



NETWORK AGING

OF WESTERN NEW YORK, INC.

EST 1981

Oct-Dec 2024

Celebrating **43** Years

Annual Meeting & Conference 2024

“BETTER TOGETHER: AGE FRIENDLY AND DEMENTIA FRIENDLY”

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2024

8:00AM – 2:30PM • Cost: \$60 members, \$75 non-members

As members of the Network in Aging, we certainly serve our community better together, and we embrace the notion of all members collaborating to support the aging population. In keeping with the theme of BETTER TOGETHER, we bring together two great speakers and topics that blend well to provide us with understanding, insights, and education on how we can strive to bring Age Friendly and Dementia Friendly principles to our approaches, practices, services, products, environments, and communities. **Join us to continue to grow “BETTER TOGETHER”!**

Keynote Speaker:

Bill Armbruster,
Senior Advisor,
AARP Livable
Communities
Programs,
Community State &
National Affairs.



Speaker: Andrea

Koch, Director
of Education
& Training,
Alzheimer's
Association,
WNY Chapter



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.

**FULL
DETAILS
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• Heathwood Assisted Living & Memory Care • FeedMore WNY • CarePatrol • The Amberleigh • Erie County Senior Services



2024 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP GUIDING AGING INNOVATION Tuesday, September 24th

The Education Committee's Guiding Aging Innovation workshop on September 24 was a huge success. Over (30??) Network members spent the morning speaking with 40 OT graduate students at UB about gaps and challenges in services for the aging. The students will use our Network members' feedback to design innovative solutions that they will present later this semester at UB's Blackstone LaunchPad Aging Innovation Challenge.



WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

RYAN KOZYRA, PRUDENTIAL



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 Amherst, NY with his two children, Oliver and Landon. In his free time, he enjoys adventures with his kids, kayaking and anything Buffalo Bills related.

MICHAEL OLEAR, MJ PETERSON – THE OLEAR TEAM



Michael Olear is a Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker with Olear Team/ MJ Peterson Real Estate. He has over 30 yrs. experience and has specialized in helping older adults with transitions since 1999. Michael is a graduate of the University at Buffalo School of Management - CEL and the University School of Social Work Master's Program. His team works throughout Erie and Niagara Counties helping buyers and sellers of residential real estate with specialized services for older adults and their caregivers. Michael has served on a variety of boards throughout the community including the Network in Aging, the Alzheimer's Association Board, the Ashford Hollow Foundation (Griffis Park) and the UB School of Management - CEL board with 2 years as treasurer and 2 years as chair as well as the UB School of Management Board. His active pursuits include singing in a chorus, yoga, cycling, listening to live music and giving back through area nonprofits.

CAREY GREENAN, TRUSTED CHOICE HOMECARE



Carey is an Outreach Specialist at Trusted Choice HomeCare, a Fiscal Intermediary providing CDPAP services. She has been in the CDPAP industry for almost 5 years learning everything from sales and outreach to customer service and consumer advocacy. Trusted Choice HomeCare has offices in Buffalo and Rochester and serves in counties all the way through the Finger Lakes. She was inspired to join the homecare team at Trusted Choice after seeing her mother take care of her grandmother as a child and loves meeting new people and helping them navigate their way into CDPAP services. This is Carey's first experience as a board member, and she says she can't wait to get started! In her spare time, Carey loves going to concerts with her daughter, Zoie. Together, they are involved in the 501©3, Trusted Gives, and a local volunteering group, We R Buffalo Strong. Go Bills!

OLIVIA PAULO-LEE, ESQ., LONG & PAULO-LEE PLLC



As the Principal Attorney at Long & Paulo-Lee, PLLC, Olivia has developed a strong focus on elder law, wills, trusts, and estates, where she helps families create comprehensive plans for aging, asset protection, and legacy planning. Her firm is well-regarded in Western New York for its expertise in real estate litigation, employment law, and business law, offering clients a wide range of legal services to protect their interests at all stages of life. Olivia's legal journey began in 2008, and in 2023, she took ownership of the firm, leading it to become a certified Women-Owned Business by the WBENC. Her dedication to the community is reflected in her active involvement in organizations such as the Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity's Buffalo Alumni Chapter, where she serves as local president. Olivia's leadership and mediation experience, honed through national-level competitions and coaching the University at Buffalo's trial teams, underscore her commitment to advocacy and client service. Licensed to practice in New York, Virginia, Washington D.C., and the Supreme Court of the United States, Olivia brings a broad perspective and deep expertise to the Network in Aging. Her role on the board will further enhance the organization's mission of supporting the elder community, particularly in matters of legal protection and estate planning.



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 Mruczek
Solstice Senior Living at East Amherst

V.P. — Professional Development

Pam Ricksgers Pace
Amazing Home Care

Secretary

Sharon Plant
People Inc.

Treasurer

Mimi Picicullo
Senior Advocate Services

Past President

Angie Crawshaw

Founding President

Dr. Evan Calkins

BOARD MEMBERS

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Glenwell, a DePaul Senior Living Community

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Fallon Health Weinberg PACE

Ryan Kozyra

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Nancy Maira

Erin Mahoney

Erie County Senior Services

Deb Mathur-Reil

Brookdale Niagara

Jane Nogowski

*Sacred Heart Home –
Brothers of Mercy*

Michael Olear

MJ Peterson Real Estate

Olivia Paulo-Lee

Long & Paulo-Lee, PLLC

Crystal Selk

West Side Community Services

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As the summer comes to a close, and we approach the fall, so many exciting things are happening with the Network in Aging.

This year, we've achieved a significant milestone: the approval of our Strategic Plan. The board has put in tremendous effort over the past year to create this plan, and you can expect to see various changes implemented in the coming years that will enhance both our processes and the overall experience within

the Network. Many of you have expressed a desire for a more user-friendly website, and this is now one of our top priorities. We're also focusing on not just increasing membership, but actively engaging our current members. You've requested more networking opportunities, and we'll be introducing options such as breakfast and lunch events. We welcome your ideas to further involve our community and help it thrive, so that you can take full advantage of everything the Network has to offer.

The Education Committee recently hosted its fall workshop, "Guiding Aging Innovation." In collaboration with UB's Occupational Therapy Department and Blackstone LaunchPad, this event provided an opportunity for our members to work alongside students in designing practical innovations to support the older adults we serve every day. This initiative has made a meaningful impact on the next generation!

We are also thrilled to announce our Annual Meeting and Conference on November 6th at the IronWorkers Banquet Hall in West Seneca, themed "Better Together: Age Friendly and Dementia Friendly." We'll feature two exceptional speakers, Bill Armbruster and Andrea Koch, who will share insights on integrating age-friendly and dementia-friendly principles into our approaches, practices, services, products, and communities so we can grow BETTER TOGETHER!

Finally, we are seeking dedicated members to join our active committees. If you or someone you know can commit to one meeting per month, please contact me or any board member. Your support is invaluable to us!

With Warm Wishes,
April Romanowski
Network in Aging President

WELCOME NEW MEMBER AGENCIES



RHM INNOVATIONS INC.



GREENFIELD MANOR



INNOVATIVE
Rx SOLUTIONS, LLC

INNOVATIVE RX SOLUTIONS



The GreenFields
Continuing Care Community

An affiliate of Niagara Lutheran Health System

COMMUNITY CARE COMPANIONS INC.

PLATINUM MEMBER AGENCIES



DID YOU KNOW. . . HOCKEY EDITION!

. . . the first known mention of the word “hockey” was found in the 1773 English book Juvenile Sports and Pastimes? According to the International Ice Hockey Federation, the first organized ice hockey game was played on March 3, 1875, in Montreal. Each team had nine players on the ice.

. . . NHL players go through between 60 – 125 hockey sticks per year? Almost all current players use composite sticks, which are highly customized from the amount of flex in the shaft to the degree of curve in the blade. These sticks are not biodegradable, but in 2016, Florida Gulf Coast University came up with the Hockey Sticks to Oyster Reef Restoration program which uses broken sticks to create oyster habitats!

. . . from 1942 – 1967 only six teams comprised the National Hockey League? Despite being called the “Original Six,” the Blackhawks, Red Wings, Maple Leafs, Canadiens, Bruins and Rangers weren’t all the original teams in the NHL, which was founded in 1917. What is certain is that the Montreal Canadiens is the oldest continually operating team in the NHL.

. . . the Buffalo Sabres were named by a Canadian? In 1969, Seymour and Northrup Knox held a name-the-team contest where fans could send in suggestions for the team’s name. Harry Cole, a Toronto filmmaker, submitted the winning choice. With so many fans located in Canada, the Knox’s decided to use the Canadian spelling instead of Sabers. The Sabres were also the first team to perform both the U.S. and Canadian anthems before every home game.



Perry Ciambella
Owner
pciambella@firstlighthomecare.com
Office: 716-634-CARE (2273) Suite 114
Cell: 716-345-3360 Williamsville, NY 14221
www.EastBuffalo.FirstLightHomeCare.com



Benjamin Kanaley
Enrollment Coordinator

716-810-1880
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1-855-665-1113
fax: 716-250-3160

benjamin.kanaley@fallonweinberg.org

Fallon Health Weinberg
461 J.J. Audubon Parkway
Amherst, NY 14228

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- Social Media Marketing
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Check out the new NetworkInAging.com/

View a portfolio of our work at www.surdej.com





NETWORK AGING

OF WESTERN NEW YORK, INC
EST 1981



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

Ryan Kozyra
ryan.kozyra@prudential.com

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
jnnogowski@brothersofmercy.org

Mimi Piciullo
mimipiciullo@gmail.com
716-698-1089

NETWORKING COMMITTEE

Plans and carries out member-to-member functions, including Networking events. This committee meets the **first Thursday** each month at 9:00am. Additional dates may be scheduled.

CO-CHAIRS

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

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

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
bmcmorrow@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

Dr. Kara Calandrelli
karaanncalandrelli@gmail.com
716-689-4195 ext 111

Michael Olear
michael@olear.com
716-481-9959

WE'RE PROUD PARTNERS WITH THE

**Erie County Department
of Senior Services &
the NY State Office
for the Aging to Offer**

Respite For Caregivers



YOUR LOVED ONE WILL BENEFIT FROM

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- 3 Nutritious Daily Meals Plus Snacks
- Daily Activity Programs

YOU WILL BENEFIT FROM

- A Chance to Rest & Rejuvenate
- An Opportunity to Travel
- Flexibility to Address Your Own Health Needs
- Peace of Mind & More!

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LAWLEY

Lawley Medicare Solutions

The Medicare Annual Enrollment Period, which begins on October 15th and ends on December 7th, is the opportunity for Medicare beneficiaries to review their current Medicare coverage and make any necessary changes. Whether they are looking to switch plans or carriers, find better coverage options, or simply review their existing plan, now is the time to explore their choices.

In 2025 many carriers were forced to make changes to their portfolio due to the Inflation Reduction Act. For example, Independent Health's Encompass 65 Element plan which serves the 8 counties of WNY and Excellus's PPO Access plan which serves Monroe and its surrounding counties will be discontinued. We understand that such changes can be a bit overwhelming and cause some uncertainty, but rest assured that our team is here to help make the selection of a new plan as smooth as possible. While the usual Medicare Annual Election Period runs from October 15 – December 7, the discontinuation of these plans will allow a Special Election Period that runs from December 8 – December 31 to allow beneficiaries additional time to decide on a new plan to be effective January 1st.

Lawley Medicare Solutions is licensed and contracted with nine different organizations. With six local offices we welcome the opportunity to assist your clients, family and friends with their Medicare Health Insurance needs. We are committed to providing personalized guidance to help them make informed choices and find a plan that best meets their needs and budget in 2025. Please don't hesitate to contact us to schedule a meeting at no cost.

We look forward to assisting you and your clients find and secure the coverage they deserve. 🌸

Lawley Medicare Solutions Team

April Romanowski, Michele Luthi, Nancy Nimmo, Janice Thurston

716-306-5543 • mluthi@lawleyinsurance.com

1074 Union Rd. • West Seneca, NY 14224

Lawley | MEDICARE SOLUTIONS

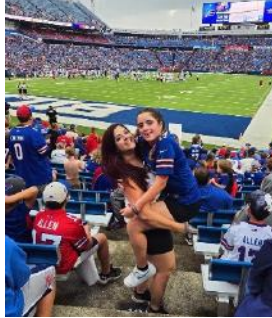
LIFE LESSONS

LIFE LESSON – JULY & AUGUST 2024 “SUMMER FUN IN WNY”

Winner of \$25 gift card: Corey Haertel,
Center for Elder Law & Justice



Enjoying beautiful weather
in the backyard with
nephew Kingston
Submitted by Christina Hill



Pre-season game with
daughter Zoie
Submitted by Carey
Greenan



Boating on a sunny day
Submitted by Judy Wagner



At the Buffalo Zoo with her
niece & father
Submitted by Kristin Meyer



At the Eden Corn Festival
Submitted by Becky Black



At the ballpark with friends
Submitted by Corey Haertel

LIFE LESSON – SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER – “Show Us Your Mug”

As the air turns crisp and the leaves begin to fall, it's the perfect time to celebrate the cozy season with our “Show Us Your Mug!” Life Lessons campaign!

In honor of National Coffee Day on September 29th and the arrival of spiced lattes and apple cinnamon drinks, we invite you to share your favorite way to enjoy a warm beverage.

Whether it's a trusty thermos, a colorful Yeti, or a quirky cup, we want to see the mugs that brighten your day! Snap a photo of your favorite mug, and

for a fun twist, include your smiling face alongside it for a double “mug shot.” Tell us what makes your mug special and share your go-to drink recipe.

All entries submitted by October 31st will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card to help you fill up your mug with your favorite brew. Don't miss out on this chance to share the warmth and joy of the season. We can't wait to see your mugs!

Send your photo and info to lisa@networkinaging.org.



**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.

LET'S GO BUFFALO!

October 14 • 8:15pm	Buffalo Bills at New York Jets
October 20 • 1:00pm	Tennessee Titans at Buffalo Bills
October 27 • 4:05pm	Buffalo Bills at Seattle Seahawks
November 3 • 1:00pm	Miami Dolphins at Buffalo Bills
November 10 • 1:00pm	Buffalo Bills at Indianapolis Colts
November 17 • 4:25pm	Kansas City Chiefs at Buffalo Bills
December 1 • 8:20pm	San Francisco 49ers at Buffalo Bills
December 8 • 4:25pm	Buffalo Bills at Los Angeles Rams
December 15 • 4:25pm	Buffalo Bills at Detroit Lions
December 22 • 1:00pm	New England Patriots at Buffalo Bills
December 29 • 1:00pm	New York Jets at Buffalo Bills
January 5 • TBD	Buffalo Bills at New York Patriots

Annual Meeting & Conference 2024

**BASKET
RAFFLE
INFO
page 19**

“BETTER TOGETHER: AGE FRIENDLY AND DEMENTIA FRIENDLY”

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2024

8:00AM – 2:30PM • Cost: \$60 members, \$75 non-members

Go to our home page www.networkinaging.org and REGISTER ONLINE via check or credit card

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keeping with the theme of BETTER TOGETHER, we bring together two great speakers and topics that blend well to provide us with understanding, insights, and education on how we can strive

to bring Age Friendly and Dementia Friendly principles to our approaches, practices, services, products, environments, and communities. **Join us to continue to grow “BETTER TOGETHER”!**



Keynote Speaker: Bill Armbruster, Senior Advisor, AARP Livable Communities Programs, Community State & National Affairs. His presentation will be Identifying Gaps and Driving Change through the 8 Domains of Livability

Join us as we dive into the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities, focusing on the 8 domains of livability—such as housing, transportation, and social participation—as a comprehensive framework for enhancing community well-being. We'll examine how these domains not only guide progress but also expose critical gaps that present opportunities to create more inclusive, age-friendly environments.

With a focus on actionable insights, this session will equip you to evaluate where your community currently stands, identify areas for improvement, and leverage your influence to drive meaningful, lasting change. You'll discover new ways to advance your own age-friendly initiatives, ensuring that community members are included and supported in leading full, vibrant lives.



Speaker: Andrea Koch, Director of Education & Training, Alzheimer's Association, WNY Chapter.

Andrea's presentation will follow the outline of Dementia Friendly America's 4-step Community Toolkit: Convene, Engage, Analyze, and Act. She will share how the Alzheimer's Association of WNY works with other community organizations and stakeholders to 1) solicit public feedback, 2) brainstorm collaborative strategies, 3) prioritize goals, and 4)

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION provide free programs and services to support individuals and families facing dementia. Specific examples and resources will be shared.

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

All ads in color!
FULL page - \$200
HALF page - \$150
QUARTER page - \$100
Business card - \$50

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

DIAMOND level sponsorships – **SOLD OUT**

EMERALD level – 2 SPOTS remaining (center page LEFT & RIGHT) - \$750

RUBY level – unlimited - \$500 (free full page ad)

SAPPHIRE level – unlimited - \$250 (free half page ad);
upgrade to full page \$300

** Opportunities to include brochure/flyer/swag item in welcome bag
for all sponsors ** Lots of visibility and signage

**Go to our website www.networkinaging.org
to view benefits for all levels!**

CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:00am – 9:15am	Registration, breakfast, networking
9:15am – 9:30am	Opening remarks from April Romanowski
9:30am – 10:45am	Keynote Speaker – Bill Armbruster
10:45am – 11:30am	Networking break
11:30am – 12:30pm	Speaker – Andrea Koch
12:30pm – 2:30pm	Buffet lunch, annual meeting, award presentations, closing remarks
2:30pm	Basket raffle pickup, conclusion

THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT SPONSORS!

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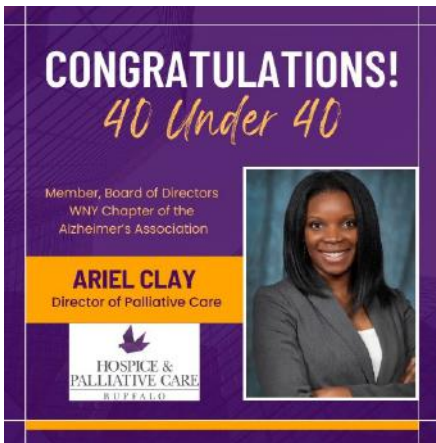
ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RECOGNITION!



Meet our new Executive Chef, **Ryan Citarella!** We are excited to invite Ryan into our community and to see his new ideas for meals and events! Ryan has 20 years of experience as a professional chef and has already started to implement some amazing and creative culinary skills. Ryan looks forward to connecting with our community and bringing great food to our residents, families, and staff!



Please join the team at **Harris Hill Nursing Facility** in welcoming our new Assistant Administrator, **Melissa Ross Gravely, BHCM, CLTC!**



Congratulations to **Ariel Clay, ANP-BC**, for being named to this year's **40 Under 40** list by **Buffalo Business First!** Ariel is the director of palliative care at **Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo** and a member of our WNY Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association Board of Directors.



Harris Hill Nursing Facility is among an elite list of facilities state-wide that has finished in the TOP QUINTILE of New York's Nursing Home Quality Initiative (NHQI).

The NHQI evaluates 600 nursing homes in the state and ranks them by quintile using performance measures in the components of quality, compliance and efficiency.

A high quintile rating highlights a company's long-term commitment to creating healthier communities and meeting a full spectrum of health care needs.



CONGRATULATIONS to HALEY SPIESS from Bristol Village!

Haley is the recipient of the \$1,000 Jerry Flaschner Scholarship Award.

She will be using these funds towards current and future education costs at Trocaire College. Haley's plan once receiving her BSN is to be a nurse practitioner specializing in geriatrics.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RECOGNITION!

Announcing the retirement of Helen Ferraro-Zaffram, Esq.



It is extremely bittersweet that we announce the retirement of our Managing Attorney, Helen Ferraro-Zaffram, effective July 31, 2024. Helen's compassion, drive, and humor have driven our work for decades. Her vision and dedication helped propel us to our current community standing, and we could not envision the last several years of growth and development without her experienced leadership. While our halls will never be the same without her daily presence, we are proud of her legacy and excited for her to enjoy her retirement! And of course, she has already signed on to assist with some projects, so you may still see her around at CELJ on occasion.

Helen began working for CELJ (then known as Legal Services for the Elderly, Disabled, or Disadvantaged of WNY) in 1989. For many years, she was one of the only attorneys on staff. Helen has always been known for her mentorship of young attorneys and interns, and is part of the reason we have a long history of hiring those who intern with us – she makes it easy to fall in love with our work, and she is someone deeply valued by those who have been lucky enough to call her a colleague.

We are honoring Helen's wishes to not host a public retirement event. However, she would be delighted if you donated to CELJ in her honor, to celebrate her 35 years of dedicated service. Please consider a donation at the link below.

Congratulations, Helen, and thank you, from the bottom of our hearts.

At Helen's request, donate in her honor: <https://lsed.app.neoncrm.com/forms/helens-retirement>



Seeking carefree Senior Living the heart of downtown in Elmwood Village? Look no further than **Canterbury Woods Gates Circle**! Our vibrant community offers the perfect blend of independence and convenience in a bustling urban location.

For a limited time, save \$60,000 on one of our four stunning Chapin floor plans and enjoy additional benefits. Don't miss out on this exclusive opportunity to invest in your future and experience all that Canterbury Woods has to offer! Discover <https://bit.ly/3LjIMvH>



Congratulations to one of our Network in Aging members, **Ryan O'Connor** from the **Primacy Financial Team**. He was recently named **#24 Best in State Next-Gen Wealth Advisors** by **Forbes**!



22	Joshua Miller	New York
23	Matthew Sotland	New York
24	Ryan O'Connor	New York
25	Matthew Sullivan	New York

WELCOME NEW MEMBER AGENCIES!

RHM INNOVATIONS INC. (PLATINUM)



RHM Innovations Inc. is a new DME startup company in Buffalo that develops innovative assistive shower systems to reduce strain on caregivers and provide a more dignified, comfortable, and independent bath for residents at care facilities or folks looking to stay at home. Motivated by shared familial loss and experience caring for their loved ones, Drs. Courtney and Brandon Burris started RHM to help those experiencing similar daily struggles. Please check out their website at www.rhminnovations.com, visit their pages on social media, and reach out to Dr. Brandon Burris directly at (585)360-7012 or brandon@rhminnovations.com to see how we can help you!

GREENFIELD MANOR (BRONZE)



The Niagara Lutheran Health System is a network of affiliates employing 500 people at The GreenFields Continuing Care Community in Lancaster, NY. The GreenFields campus provides priority access to a continuum of services, including skilled nursing, rehabilitation, memory care, assisted living, and independent living. One of the primary objectives of The GreenFields dedicated staff is to ensure that residents have priority access to all levels of care, as well as a wide variety of community services and activities, all on the same 52 acre campus.

With a mission to provide for the physical, social and spiritual needs of those being served, the goal of The GreenFields is to offer the freedom of independence and peace of mind to residents and their families. At The GreenFields, we understand that home is different for everyone. That's why we've created an environment that's inclusive, welcoming, and receptive to the needs of each resident. At The GreenFields, residents can define what home means to them, whether they are pursuing their passions or passing the hours with great friends.

The GreenFields campus includes a great number of amenities, including courtesy transportation, wellness and social functions, restaurant-style dining, libraries, fitness center, barber/beauty salon, café, entertainment, worship services, outdoor patios and walking paths. Residents can participate in exercise programs, worship services, or serve on various committees. There are arts and crafts opportunities, game offerings and card groups to join. With a wide range of entertainment options, along with outings and shopping trips available for residents to go on, there's something enjoyable for everyone every day.

Residential apartment homes for fully independent living are available at GreenField Manor, where residents can enjoy their

retirement without the worries of home maintenance, chores, security, or safety. Made up of 92 spacious one- and two-bedroom apartments, GreenField Manor has 9 different floor plan options to choose from, including balconies, patios, or fireplaces.

Assistance with daily activities such as dressing, bathing, meal preparation and medication taking may become increasingly challenging for some individuals. With that in mind, GreenField Court offers assisted living care. GreenField Court features 49 apartments including studio, one- and two-bedroom options which include a kitchenette with a refrigerator, sink and microwave.

GreenField Terrace provides specialized memory care for residents with Alzheimer's and dementia and enhanced assisted living services in a household-style environment. These residents require specially-trained care and facilities designed with their needs in mind. The GreenFields also offers skilled nursing and respite care at the GreenField Health & Rehabilitation Center. GreenField Health & Rehabilitation Center also offers Western New York's premier rehabilitation services and outpatient therapy. Treatment programs are designed specifically for individual, and physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech and language therapy are provided at The GreenFields as well.

For more information on The GreenFields Continuing Care Community, call 716 684 8400 or visit thegreenfields.org.

Tara Wisniewski
Niagara Lutheran Health System
5959 Broadway • Lancaster, NY 14086
twisniewski@niagaralutheran.org

INNOVATIVE RX SOLUTIONS (BRONZE)



**INNOVATIVE
Rx SOLUTIONS, LLC**

IRxS was started by a husband and wife team with a combined 40+ years of Health Care experience including LTC and IDD. Mike & Kris Maenza are dedicated advocates for Seniors and individuals with developmental disabilities in our community.

IRXS set out to change, revolutionize, and disrupt the status quo with innovative products that create efficiencies and accountability in medication management, medication security, and storage.

Kristine Maenza
www.innovativerxsolutions.com
585-330-3556

COMMUNITY CARE COMPANIONS INC. (BRONZE)



WELCOME NEW INDIVIDUALS!

JO SCHWEITZER – UB DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES

ELITE HOME HEALTH CARE

The Elite Home Health Care Family – Syracuse, NY Branch Grand Opening!

The Elite Family of Companies includes Elite Choice (an CDPAP program), Elite Home Health Care (home care), HUB at Elite (adult day care center), and Bold Vision Career Training. Each company plays a critical role in providing comprehensive care and support services to the greater Syracuse community.

This past summer, the Elite Home Health Care team was thrilled to announce the grand opening of their new facility. This new location will house all four entities under one roof, enhancing their service delivery and collaboration. The new office will facilitate the integration of their home care providers, caregiver training school, and adult day care program. This consolidation will allow them to provide a seamless experience for their clients and community.

Isaac Weider, Vice President of Elite Home Health Care says: “Our services are vital for the community, addressing the needs of the elderly and caregivers. The additional services for the elderly ensure they receive the necessary support and care and professional training services for caregivers enhance their skills and readiness, contributing to better care standards. Our home care services enable loved ones to stay at home, providing comfort and familiarity.”

The new office space symbolizes The Elite Family of companies' commitment to expanding and improving their services and they are dedicated to continuing to support and enrich the Syracuse, NY community through Elite's integrated and comprehensive care solutions! 🌸

To learn more about Elite Home Health Care and their other entities, please visit <https://elitehhc.com/> or call 718-925-2525



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Bold Vision
Career





Senior Companions Are Here to Lend a Helping Hand!

People Inc. opens worlds for older adults in need of daily living assistance. If you're 55 and older and could use help with transportation, errands, medication reminders and more, you might benefit from a Senior Companion!

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or Scan to Learn More



Your New Apartment Awaits! *Applications Accepted Year-Round*

People Inc. provides affordable one and two bedroom apartments for people who meet income guidelines. Our apartments, located across Western New York, are ideal for people seeking an independent lifestyle, looking to downsize or remove the burden of home maintenance.

Affordable Apartments

For people ages
18+ OR 55+

Senior Living

For older adults,
ages 62+

Learn More:
housing@people-inc.org
716.880.3890
people-inc.org



Senior Community Service Employment Program



Introduction

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) assists mature job seekers (age 55+) and their communities by providing part-time community service assignments while supporting local non-profit and governmental agencies.

SCSEP participants earn minimum wage (\$15.00 per hour) while developing or enhancing their skills while continuing to seek employment outside of the program. Participants have various assignments (job) classifications, such as: clerical assistants, child/adult day care assistants, nutrition and janitorial assistants.

Earning While Learning

Paid work experience allows participants to develop or enhance their skills. Formal and informal training is given on host agency assignments. Our agency provides full financial responsibility (wages, state mandated fringe benefits, workers compensation and general liability) for participants placed in a host agency site.

Become A Host Agency Site

Your agency must be a not-for-profit 501(c)3 or governmental/public agency to qualify. Work sites (host agencies) are selected to furnish supervision, instruction and training for assigned SCSEP participants.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Anita Wolniewicz, Project Director
Supportive Services Corporation
245 Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14222
716-881-6350, Ext. 11

Visit our website: www.supportiveservices.org

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration, the Center for Workforce Inclusion, Inc.) and operated locally by Supportive Services Corporation through subcontract with the Erie County Dept. of Senior Services

CLARITY GROUP

Medicare Part D Changes for 2025

As a result of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, there have been changes to Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. Since Part D began in 2006, it has always had four stages. Those four stages included a deductible, initial coverage stage, the coverage gap (aka Donut Hole) and the catastrophic stage. In 2024, the cap for True Out-of-Pocket costs are capped at \$8000. In 2025, the cap on out of pockets costs will be \$2000.

Another change for 2025 is the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan. This optional program allows all Part D enrollees the option to pay their out-of-pocket prescription drug costs in monthly installments over the course of the plan year versus paying at the pharmacy. Members who opt-in to this program will pay \$0 at the pharmacy for covered Part D drugs, this includes the plan's drug deductible. Your Medicare Advantage or Part D carrier will then pay the pharmacy for your prescriptions and bill you in monthly installments. This provision, along with the \$2,000 maximum out-of-pocket limit on Part D Drugs, will benefit many members that may find it difficult to afford their drug costs, especially initially if a plan deductible must be paid prior to paying lower cost sharing after the deductible has been reached.

We always recommend that anyone with Medicare review their choices during the Annual Enrollment Period, which takes place yearly from October 15th through December 7th. This year is especially important. Because of the increased cost to insurers for prescriptions, some carriers are adjusting other benefits. 🌸

There's no need to try to figure this out on your own. Clarity Group has five locations for appointments and walk-ins. Experienced licensed agents are available year-round at no cost to you. Call 716-393-3437 or visit claritygroupny.com for more information.

Required disclosure: Clarity Group is not affiliated with the Federal Government or CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services).



Changes are Coming to Medicare in 2025

If you or someone you know has Medicare, now is the time to learn about changes for 2025. Join the thousands who put their trust in Clarity Group. The Experts at Clarity Group will explain any changes, review your options and help you choose the plan that best suits your needs.



CLARITY GROUP

Be clear. Be covered. Be confident.

Call 716-393-3437

5 convenient locations:

- 4976 Transit Rd, Depew
- 3140 Sheridan Dr, Amherst
- McKinley Mall, Blasdell
- 216 E. Main St, Ste 29, Batavia
- 404 Center Rd, West Seneca

claritygroupny.com

We do not offer every plan in your area. Currently, we represent ten organizations which offer seventy-six products in your area. Please contact www.Medicare.gov, 1-800-Medicare or your local State Health Insurance program to get information on all your options.



Annual Enrollment Period
October 15th - December 7th

**"When I need help with Medicare,
I trust the experts at Clarity Group".**
Linda Pellegrino, Host Senior Radio Buffalo

AARP NEW YORK Medicare Scams

by AARP New York

Government programs are often the target of criminal scammers and Medicare is one of the biggest ones. Thankfully, a nationwide network of Senior Medicare Patrol volunteers often sees these scams first and warn others. Here are three scams they are seeing in 2024:

False billing for diabetes treatment has been seen on Medicare summary notices of people who don't have diabetes and didn't receive a related device. This is one example of how crooks charge Medicare for services not provided. To guard against this, check monthly Medicare statements carefully and report any false charges.

Free products are another common Medicare scam, however the product you receive – if you get anything at all – is usually cheap and inferior. Only share your Medicare number with your healthcare providers, and not with someone offering "free" products or services.

Lastly, free genetic testing is once again a trending Medicare scam. This often happens at health fairs where a scammer will offer a free genetic test that only requires a cheek swab and your Medicare number. Medicare rarely covers genetic testing, and this is just a ploy to get your Medicare number.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 877-908-3360 or visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork. AARP Fraud Watch Network is a free resource available for all.

AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. 🌸

If you're interested in educating the community about fraud prevention, AARP New York is looking for volunteers to give presentations about this topic in the community. Contact Kat Benedetti-Fisher, AARP NY's Associate State Director of Community Engagement, at kjfisher@aarp.org for more details.



POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES for Social Workers!



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UP TO \$24/hour
FULL-TIME • DAYS
Great Benefits!

Northgate Health Care Facility has Excellent Opportunities for **SOCIAL WORKERS** on our Long-Term Care and Subacute Rehab Units!
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LOCATION: Harris Hill Facility, 2699 Wehrle Dr, Williamsville NY 14221
APPLY INSTANTLY: <https://lnkd.in/gygwwUTW>
Starting Rate: \$15.00-18.00 (based on experience);
SHIFT: Full-Time, Days (7 am - 3:30 pm)

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RATE: \$16.70 - \$18.45/hr, based on experience

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 Get the care you need from a family member, friend or neighbor through CDPAP (Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program).
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6AM-10PM • SAT & SUN
Work 32 Hours & Get Paid for 40!

CNAs - Absolut Care of Aurora Park has FLEXIBLE OPPORTUNITIES for You!

We have FULL & PART-TIME opportunities on ALL SHIFTS. Plus we offer WEEKEND WARRIOR Positions - Work 32 Hours and Get Paid for 40!! **RATE:** \$17.00/hr (\$17.00 - \$19.25/hr., dependent upon experience). Plus up to a \$3,000 SIGN-ON BONUS! **APPLY INSTANTLY:** <https://lnkd.in/e5nF-mtG>

LOCATION: Absolut Care of Aurora Park, 292 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052
CALL or TEXT: Allison at (716) 954-6796

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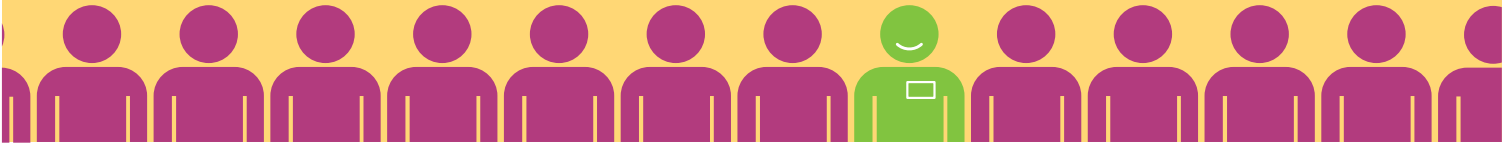
Wheatfield Commons

NOW HIRING!

Administrative Assistant
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YOU can make a difference at Wheatfield Commons, a DePaul senior living community in North Tonawanda! Now hiring a full-time Administrative Assistant. To learn more about this opportunity and to apply, please visit: <https://ow.ly/lfhZ50Tpol>

POSITIONS AVAILABLE!



**WE ARE
HIRING**
JOIN OUR TEAM

**BILINGUAL
PROGRAM
MANAGER**

**ALZHEIMER'S
ASSOCIATION**

Exciting Job Opportunity Alert!

The Alzheimer's Association, WNY Chapter is looking for a passionate and dedicated Bilingual Program Manager to join our team. This position plays a crucial role in expanding our program delivery and outreach, especially in new, underrepresented, and rural communities. Fluency in both English and Spanish is required. Based in Buffalo, full-time 37.5 hours/week, \$61,000-\$64,000 salary.

If you or someone you know is eager to make a significant impact and support our mission, we want to hear from you!

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NURSING CARE**
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Discover a Rewarding Career in Healthcare with Independent Nursing Care!

Are you ready to make a difference in people's lives? Independent Nursing Care, the leading Home Health Care and Concierge Care Company in Western New York, is ****NOW HIRING!****

At INC, we believe in the power of flexibility and family-first values. Our opportunities are perfect for stay-at-home parents, nursing students, and anyone aspiring to kickstart their journey in the healthcare industry.

Positions Available: Home Health Aides, Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Home Health Care Providers (CNAs, Nursing Students, PCAs)

Ready to embark on this incredible journey with us? Visit our website at ****IndependentNursingCare.com**** to learn more and start your application today.

Have questions or need assistance? Feel free to send us a message here or give us a call at ****(716) 655-8776**

*Join our team
to create
meaningful
moments.*

**HOSPICE &
PALLIATIVE CARE**
BUFFALO

We are adding **NEW**
positions across our teams for
2024

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MEDICARE SOLUTIONS

Have you heard? Lawley is growing! Due to internal growth and many newly created positions, we have multiple openings for a commercial insurance account manager in Buffalo, NY! These positions are hybrid opportunities. Apply today!
<https://www.lawleyinsurance.com/career-opportunities/>

Our team takes tremendous pride in going above and beyond for patients. Nurturing patients' emotional and spiritual needs is part of our holistic care. Our nurses, aides, and social workers look for opportunities to uplift spirits and create lasting memories for families. Here are just a few recent examples.

If you want a career where you can make a real difference, visit [HospiceBuffalo.com/careers](https://www.HospiceBuffalo.com/careers).

**NIAGARA
HOSPICE**

Opening for a new Social Worker in Lockport, NY

The Niagara Hospice Medical Social Worker provides clinical social work services within the scope of practice to patients/families admitted to the Hospice program. <https://www.niagarahospice.org/careers/>

Bristol Village
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**We Are
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- Personal Care Aide
- Director of Nursing

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Positions Available

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West Side Community Services

**WE ARE
HIRING!**

After-School
Program Site
Coordinator
& Youth
Specialists

Details at [wscsbuffalo.org/about/careers](https://www.wscsbuffalo.org/about/careers).

Our youth department is hiring! We are seeking an after-school site coordinator and youth specialists for our new after-school program at Primary Hall Charter School (in the Parkside neighborhood). If you love working with kids, dreaming up fun activities, and building supportive relationships with youth, come join our team! Visit [wscsbuffalo.org/about/careers](https://www.wscsbuffalo.org/about/careers) for more info.

Visit: <https://bristolhome.org/careers>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION®



Calling all retired teachers, social workers, healthcare professionals and others!

Make a difference as a **COMMUNITY EDUCATOR**

Community Educators are volunteer public speakers who provide Alzheimer's Association education programs to community audiences. These volunteers deliver presentations using prepared training materials.

Interested in learning more?

Contact Kailea at kalalka@alz.org or 716.241.0352 or apply online at bit.ly/ALZeducator



IS SEEKING WISHES!

Help Bring Joy to a Senior.



- Wish recipients must be 65+ and a resident of WNY
- Annual income under \$38,000 for household of one or \$44,000 for household of two
- Permanent residents of care facilities are exempt from income qualification.
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For more information:

Visit our website: seniorwishes.org
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**Did you know you can submit
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BASKET RAFFLE DONATIONS!

This is the basket raffle everyone looks forward to

We're asking each member agency attending the conference to donate a basket or gift card! We had over 75 baskets/gift cards last year!

BASKET RAFFLE DONATIONS or gift cards! We really appreciate them ahead of time if possible.

Diamond, Emerald & Ruby Sponsors - These 2 locations can also be used for dropping off Marketing resource materials (need by 11/4).

DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

**Sharon Plant
People Inc.**

40 Hazelwood Drive, Amherst, NY 14228
(716) 817-9229 (office) or (716) 536-2783 (cell)
splant@people-inc.org

**April Romanowski
Lawley Insurance**

1074 Union Road (Southgate Plaza),
West Seneca, NY 14224
(716) 822-2002 – aromanowski@lawleyinsurance.com

* Until Monday, November 4th by 4pm at office locations

* Day prior (11/5) between 12-3:30p at the IronWorkers Banquet Hall

* Day of event by 7:30am



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2024

**8:00am – 2:00pm
Ironworkers Hall**

NETWORK WITH THE NETWORK

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024

9:00 – 11:00am

**Tennyson Court Fall Breakfast Social – Thankful
for the work YOU do!
Tennyson Court**

NETWORK WITH THE NETWORK

DECEMBER 2024 DATE TBD

4:30 – 6:30pm

Solstice Senior Living



**Facebook
Members Only –
Your opinions and
feedback count!**

- **Did you attend a Network event?** Share your thoughts so we can make every event better!
- **Did another NIA member help you recently?** Tell your referral success stories and demonstrate the power of networking!
- **Have you noticed a new trend in your industry?** Give us your best resources/websites for learning new skills and keeping up on the latest information!
- **Is there a must-see Netflix/Amazon Prime, etc. show you've binged on?** Let us know your favorites (bonus points if they cover senior or healthcare topics)!
- **What are your best travel tips/vacation spots?** We all need some down time!

