making process. Check out our video tour below or call our admissions team at 716-759-6244 for a consultation: https://brothersofmercy.org/memory-care-enhanced...

“BEADS & BLING: IT’S A MARDI GRAS THING”



Network with the Network

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

5:00-7:00pm

Venture Forthe – Ellicott Square Building
295 Main Street, Suite 101C • Buffalo, NY



ST. PATRICK’S DAY WINE-TASTING!



Network with the Network

Thursday, March 14, 2024

4:30-6:30pm

Rupp Pfalzgraf LLC • Williamsville Center
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Williamsville, NY 14221



WELCOME NEW MEMBER AGENCIES!



PROSTHETIC HOME SERVICES, INC. – PLATINUM

Prosthetic Home Services, Inc. is an American Board-Certified prosthetic company that specializes in assisting amputees who have become frustrated with their prosthetic experience. My company provides FREE homecare to amputees living in the rural and suburban areas of all 10 Western New York counties. There is NEVER a charge for home care appointments. At Prosthetic Home Services, all custom artificial limbs are fabricated on site at my American Board-Certified facility located in Clarence, NY. As an American Board-Certified Prosthetist, I am the sole contact for evaluations, castings, fabrications, and deliveries of every prosthetic device I custom measure and design. In addition, I am responsible for all patient encounters including, scheduling, patient care, billing, and all prosthetic related concerns. In essence, when you contact my company, you are speaking with the individual who will be addressing your concern. Prosthetic Home Services provides a team approach to prosthetic care that includes the amputee, surgeon, physician, physical therapist, and health insurance provider.

Mark Zuchlewski CP – Founder & President
Prosthetic Home Services, Inc.
10654 Main St • Clarence, NY 14031
Phone 716-759-9111 • Fax 716-759-9112
Prosthetichomeservices.com



Prudential

PRUDENTIAL – BRONZE

Lori Marinaccio, Paraplanner Lori embraces the role of overseeing client relationships in the western New York region. Her exceptional skills lie in cultivating new connections and nurturing existing ones, guaranteeing that every client enjoys a personalized experience. Throughout her career, Lori has held similar positions at various financial institutions. Prior to venturing into the financial services industry, Lori successfully owned and operated a franchise for over 20 years. Outside of work, she finds joy in spending quality time with her family, exploring new destinations, showcasing her culinary talents, and actively participating in volunteer work within her local community.

Lori Marinaccio, Paraplanner
Lori.Marinaccio@Prudential.com • 716-276-2439



EMPIRE SENIOR ADVISORS – GOLD

Do you or a loved one need in home care, but don't have the financial means to pay out of pocket for these services? There is a program through Medicaid that will pay the caregivers that you want to hire. Empire Senior Advisors can assist with the complicated process of qualifying for Medicaid. We streamline the process, so you can get the help you need right away. Call us today, 716-936-7473.

empireseNIORadvisors.com
nichole@empireseNIORadvisors.com

WELCOME NEW INDIVIDUALS!



NANCY AURELI – COMMUNITY LIVING ADVOCATES

Community Living Advocates is the Senior Care Association of Central & Southern Tier NY. We cover from Lake Ontario to the PA border. We're just moving into the Southern Tier.

We are like the Network in Aging in WNY for Central & Southern Tier NY. We do very similar things including networking, senior fairs, and the CNY Senior Care Awards.

Thanks again,
Nancy

Nancy Aureli BS, RN, Founder and President
Community Living Advocates - The Senior Care Association
of Central & Southern Tier New York
315-409-9361 • nancy@communitylivingadvocates.com
Liverpool, NY • www.communitylivingadvocates.com



DIANE LUTHER – LORD OF LIFE

Lord of Life is the only day facility in Western New York that offers a daily Intergenerational program for our seniors and the children attending our on-site Child Development Center. Joy abounds when the children and their older friends gather for song, dancing, exercise, reading and other activities.

We provide a safe, loving environment where your loved one with dementia or other physical or neurological challenges can spend the day, discover new interests, make new friends and receive the specialized care so important for individuals with memory loss.

The Adult Day Health Center provides care for adults ages 21 and older. We participate in a variety of contracts including Erie County Senior Services, and Managed Long Term Care contracts through Medicare and Medicaid.

The challenges of caring for a loved one as they age are numerous. Often, family members must work during the day and cannot care for their spouse, parent or other loved one. The Adult Day Health Center offers an opportunity for respite in a safe and structured environment where your loved one will be well cared for so that you can attend to what needs to be done.

Diane Luther, Adult Day Center Director • dluther@lordoflife.us

Visit our website at www.lordoflifeadhc.us

You can also find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/lordoflifeadultdayhealthcenter

Call us at 716-668-8000 to schedule a tour!



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SAVE THE DATE

SENIOR WISHES


Senior Wishes – Ten Years of Wish Granting in the Community

Senior Wishes will be celebrating the 10 year anniversary of their first wish on March 7th, 2024! That very first wish was granted to Grace Fests, who wanted to work with a professional photographer and learn how to take photos. Since then, the organization has granted over 450 wishes. They have also expanded their programming to include wish granting for senior groups and care facilities, HERO Boxes to honor senior veterans, a “Simple Wishes for the Holidays” gift giving program in December and several other holiday celebrations with seniors throughout the year.

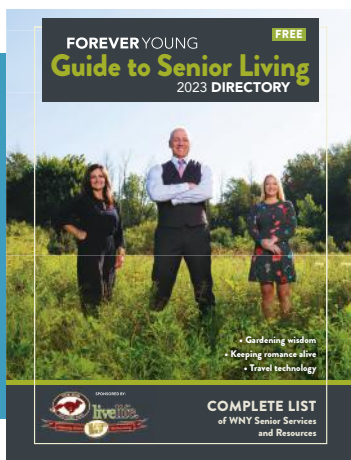
Eligible seniors must be 65+, meet income guidelines of less than 38K total income for households of one and 44K for households of two, and be unable to fulfill the wish on their own or with family assistance. For residents of care facilities and for the HERO Box recognition program for Veterans, the income guideline is waived. Seniors do NOT need a medical diagnosis to be eligible. Seniors must also be a resident of Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Wyoming or Genesee counties.

Senior Wishes believes that we don’t stop dreaming of having an experience, traveling to see a loved one or enjoying an old hobby (or learning a new one) as we age! The organization also grants a small number of simpler wishes that are needs based each year for items such as bedding, clothing and household items.

The program is funded in part from their major fundraiser, Sips, Suds & Sweets, which will be held April 18th at Fox Run at Orchard Park. This fun night out features live music, free valet parking, wine, beer, food and sweets samplings, baskets, silent auction and other raffles. Several former wish recipients are honored each year. Sponsors are always needed, as are baskets and silent auction items. If your organization would like to donate or sponsor please call Wendy at 716-508-2121 or email at wbackman@uchsinc.org. Tickets will go on sale in March. The event sells out every year so don’t wait to purchase!

For more information on Senior Wishes, guidelines for nominating a senior, applications or to view photos of previous wishes, visit www.seniorwishes.org. 

2024 FOREVER YOUNG Directory



The award-winning
Forever Young directory is a full-color annual resource guide that helps readers locate organizations and businesses that provide services, goods, and assistance to seniors and mature adults in Western New York.

Reserve Your Space Today!
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DISTRIBUTION: 20,000

Distributed FREE to retirement communities, senior centers, physicians’ offices, offices of the aging, pharmacies, and other businesses throughout Western New York in early March.

CALL 716-972-2238 FOR MORE INFORMATION




CENTER FOR ELDER LAW & JUSTICE

Expanded Legal and Social Services Available Through CELJ

Center for Elder Law & Justice (CELJ) is excited to announce that we are expanding the available legal and social services in the WNY Community. Through the MedLaw Partnership of WNY, CELJ has partnered with area healthcare facilities to provide free legal assistance to their patients. The goal of these partnerships is use the legal system to address issues related to the social determinants of health, such as assisting with housing stability, income support, family stability, immigration, and environmental health.

With new grant funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and awarded through the Administration for Children and Families' Medical Legal Partnership Plus (MLP+) demonstration program, beginning in January 2024 CELJ will now be providing expanded Social Services Navigation to low-income families and individuals throughout WNY. Four in five low-income families are not receiving the legal assistance they need to ensure that their basic needs are met, often causing a significant impact on their physical and financial well-being. This federal funding will expand MedLaw's efforts to provide legal and social services for those experiencing the greatest health and economic disparities by integrating the skills of an experienced Social Worker to the team. This Social Services Navigator will work with individuals both in and out of the healthcare settings, help to identify patients' needs, and connect them directly to critical wrap around services. This funding will also enable the agency to expand our ability to help individuals apply for and receive public benefits, which are often vital resources for low-income individuals and families. Stabilizing these vulnerable people in our community will help to avoid crisis situations, offer relief to our overburdened healthcare institutions, and improve long-term health outcomes.

Currently CELJ provides free legal assistance to any patients who receive healthcare services at Erie County Medical Center (ECMC), Buffalo General Medical Center (BGMC), and John R. Oishei Children's Hospital of Buffalo. CELJ also provides free legal help to any person, or their caregiver, with an Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia diagnosis. Similarly, CELJ can provide free help to any person who is currently or has in the past been treated for breast cancer; services to these individuals are available regardless of where they chose to receive their healthcare.

The Center for Elder Law and Justice has served the Western New York Community for more than 40 years, providing free legal assistance to older adults and families to ensure they can live independently with dignity. To request assistance through the MedLaw Partnership, call 1-844-700-1872. To learn more about all that the Center for Elder Law and Justice offers, visit <https://www.elderjusticenyc.org/>. 



CENTER FOR ELDER LAW & JUSTICE (CELJ)

is seeking two (2) experienced and exceptional leaders with a passion for justice to become Co-Managing Attorneys of this respected, mission-driven nonprofit.

About CELJ: Center for Elder Law & Justice (CELJ) is a civil legal services organization fighting for justice, primarily for low-income older adults, in 10 counties in Western New York. Our attorneys stop illegal evictions, save clients homes from foreclosure, put a stop to elder domestic violence, fight for public benefits, work with our local immigrant & refugee populations, and represent grandparents and other kinship care relatives in custody and neglect petitions in family court. We also advocate for systems-wide policy changes, commenting frequently on changes to regulations and working with local elected leaders on legislation that will impact the poor and vulnerable older adults in our area. We believe that independence and dignity are the hallmarks of justice.

Position Overview: The Co-Managing Attorney will serve as an integral part of the Senior Leadership Team and will work closely with the CEO to meet the agency's needs and assist in overall agency goals, implementation, and vision. The Co-Managing Attorney will be responsible for providing strategic leadership and support to a team of Supervising Attorneys as well as oversight of agency program operations and legal work.

Essential Functions:

- Provide supervision for assigned units, including oversight of all files through one-on-one interaction and regular case review meetings.
- Responsible for case assignments and balancing of caseloads between employees in assigned units.
- Work closely with HR on attorney and paralegal training to ensure compliance and quality control.
- Responsible for performance management, one-on-one meetings, ongoing support, providing feedback and conducting annual reviews for Supervising Attorneys in assigned units.
- Work closely with the Senior Leadership Team on:
 - agency cultural leadership and development
 - new program development
 - agency recruiting and relationship building
 - development and communications
 - advancement of agency diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts
 - policy development and enforcement
 - ongoing support for new grant initiatives
 - personnel and employee discipline
- Represent the agency as needed at board meetings, committee meetings and community outreach.
- Maintain and develop relationships and/or collaborative efforts with current funders, community leaders, not-for-profit agencies, other public interest offices and governmental and elected officials.
- Work with malpractice carrier and outside counsel, as needed.
- Provide supervision of satellite offices, as needed.
- Step in to provide back-up as needed for temporary staff shortages.
- Travel and evening/weekend hours required.

Required Qualifications:

- Admitted to practice in NYS
- 10+ years legal experience preferred

The ideal candidate:

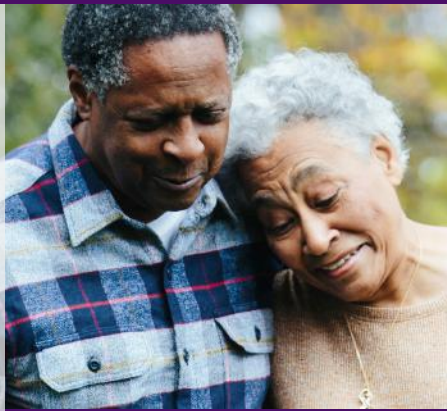
- Will have a legal services background with a demonstrated commitment to the communities we serve.
- Will be a solution driven, problem solver with an ability to persuade and lead staff.
- Will be credible and discrete and operate with a high level of integrity
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ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

New executive director appointed at Alzheimer's Association



Kathleen (Kate) Flannery of Syracuse, NY, is the new executive director for Upstate New York Chapters of the Alzheimer's Association, which includes the Western New York, Rochester & Finger Lakes Region and Central New York Chapters. She is responsible for the overall strategic and operational functions for all three chapters, including program delivery, fundraising, community engagement, government and private grant funding, media relations and growth and delivery of the Association's mission.

Flannery's position is part of a new leadership structure for Upstate New York that also includes the promotion of Amanda Nobrega to vice president of programs and Cathy Wilde to director of marketing and public relations for Upstate New York Chapters.

Flannery most recently has served as executive director, Office of Community Engagement Planning, at Syracuse University, where she was a member of the Chancellor's University Leadership Team. She previously served as director of mission outreach and education for Francis House, a community care home in Syracuse for people facing terminal illness. Prior to Francis House, Flannery was executive director for the Susan G. Komen organization, where she oversaw six affiliates encompassing 49 New York counties and was responsible for growing "Race for the Cure" from \$250,000 to \$1 million.

"We really feel Kate is the ideal person for this role," says Christopher Smith, director for Region 12 of the Alzheimer's Association, which encompasses all of New York State. "As a Licensed Social Worker, Kate has a deep interest in caregiving and programming, in addition to strong fundraising experience from her time at Komen, where she also had the experience of leading a multi-chapter organization." 🌸



Western New York Chapter

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PLATINUM MEMBER AGENCIES



DID YOU KNOW. . . PRESIDENT'S DAY EDITION

Did you know. . . John Tyler was the first U.S. President to marry while in office? He was Vice President to William Henry Harrison, who passed away 31 days into his presidency. Tyler's first wife died during his first year in office. He married Julia Gardiner two years later. He fathered 15 children.

Did you know. . . John and Abigail Adams exchanged over 1,100 letters beginning with their courtship in 1762? Recognizing the potential historical importance of this correspondence, John purchased a leather binder to keep Abigail's letters and he encouraged her to do the same. A collection of these letters was published in 2010 in a book titled, "My Dearest Friend: Letters of Abigail and John Adams."

Did you know. . . Millard Fillmore was the last president to not be affiliated with either the Republican or Democratic party? He was a member of the Whig party, which dissolved in the early 1850s. William Henry Harrison, John Tyler and Zachary Taylor were also members of the Whig Party for at least part of their respective terms.

Did you know. . . George W. Bush took up oil painting as a post-presidential hobby? He said he was inspired by the essay "Painting as a Pastime" by Winston Churchill and studied under three North Texas art instructors. Bush published a collection of his paintings in 2017 titled "Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors." The collection contained images of 66 individuals that Bush looked up to and who made an impact during his presidency after the 9/11 attacks.

Did you know. . . Theodore Roosevelt was the first president to win a Nobel Peace Prize? He won the prize in 1906 after convincing Japan and Russia to attend a peace conference in New Hampshire to end the Russo-Japanese War. The initial prize of \$36,734.49 grew unspent for 12 years (there was disagreement how best to direct the funds). It reached \$45,482.83 before Roosevelt decided to donate the money to World War I relief.



Benjamin Kanaley
Enrollment Coordinator

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1-855-665-1113
fax: 716-250-3160
benjamin.kanaley@fallonweinberg.org

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BROTHERS OF MERCY

The Brothers of Mercy Appoints Roopa Chakkappan as New Board Member



The Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus Board of Directors announced the appointment of new board member, Roopa Chakkappan.

Chakkappan, a partner at Hodgson Russ, LLP, is a member of the New York State Bar and specializes in public and private health care law. She advises health care entities on managed care contracts and provider agreements while serving as the firm's expert on the New York State Public Health Statute

and federal and state Medicaid and Medicare statutes and implementing regulations.

"I and members of The Brothers of Mercy Board of Directors welcome Roopa. We are pleased to add her skills and experiences to ours in service of our mission to the elderly," said Sister Patricia Burkard, Chairperson of the Board of the Directors for The Brothers of Mercy.

Chakkappan, a resident of East Amherst, is a member of the American Public Health Association and the American Health Lawyers Association. She is also involved with advocacy for domestic violence survivors and is an active volunteer with the Women's Health Initiative and a volunteer advocate for SAKHI for South Asian women.

A graduate of the University at Buffalo Law School, Chakkappan earned a bachelor of arts in anthropology from the University of Illinois and a master of public health from Boston University.

The Brothers of Mercy Board of Directors consists of Sister Patricia Burkard, OSF, Board Chair, Monsignor David Lipuma, Brother Kenneth Thomas, FMMA, House Superior of The Brothers of Mercy, Thomas Fentner, President of HR Solutions, Brother Matthias Moller, FMMA, David Nasca, President & CEO of Evans Bank, Michael E. McRae, President & CEO of St. Ann's Community in Rochester, David Rogers, Founder of Life Storage, Inc., Dr. Michael Noe, Clinical Professor Emeritus in the Department of Epidemiology & Environmental Health and Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus in the Department of Medicine at the University of Buffalo, and Peter Eimer, CEO of The Brothers of Mercy (ex-officio).

The Brothers of Mercy is a nonprofit Catholic provider of comprehensive, compassionate residential, health care and rehabilitation services for Western New Yorkers. The organization operates a Medicare-rated 5-star, 126-acre Wellness Campus in Clarence, NY. With a continuum of lifestyle options, The Brothers of Mercy ministry of care features skilled nursing, inpatient and outpatient therapies, assisted living and memory care, independent living, spiritual care, respite, hospice

the BROTHERS of MERCY
Wellness Campus

BEST NURSING HOMES
US News
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2024

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and at-home companion care. It is the largest retirement community in the region, as ranked by Buffalo Business First, and ranks annually on Newsweek's "America's Best Nursing Homes" list.

In 2024, The Brothers of Mercy's will commemorate its 100th anniversary of serving seniors seeking their best quality of life. From its origins of riding bicycles through the streets of Buffalo to deliver home care, the mission has remained devoted to serving the essential health needs of the community through the motto of "The Charity of Christ Urges On." For more information, call 716-759-6985, email info@brothersofmercy.org or visit BrothersofMercy.org. 



EMPIRE SENIOR ADVISORS

Do you need help getting approved for Medicaid?


Qualifying for Medicaid can be complicated and very overwhelming. Determining your eligibility for Medicaid involves a review of your income, your assets, your health condition, and other factors as well. Sadly, very few people are equipped to navigate the complexities of this process on their own. Most just assume that they will not qualify. Instead of trying, they just continue to pay outrageous medical costs, and worry if they will be able to remain in their own homes safely.

The professionals at Empire Senior Advisors know the Medicaid application process can be stressful. Especially when applying for long term care benefits, that will allow you to stay in your own home. And hiring an attorney can be very cost prohibitive, to say the least.

So, what if you or loved one recently experienced a serious illness and wants to be cared for at home? The staff at Empire Senior Advisors can assist you with the Medicaid approval process. Your approval may help eliminate your co-pays, off set medication expenses, qualify for medical transportation to appointments, and even qualify for some in-home personal assistance as well.

Empire Senior Advisors will work with you to uncover all the benefits in which you may be entitled too. Why? We are committed to helping individuals and families, receive the Medicaid benefits they deserve. Best of all, we will help streamline and expedite the entire process. From gathering all the necessary documentation to

filing the application. More importantly, we are with you through the entire process, by your side from beginning to approval. Allowing you to concentrate on you or a loved one getting better.

Let the experts at Empire Senior Advisors help you get the help you need. Call 716-936-7473 for a free consultation, or visit our website at www.empiresenioradvisors.com for more information. 

Empire Senior Advisors
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Nichole McDonald
CEO & Founder

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Are you in the midst of a long-term care crisis?

Many of our clients suddenly find themselves in the midst of a long-term care crisis due to a sudden illness or event. It is only natural to be overwhelmed when this occurs, and not know where to turn. That is where we step in. Empire Senior Advisors helps you navigate the process of applying for Medicaid benefits on behalf of you or a loved one during this critical and challenging time in your life.

What is Medicaid?

New York's Medicaid program provides comprehensive health coverage for New Yorkers who have no insurance or a secondary insurance with their Medicare. Eligible Medicaid services are provided through a large network of health care providers that you can access directly by using your Medicaid card, or through your managed care plan if you are enrolled in managed care.



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Medicaid Consulting Services for Community-Based Long-Term Care



EMPIRE SENIOR ADVISORS
YOUR MEDICAID SPECIALISTS

TOUCHING HEARTS AT HOME

Companionship is an essential part of a healthy and fulfilling life, especially for seniors who may be living alone or experiencing feelings of isolation. That's why Touching Hearts at Home offers a range of companionship services to provide social support, stimulate mental and emotional wellness, and improve the overall quality of life for seniors.

One of the primary benefits of companionship services is the opportunity for seniors to build meaningful relationships with their caregivers. At Touching Hearts at Home, we understand the importance of compatibility between our clients and caregivers, and we take the time to carefully match them based on shared interests, personalities, and lifestyles. This helps to create a comfortable and enjoyable experience for both parties, fostering a sense of trust and rapport that can lead to long-lasting friendships.

Companionship services also provide seniors with opportunities for social engagement and community involvement. Our caregivers can accompany clients on outings, attend social events, or participate in hobbies and activities they enjoy. This helps reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation and improves mental and emotional well-being and overall quality of life.

In addition to social support, companionship services can also include assistance with basic household tasks such as meal preparation, light housekeeping, and running errands. This allows seniors to focus on their physical and mental health, hobbies, and other activities they enjoy without the stress of daily household chores.

At Touching Hearts at Home, we understand that every client's needs and preferences are unique. That's why we offer customizable companionship services that can be tailored to fit each individual's lifestyle and schedule. Whether it's a few hours a week or round-the-clock care, our compassionate and dedicated Care Partner's are available to provide the support and companionship needed to enhance the quality of life for seniors.

In addition to our standard companionship services, Touching Hearts at Home offers specialized programs for clients with specific needs. Our dementia and Alzheimer's care services are designed to provide support and stimulation for clients with memory impairment, while our respite care services provide temporary relief for family caregivers who need a break. Our end-of-life care services offer compassionate support and comfort for clients and their families during difficult times.

Overall, companionship services are essential to senior care, providing social support, mental and emotional wellness, and overall quality of life. At Touching Hearts at Home, we are committed to providing the highest quality companionship services tailored to meet each client's unique needs and preferences. If you are interested in finding out more about our services or becoming a Care Partner, please call 716-898-8566. 🌸

Wendy R Greenwood, Executive Director
Touching Hearts at Home •
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HEATHWOOD ASSISTED LIVING AND MEMORY CARE



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Care without compromise is a promise we make every day. Heathwood is a privately-held company operated and managed locally in Western New York and is led by the third-generation of a family rich in providing quality care for seniors. Always responsive to the needs of residents, families and the community, Heathwood is committed to providing staff with the training and equipment they need to provide the highest level of care.

Heathwood is licensed by the NYS Department of Health and can provide as much or as little care as is needed. This includes activities of daily living, medication management, weekly housekeeping, personal laundry and scheduled transportation. From Memory Care to Enhanced Assisted Living, when you live at Heathwood you have access to even more care as your needs change. Experience the peace of mind of care without compromise at Heathwood Assisted Living and Memory Care. 🌸

Gary Henry, Community Relations Manager
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Openings at the following locations:

- Autumn View Health Care Facility in Hamburg, NY
- Harris Hill Nursing Facility in Williamsville, NY
- Northgate Health Care Facility in North Tonawanda, NY

THE ONLY THING MISSING FROM OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM IS YOU!

Be a difference-maker in the lives of our residents and staff

ADULT & JUNIOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

ABSOLUT CARE OF AURORA PARK
living legends

The only thing missing from our VOLUNTEER team is YOU!! Be a difference maker in the lives of our residents and staff.

- Adult & Junior Volunteer opportunities available!
- See Gina in Activities for more details or call her at 716-652-1560 ext 3218. Or grab an application from our website at: <https://www.livinglegendshealth.com/volunteer/>
- LOCATION: 292 Main St, East Aurora, NY 14052

New Opportunities for a SKILLED Maintenance Assistant!

ABSOLUT CARE OF AURORA PARK
living legends

Generous Paid Time Off
Referral Bonuses
Weekly Paychecks

Join our team as a Skilled Maintenance Assistant at Absolut Care of Aurora Park!

- STARTING RATE: \$15.00/hr. (\$15.00 - \$17.50/hr., depending upon experience)
- SHIFT OPTIONS: Part-Time, Full-Time Days (7 am - 3 pm, 9 am - 5 pm or 10 am - 6 pm)
- LOCATION: Absolut Care of Aurora Park, 292 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052.

CALL: 716-652-1560 ext. 3301 for more information

Looking for a Fun & Rewarding Job?

JOIN OUR TEAM AS Activities Assistant Director and make a **LEGENDARY DIFFERENCE** IN SOMEONE'S LIFE!

ABSOLUT CARE OF AURORA PARK
living legends

Looking for a FUN & REWARDING CAREER PATHWAY?! Absolut Care of Aurora Park is hiring an Activities Assistant Director!

- STARTING RATE: \$15.00/hr. (\$15.00 - \$17.00/hr., dependent upon experience)
- SHIFT: Full-Time, Monday - Friday, 9-5 pm, and weekends rotationally
- LOCATION: Absolut Care of Aurora Park, 292 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052

CALL: 716-652-1560 ext. 3301 for more information

LPNs WE HAVE JOBS TAILORED TO YOU!

ABSOLUT CARE OF GASPORT
living legends

Sign-On Bonuses
Flexible Schedules
Peer Mentorship

LPNs - We Have JOBS TAILORED TO YOU at Absolut Care of Gasport with up to \$3,000 SIGN-ON BONUS!
VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE with ranges based on experience:

- LPN: \$25.25 - \$27.34
- LPN Supervisor: \$28.00 - \$30.00
- LPN Weekend Warrior: \$25.25 - \$27.34 (Work 24 hours, get paid for 32!)
- LOCATION: Absolut Care of Gasport, 4540 Lincoln Dr, Gasport, NY 14067

CALL or TEXT: 716-954-6800 for more information

POSITIONS AVAILABLE!



Aides Needed

- Flexible Hours
- No Formal Training Required
- Build a Meaningful Career

716.431.5550

Trusted Choice Homecare

Looking for a meaningful career in Caregiving?

We are looking for experienced home health aides or personal assistants to provide the consumer with basic care for a few hours per week or work regular shifts. Along with doing routine chores the care recipient can no longer manage, such as laundry, cooking and shopping, the aides must be able to:

- Assist with activities of daily living, including bathing, dressing, eating, grooming, moving from one place to another, toileting and cleaning up afterward.
- Check vital signs such as blood pressure, respiration and pulse.
- Monitor a client's physical and mental condition; level of exercise; and how much they are eating, drinking and going to the bathroom.
- Handle emergencies such as an accident, heart attack or stroke.
- Help advocate for their consumers' needs

Home health aides must be compassionate, have good communication skills and outstanding attention to detail. No formal certification or training is required, as consumers will train their aides on a personalized, case-by-case basis.

If interested please submit resume to cdpap@trustedchoicehomecare.com to or call 716-431-5550 for more information.

WE'RE HIRING

JOURNEYS CARE COMPANIONS!

McGuire Group Palliative Care Program

THE MCGUIRE GROUP
living legends

Day Shifts
Great for Students, Retirees & Others!
Part-Time or Per Diem

Autumn View • Garden Gate
Harris Hill • Seneca

Put your compassion to work as a Palliative Care Companion!

This part-time or per diem position is great for students, retirees and others! RATE: \$14.20 - \$15/hour based on experience
Positions are available at any of the McGuire Group's 4 Erie County facilities:

- Autumn View Health Care Facility in Hamburg
- Garden Gate Health Care Facility in Cheektowaga
- Harris Hill Nursing Facility in Williamsville
- Seneca Health Care Center in West Seneca

To apply, email Barb Johnson at bjohnson@mcguiregroup.com or call 716-374-0420.



Are you interested in becoming a part of an award-winning team that has been chosen employer and provider of choice for the past four years?

Summary:

We are seeking individuals who share our passion for enriching the lives of older adults. Our mission is to provide the highest level of in-home care with empathy, excellence, and integrity. As a care partner, you will offer companionship and support, and may assist with tasks such as meal preparation, laundry, and light housekeeping based on each client's individual care plan. Join us in making a difference in the lives of those who need it most.

How we will support you:

- Flex schedule, FT, PT Availability with day, late afternoon evenings and overnights.
- Join the nationally recognized company known as the heart of home care!
- Join a work environment that values who you are and what you do.
- Training and recognition for success — no experience needed.
- Reward and recognition with care partner of the month and care partner of the year as well as core value awards.
- Paid time off (to include sick time)
- 401K with company match
- FREE mobile urgent care

Responsibilities include:

- Social companionship, reminders, and support with a variety of daily living tasks
- Transportation and companionship to appointments, errands, and social outings
- Light housekeeping and meal preparation
- Standby assistance with personal hygiene
- Overnight safety assistance

Qualifications:

- Passion for helping others while promoting the highest level of independence.
- No healthcare certification is required. We are looking for people whose personal and professional life shows a compassionate heart for older adults, excellent customer service and creative problem solving. Previous experience as CAN, DSP, HHA, PA or customer service representative is a plus!
- Valid driver's license.
- The ability to provide a reliable, insured vehicle to use on the client's behalf for all scheduled shifts and to travel up to 15 miles for any scheduled shifts.
- Daily access to email, the Internet, and a cell phone.

LPN'S WE HAVE JOBS TAILORED TO YOU!

ABSOLUT CARE OF AURORA PARK
living legends

Sign-On Bonuses
Flexible Schedules
Peer Mentorship

LPN - We Have JOBS TAILORED TO YOU at Absolut Care of Aurora Park with up to \$3,000 SIGN-ON BONUS!

VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE with ranges based on experience:

- LPN Full-Time, No Frills - \$29.47 to \$30.47*
- LPN Part-Time, No Frills - \$28.19 - \$28.69*
- LPN Supervisor - \$28.00
- LPN - \$25.63 - \$26.13
- LPN Weekend Warrior - \$25.63 - 26.13 (Work 32 hours get paid for 40!)
- LOCATION: Absolut Care of Aurora Park, 292 Main St, East Aurora, NY 14052
- CALL: 716-652-1560 ext. 3301 for more information

Bristol Village

We Are Hiring!

Part-Time and Per Diem Positions Available

- Personal Care Aide
- LPN/RN
- Dietary Aide

APPLY NOW!

Looking to join our extraordinary team? We're hiring! Our staff is compassionate, knowledgeable, and committed to taking care of the residents.

Bristol Village invests its resources in people by providing good wages and important benefits to the staff. This creates a stable work environment, promoting longevity and satisfaction. Our staff is family. Join our team today! <https://bristolhome.org/careers/>

Director of Community Engagement

Caring Environments is a home modification and renovation company, specializing in accessibility & mobility. We are looking for **enthusiastic and hardworking people** to join our team.

Successful Candidates must have a clean driving record, vehicle (travel is required). Will provide training. Will Participate in aging and disability and other community-based networking groups, maintain weekly, monthly, and yearly engagement schedules. Coordinates and collaborates hosting of marketing and educational events aimed toward individuals and groups identified in CE's community engagement plan. Ready to share Our Mission of helping Individuals Maintain their Independence, and find the right resources and products to help them do that with **Caring Environments. FULL or Part Time**
Call (716)848-9706 or
To Apply Please Email:
info@caringenvironments.com

POSITIONS AVAILABLE!



Send us your job posting or employment opportunities!



Erie County is hiring! See job listings, download an application, and even sign up to get notifications for future job opportunities at: <http://www2.erie.gov/employment/>



Control your destiny! Lawley is hiring at all 11 locations as we expand our footprint. Check out the complete listing of available positions here. <https://www.lawleyinsurance.com/career-opportunities/>



Center for Elder Law & Justice ELJ is hiring for two Co-Managing Attorney positions!

The ideal candidate:

- Will have a legal services background with a demonstrated commitment to the communities we serve.
 - Will be a solution driven, problem solver with an ability to persuade and lead staff.
 - Will be credible and discrete and operate with a high level of integrity.
 - Will demonstrate honesty and trustworthiness while working with highly confidential and privileged information.
- <https://lnkd.in/dAkjh7fi>



Are you looking to make a difference in your community? We have some exciting opportunities available, apply today! #Hiring <https://www.elderjusticeny.org/job-and-volunteer-opportings>

We're Hiring!

Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo has immediate full-time and part-time openings for caring and compassionate team members. Competitive salary and generous benefits.

Apply online today!
Visit HospiceBuffalo.com/Careers to see open positions

Scan for open positions

Medical • Dental • Vision • Generous Paid Time Off • 401K Match

NOW HIRING RN Case Managers

- > \$15,000 sign-on bonus
- > Excellent benefits
- > No rotating shifts
- > Competitive salary & generous paid time off

Nascentia Health
TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE TODAY

nascentiahealth.org/careers

Looking for a rewarding career in home care? We are hiring experienced RNs who are passionate about providing top-quality care and support to our patients. With Nascentia Health, you'll have the opportunity to work in a dynamic and collaborative environment while making a meaningful impact on the lives of others.

Learn more and apply today at nascentiahealth.org/careers to take the next step in your nursing career!



Need help with your daily activities?

Our home health aides are here to help with quality care in the comfort of your home!



**Personal Care • Household Care
Medical Care • Companionship**

Interested in learning more about our compassionate care and how we can personalize it for your needs?

Call **585.300.6000**
or email info@elitehhc.com



NOW HIRING CERTIFIED HOME HEALTH AIDES AND PCAS!

**HIGHEST PAY IN REGION • HEALTH INSURANCE • 401 K
FREE CELL PHONE • DAILY PAY**

Call **585.300.6000**
or email info@elitehhc.com
www.elitehhc.com



POSITIONS AVAILABLE!



JOIN OUR THERAPY TEAM

1 Full Time & 1 Per Diem PTA
1 Full Time OTA
1 Per Diem PT



We have some openings on our Therapy Team due to re-opening a newly renovated Rehab Unit in our Nursing Home! Interested in learning more or submitting an application? Go to bmcareers.org to look at our current positions!



Send us your job posting or employment opportunities!

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE

\$21.70/hour for Assisted Living
Starting \$29.70/hour for Skilled Nursing
Part Time or Full Time
Variety of Shifts Available- 8hrs and 12hrs



Scan for more information and to apply online!

Sign on Bonuses: \$4,000-\$8,000
Shift Differential up to \$3.50/hour
Referral Bonuses: \$2,000
Tuition Assistance
Trocaire RN Scholarship Program



Brothers of Mercy
10570 Bergtold Rd
Clarence, NY 14031

Our Care Team is growing! Do you know someone looking for an exciting job change now or in 2024? LPNs enjoy a rewarding career on our continuing care campus in Clarence with great benefits & a work-life balance. To apply, please visit: <https://lnkd.in/dW9P4fF> #HealthcareCareers #wnyjobs



Lord of Life Adult Day Health Center In need of 3 staff for our Adult Day Program for dementia clients.

- The Program Assistant position is a direct care HHA position; Preferred CNA or HHA experience
 - The Activities Asst position assists with activities, is creative, coordinates and facilitates age appropriate geriatric activities; Preferred Activities Assistant experience
 - The Driver position – drives the company bus transporting clients to and from program within a 15 mile radius. Must have Class E License; Preferred Small or Large Bus Driver experience
- Please contact Diane Luther at dluther@lordoflife.us or 716-668-8000

NOW HIRING NURSES!



Full-time and Part-time shifts available
Day and evening positions

- After - Hours
- Essential Care
- Admissions
- Clinical Educator
- Home Care
- Home Connections
- Hospice In-Patient Unit
- Quality Improvement RN

Working at Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo is more than just a job. Your work changes lives every day and helps those in our community during their most vulnerable time. Apply online today <https://www.hospicebuffalo.com/careers>.



WE'RE HIRING CAREPANIONS

Help the aging or individuals with limited mobility or access to resources remain independent at home! Our non-medical caregivers improve the quality of life for elderly and home-bound individuals by offering companionship, and assisting with chores they are unable to do.

Learn More
harmonia-care.org/careers



Please Email Us Your Resume to:
mriggan@harmonia-care.org



We are HIRING CarePanions!

Harmonia's trained CarePanions offer personalized, in-home support to seniors or other individuals in need. CarePanions help you or a loved-one remain independent and safe at home with punctuality, empathy and hardwork. A personal care plan is developed for each participant, matched to meet your specific needs and interests. Email resume to: mriggan@harmonia-care.org



Check out this job at Brookdale: **Executive Director - Brookdale Niagara AL (NY)**. Wheatfield, NY
Come work at this beautiful Brookdale Niagara Enhanced Assisted Living community.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Needed: YOUR help to protect seniors!

Become an Ombudsman volunteer

Enrolling volunteers for upcoming training sessions
Call: 716.817.9222

Needed: YOUR help! The NYS Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, supported by People Inc., connects people to become volunteers to advocate for residents living in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, who are in need of support to resolve complaints. We're looking for professionals and recent retirees to volunteer in Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Erie and Niagara Counties. Training and support provided. Flexible schedules. To learn about volunteering, call 716-817-9222. people-inc.org/ombudsman

Volunteers Needed

Located at Cradle Beach
8038 Old Lakeshore Road
Angola, NY 14006

Are you looking to make a difference in a senior's life?

Volunteers are partnered with our senior participants to do fun activities on our 66 acre campus, including

- Supervised one-on-one activities with trained volunteers
- Music
- Pet therapy
- Gentle exercise, including walks on our beautiful 66 acre campus
- Lunch and refreshments provided

Pathways for Caregivers meets every third Thursday of the month year-round. 10:30am - 2:30pm starting March 2023. no cost to participants.

Volunteers **do not** need to commit to every session.

Interested? Reach out to
Nancy Grimes
Pathways@CradleBeach.org
(716) 549-6307 ext. 203

Volunteer Training Required
Contact
Nancy Grimes for training opportunities
(716) 549-6307 ext. 203
ngrimes@CradleBeach.org

NIAGARA HOSPICE

Would you like to be a
NIAGARA HOSPICE VOLUNTEER?

Register for our first training session of 2024!

Monday, January 15, 2024
9am-5pm
Niagara Hospice
4675 Sunset Drive
Lockport, NY 14094

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT
NIAGARAHOSPICE.ORG/VOLUNTEER
CALL FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER! (716) 280-0748

Give some of your time & talents, make a difference in the lives of others.

Are you interested in becoming a Niagara Hospice volunteer? We have a new volunteer training scheduled for **January 15!** Join our AMAZING volunteer family!

West Side Community Services

TWO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Provisions 139 Customer Service

- Duties: Volunteer responsibilities include welcoming customers to the pantry, helping manage the queue, assisting customers with shopping, and restocking/shelving items.
- Who you'll work with: Volunteers work with pantry customers who live on the West Side.
- Minimum time commitment: Customer service volunteers should be willing to commit to at least one shift per month.
- Schedule: Thursdays from 4:45-7:15 p.m.

Great opportunity for: Individuals who love to work with the community and are comfortable giving directions. Volunteers must be able to respectfully interact with people of various backgrounds. Multilingual volunteers are especially welcome.

Provisions 139 Restocking Crew

- Duties: Volunteer responsibilities include unboxing/shelving/organizing items on shelves and in freezers.
- Who you'll work with: Provisions 139 staff and other volunteers. This role does not work directly with customers.
- Minimum time commitment: Restocking volunteers are welcome to come one time or on a recurring basis. A minimum of two hours is required per shift.
- Schedule: We schedule restocking crews throughout the week and are pretty flexible.

Great opportunity for: Groups and individuals who like to make things look nice and neat!

Go to wscsbuffalo.org/volunteer for more info and fill out the volunteer application. You can also call 716-884-6616.



Are you age 55 or over? Looking to upgrade your job skills? Need information on career choices? Seeking full- or part-time employment? Start with these resources compiled by Erie County Senior Services: www2.erie.gov/seniorservices/employment

Volunteer With Us

For every volunteer that we recruit, two care receivers come off our waiting list.

Hearts & Hands

Did you know that for every volunteer recruited, we can take two care receivers off our waiting list? With the holiday season upon us, there has never been a better time to become a volunteer with Hearts & Hands. Learn more by visiting our website at <https://hnhcares.org/> or by calling us at 716-406-8311.

BECOME A HEARTS & HANDS TRANSPORTATION VOLUNTEER

Provide a ride for your senior neighbor so they may continue living independently.

What does a transportation volunteer do?

- Have Friendly Conversation
- Provide a ride to the store or medical appointments
- Mileage reimbursement and supplemental insurance coverage provided

How do you become a Hearts and Hands volunteer?
Visit www.hnhcares.org or call 716-406-8311.

Are you a good listener?

We're seeking compassionate volunteers to facilitate Caregiver Support Groups

Support Group Facilitators create a safe space where care partners can share their feelings, concerns, and experiences

Training and mentorship are provided
A one year commitment is requested

Contact Courtney Sipes at
clsipes@alz.org or
716-626-0600 x2044
for more information

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION
Western New York Chapter

Hearts & Hands is in need of Transportation Volunteers. Did you know that volunteering with us is really easy? You are able to schedule a time to volunteer based on your schedule at any time, no weekly or monthly scheduling required. Another benefit is that you can volunteer right in your local community! For more information and to fill out a volunteer application please visit our website at <https://hnhcares.org/volunteer-with-us/>

**GOING ON
VACATION
THIS WINTER?
DO YOU NEED
A BREAK FROM
YOUR CAREGIVER
DUTIES?**



**Take advantage of our
Respite Care Program.**

Winter Respite Care at The Grand is available for your loved ones. Find out more today, and enjoy your getaway!

THE
GRAND
REHABILITATION & NURSING
DELAWARE PARK

CONTACT US TODAY!

716.885.3838 • TheGrandHealthcare.com/DelawarePark
1205 Delaware Avenue,
Buffalo, NY 14209

If you're a caregiver and looking to go on vacation this winter, contact The Grand Rehabilitation & Nursing at Delaware Park for respite care.



"We work together with you as a team to plan for your future. Taking a different approach to Financial Planning, we strive to understand your goals and personal interests, to make your money work for you in the best way possible."



Ryan Kozyra
Financial Planner
LA-1080644
Ryan.Kozyra@Prudential.com
Office: 716-276-2439
Cell: 716-912-5132

Ryan Kozyra, Financial Planner

What to expect:

With over thirteen years of experience in the financial services industry, I take a holistic approach to overall investment planning. Building trust in our relationship is paramount. I pride myself on teaching clients about the market and investment options. Together, we will develop an overall plan to obtain what you set out to achieve.

About me:

Ryan obtained a BA in Psychology from University of Buffalo in 2003. Over the years, he has gained valuable experience in the financial services industry, previously working for John Hancock, First Niagara Bank, M&T Bank, Wells Fargo and now Prudential. He currently lives in North Tonawanda, NY with his two children, Oliver and Landon. In his free time, he enjoys adventures with his kids, kayaking and anything Buffalo Bills related.



Lori Marinaccio
Paraplanner
Lori.Marinaccio@Prudential.com
Office: 716-276-2439

Lori Marinaccio, Paraplanner

About me:

Lori embraces the role of overseeing client relationships in the western New York region. Her exceptional skills lie in cultivating new connections and nurturing existing ones, guaranteeing that every client enjoys a personalized experience. Throughout her career, Lori has held similar positions at various financial institutions. Prior to venturing into the financial services industry, Lori successfully owned and operated a franchise for over 20 years. Outside of work, she finds joy in spending quality time with her family, exploring new destinations, showcasing her culinary talents, and actively participating in volunteer work within her local community.

Prudential Advisors

100 College Parkway Suite 220
Williamsville, NY 14221

(If Identified as a Financial Planner or Financial Advisor/AR: Offering (financial planning and) investment advisory services and programs through Pruco Securities, LLC (Pruco), under the marketing name Prudential Financial Planning Services (PFPS), pursuant to a separate client agreement. Offering insurance and securities products and services as a registered representative of Pruco, and an agent of issuing insurance companies. 1-800-778-2255.)
(For Advisors/Planners: Our financial advisors offer investment advice, and some may offer financial planning. Our financial advisors and financial planners offer financial planning and/or investment advice through Pruco Securities, LLC (Pruco), under the marketing name Prudential Financial Planning Services (PFPS). A financial advisor or financial planner offers securities products and services as a registered representative of Pruco and offers insurance products as an agent of issuing insurance companies. 1-800-778-2255.)
(Financial Advisor, Financial Planner or Advisor/Planner title licensed in the state of NY must include: My/Our compensation may be based on a combination of fees and commissions. (If including an educational J.D.)* designation, add: *Educational designation only - individual does not represent Prudential in a legal capacity or provide legal advice.)
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1064791-00001-00 EXP: 05/08/2024

**38TH ANNUAL
HOSPICE
Spring
Bouquet
SALE**

March 4 - 9, 2024

**38th Annual Hospice
Spring Bouquet Sale**

***Become a Bouquet
Sale Coordinator***

To sign-up or for more information, please visit HospiceSpringBouquetSale.com or call the Hospice Special Events Team at (716) 989-2010.

Presented by

Join the Hospice Helper Community

A Hospice Helper is anyone who holds a fundraiser that benefits Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo. These fundraisers can be anything from lemonade stands to community fun runs, and the dollars raised are used to help patients and families across WNY. It's a wonderful way to involve kids, adults, schools, companies, and others in your network!

All are welcome to participate as a Hospice Helper -- our foundation team is here to help make your fun event a success. Participate any time throughout the year!

Sign up today and get your fundraiser started!

hospicebuffalo.com/HospiceHelper

225 Como Park Boulevard
Buffalo, New York 14227-1480
(716) 686-8090 | HospiceBuffalo.com

LOOKING TO HOST A NETWORK WITH THE NETWORK EVENT?

The Networking committee is reaching out to see if your agency would be interested in hosting/co-sponsoring a Network with the Network event in 2024. It can be at your facility or a different location.

We are currently seeking hosts for the months of **JUNE-NOVEMBER (no MAY)**. The committee will be happy to help plan your event!

DETAILS OF EVENT:

- All planning details up to the discretion of the host/co-host (theme/food/etc.)
- Budget at the discretion of the host/co-hosts

BENEFITS:

- Highlighted on website, social media pages, newsletter
- Opportunity to speak to attendees
- Opportunity to set up a sponsor table/banner
- Business card drawing on behalf of the network

For more information and to reserve your month, contact one of the following:

Stacy Jasinski at sjasinski@depaul.org

Stephanie Mruzec at eastamherstdsm@solsticeseniorliving.com

Lisa Boron at lisa@networking.org



SPONSOR

LOOKING FOR SPONSORS for the following two events!

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

The Reikart House, Amherst 14226
Thursday, April 18, 2024

COCKTAIL PAIRING EVENT

Sto Lat
October (Date TBD)

\$250 sponsorship includes the following:

- One free ticket
- Signage at event
- Highlighted on website, social media, newsletter
 - Opportunity to speak to attendees
 - Opportunity to set up a sponsor table/banner

For more information and to reserve your event, contact one of the following:

Stacy Jasinski at sjasinski@depaul.org

Stephanie Mruzec at eastamherstdsm@solsticeseniorliving.com

Lisa Boron at lisa@networking.org



Erie County Department of Senior Services is seeking proposal statements from qualified entities interested in providing personal care services, level I/ housekeeping & level II for Erie County Department of Senior Services (RFP # 2024-002VF).

The Department will have a Q & A session on Tuesday January 16, 2024, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. Please check the Erie County Purchasing Department website, <https://www3.erie.gov/purchasing/requests-proposals-construction-bids>, for more information.

Requests for clarification of this RFP must be written and submitted to Commissioner Angela Marinucci at Angela.Schnell@erie.gov or Erin Mahoney at erin.mahoney@erie.gov.

Final sealed proposals are due no later than February 2, 2024, at 4:00 pm EST.

Take advantage of your membership benefits in 2024!

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!



Is your organization listed in our **BUSINESS DIRECTORY**? Do you want other members and the public to search for you by name or specific service category? Go to our home page www.networking.org, click on the yellow **BUSINESS DIRECTORY** button and check to see if your organization is included.

Not listed? Go to <https://networking.org/directory-listing-submission/>, put in password nia2020. Enter your organization name and select the categories that fit your services.



IS YOUR LOGO CORRECT ON OUR WEBSITE?

Is it linked to your own website?

Go to our home page and check it out!

Email lisa@networking.org if you need it updated.



Did you know you can submit your own event?

- On home page www.networking.org, under EVENTS, Submit Your Event! It's EASY!
- Just fill in Title, Date/Time, Description, Cost, Venue and add an image!
- It gets added to our website calendar of events on the home page. We'll also post to Facebook!



UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP PROFILE!

Do you want to make sure other members can find you on the www.networking.org Member Directory? Did you switch jobs? Did your company move to a new address, or do you have a new phone number? Make sure your contact info is up to date by logging in to your account with your password. Under Manage Account, select "Edit Profile." You can even add a profile picture!

You can update your profile as soon as your membership fee has been processed on the website. Email lisa@networking.org if you're having any issues.



PLATINUM MEMBERS! Promotional Email Blast!

- Act today! Reserve your spot!
- Topic/Ad/Layout of your choosing
- Emailed to the entire membership (500+)
- Contact Lisa at lisa@networking.org to schedule

Take advantage of your membership benefits in 2024!

Take advantage of your **NEWSLETTER BENEFITS** today!

Submissions include:

- Articles (no word limit), include images and pictures
- Business card size ad
- Quarter page ads – Platinum/Gold members
- Job postings
- Acknowledgements and Recognitions

Looking for
**ARTICLE AND
AD SUBMISSIONS**
for the
Apr-Jun 2024
edition!

Email Lisa Boron at
lisa@networkinaging.org
to reserve your spots.

NETWORK WITH THE NETWORK – TRUSTED CHOICE HOMECARE

Wednesday, November 15th
“Disco Party”

Thank you to Carey Creenan and staff
for hosting this fun event!

Co-sponsored by Joy & Juan Santiago
from Caring Environments.



Network in Aging -
Disco Night hosted by
Trusted Choice
Homecare and Caring
Environments



HELLO 2024!

With a new year upon us, new beginnings will commence. Assisted living is a fantastic option for seniors. Socialization, prepared meals, medication management, assistance with care, all are part of the perks for assisted living.

If that doesn't help your decision for assisted living, maybe the offer below will...

New Year Brings New Beginnings

Glenwell is offering a move-in special!
We will take 50% off your February rent,
if you move in by January 31st.

Come join the Glenwell family,
call 716-608-7000 to schedule a tour today!

*Offer excludes respite stays.

**Come and join the Glenwell neighborhood
as your new beginning for 2024.**

Providing the highest quality assisted living services and care to seniors. Glenwell has limited availability. Call today to learn more or to schedule a tour! We look forward to hearing from you!

- Quality living at affordable rates • Welcoming, home-like environment
- Dedicated, caring staff • Full range of amenities and services • Long or short-term stays • All-inclusive rates

Stacy Jasinski, Marketing Director • sjasinski@depaul.org
Tina Hagen, Administrator • thagen@depaul.org



Glenwell, A DePaul Senior Living Community
2248 Old Union Rd • Cheektowaga, NY 14227
716-608-7000 • 716-608-0151 (Fax)

Visit our website and Facebook page!

LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

Submissions Due: **MARCH 1ST, 2024**

CREATE A LOGO FOR THE ERIE COUNTY CAREGIVER COALITION!!!

We need your help!

RULES TO ENTER:

1. Must be a caregiver living in Erie County, NY.
2. Submission must be an original design of your own.
3. Design Must be digital or something easily converted to digital format (scannable painting, drawing, etc.)
4. Email your submission to: caregiver@erie.gov with subject line "Logo Design Contest" and include your name, address, and phone number. Attach design as PDF, Word, .png, or .jpg.

Submissions are due by March 1st, 2024. The winner will receive a prize basket made by members of the The Erie County Caregivers Coalition. Winner will be announced in the April 2024 Caregiver Community Connection Newsletter.

UPDATE: The submission deadline for the Erie County Caregiver Coalition Logo Design Contest has been extended to March 1, 2024.

RULES TO ENTER:

1. You must be a caregiver living in Erie County, NY.
 2. Submission must be an original design of your own.
 3. Design must be digital or something easily converted to digital format (scannable painting, drawing, etc.)
 4. Email your submission to: caregiver@erie.gov and include your name, address, and phone number with design attached as PDF, Word, .png, or .jpg.
- Submissions are due by March 1st, 2024. The winner will receive a prize basket made by members of The Erie County Caregiver Coalition. Contest winner will be announced in our Caregiver Community Connection newsletter(email caregiver@erie.gov to subscribe).

University Express

Free Online Classes for Older Adults

Go to: erie.gov/UniversityExpress

Did you know Erie County offers FREE online and in-person classes geared toward older adults (55+) on current events, history, science, and much more?

For more info & class schedule, visit: erie.gov/UniversityExpress

TIPS FOR HEALTHY EATING

WWW2.ERIE.GOV/HEALTH/NUTRITION

Eat healthier! The Erie County Department of Health can help. For information about the closest farmer's market or senior dining site, or tips on how to better understand a nutrition label, and more, visit: <https://lnkd.in/dBQ3tRH>



HAS YOUR INCOME CHANGED?

You may be eligible for assistance with your home heating expenses through the Home Energy Assistance Program. See below for the income eligibility guidelines.

Visit <https://www3.erie.gov/heap/> for additional information.

Visit <https://www3.erie.gov/heap/heap-calendar> for the in-person outreach calendar. Call the HEAP hotline Mon-Fri 8am-4pm at 716-858-7644.

WINTER RIDE GUIDE

NFTA-METRO

www.metro.nfta.com/programs/winter-ride-guide

FROZEN CONGREGATE MEALS

FREE Nutritious meals available for pick up to keep on hand for when you need them.

- ✓ Healthy Meal Options
- ✓ Available in 3,5,6,8 or 10 pack varieties.
- ✓ Just thaw, reheat, and enjoy when you're ready!

TO LEARN MORE:

- CALL 716-858-7639
- Contact your local Senior Center

Frozen Congregate Meals are a great way to ensure that you or your loved one has access to hot, nutritious meals. Simply, thaw, reheat, and enjoy. Call 716-858-7639 for additional information. Must be 60 year of age or older to participate. A \$3/per meal contribution is suggested but not required. Contributions are confidential.

HEAP Eligibility Guidelines

Household Size	Maximum Gross Monthly Income
1	\$3,035
2	\$3,970
3	\$4,904
4	\$5,838
5	\$6,772
6	\$7,706
7	\$7,881
8	\$8,056
9	\$8,231
10	\$8,407
11	\$8,582
12	\$8,890
13	\$9,532
Each additional	Add \$642

You may be eligible for assistance with your home heating expenses through the **Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)**. HEAP may be able to help you heat your home with:

- Electricity
- Natural Gas
- Oil
- Propane
- Wood/Wood Pellets
- Kerosene
- Corn

You may be eligible for HEAP **CLEAN & TUNE** and/or **HEATING EQUIPMENT REPAIR & REPLACEMENT (HERR)** if your household:

- Received a regular HEAP benefit in the current program year.
- Has owned the home for over 12 months.
- The primary heating unit must have worked in the past 12 months.
- Have not received a new unit or a clean and tune within the past 13 months.

HEAP PHONE CENTER
MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00AM TO 4:00PM
716-858-7644

The NFTA Metro "Winter Ride Guide" is now available! Even during snowstorms, buses and trains usually run. However, if there is a driving ban, or in other extreme circumstances, service may be affected or discontinued.

Get the guide at: <https://lnkd.in/eTqk3Knd>

LIFE LESSONS

LIFE LESSON – SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

“FALL FUN”

Winner of the \$25 Amazon gift card
is Judy Wagner



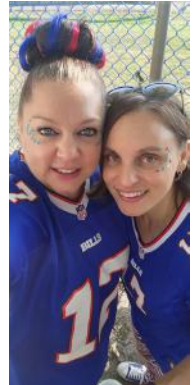
Judy Wagner – Harris Beach PLLC



Pam Pace –
Amazing Home Care



Erika LaPenna – Brookdale



Stacy Jasinski – Glenwell

LIFE LESSON – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

“SHARE THE LOVE”

\$50 donation goes to:
Simple Wishes Holiday Campaign – Wendy Backman

LIFE LESSON for JANUARY/FEBRUARY – “Healthier New Year”

It’s a New Year and many of us have made resolutions to get healthier in 2024! Whether it’s by exercising, eating better foods, relaxing more, drinking more water, or getting more sleep, we want to know how you plan on getting healthier in the new year! Send us your healthy tips and you could win a \$25 Gift Card!

Submissions can be sent to: lisa@networking.org. All submissions will be posted on our Facebook page.

One entry per person. Winner will be announced on February 29th (we get an extra day this year!).



Network in Aging of Western New York, Inc.

7954 Transit Road, #254
Williamsville, NY 14221

The Network in Aging of Western New York, Inc. is a non-profit, voluntary corporation, which brings together individuals and organizations involved in aging and long-term care. Our diverse membership includes educators, health and social service professionals, community leaders, government agencies and area businesses. **Our mission is “To help our members by providing opportunities for resource exchange, professional development and interdisciplinary collaboration through networking events, educational programs, strategic partnerships and promoting public awareness of the organization and its mission.”**

For more information about the Network in Aging of WNY, contact Lisa Boron at 716-954-3075 or go online to www.networkinaging.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY SOCIAL • THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 • 6:00 – 8:00pm
The Reikart Ballroom • 5000 Main Street • Amherst NY 14226

NETWORK WITH THE NETWORK • TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024 • 5:00 – 7:00 pm
Venture Forthe – “Mardi Gras”

NETWORK WITH THE NETWORK • THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024 • 4:30 – 6:30pm
Rupp Pfalzgraf PLLC – “St. Patrick’s Day & Wine-Tasting”

PROGRESSIVE DINNER • THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024 • 4:30 – 7:00pm
The Reikart Ballroom • 5000 Main Street • Amherst NY 14226

NETWORK WITH THE NETWORK • WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024 • 4:30 – 6:30pm
Sacred Heart Home (Brothers of Mercy) • 4526 Ransom Road • Clarence, NY 14031

SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR • DATE / TIME / LOCATION TBD (MAY)