



May 2017 Newsletter



What's Next: Legislative Updates for Seniors

Message from the Executive Director

Linda Levin

So much is happening at the legislative, state and federal levels as it pertains to the health and well-being of our seniors. At the state level, this was a challenging legislative session; however, there was some good news for programs for Florida's elders. The Legislature approved a \$4 million increase for Community Care for the Elderly and a \$3 million increase for the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative, as well as a \$352,174 increase for Aging and Disability Resource Centers. These increases are statewide.



For our seven counties in northeast Florida specifically, our request for \$400,000 in Local Service Program funds to serve older adults home-delivered meals on the waiting list was approved. We are now waiting for the Governor to sign the budget bill; and if approved the funding will go into effect July 1, 2017.

At the federal level, we narrowly escaped a government shut down as Congress finally passed the 2017 budget, which runs through September 30, 2017. Only modest increases to congregate meals (\$2 million nationwide) and home-delivered meals (\$1 million nationwide) were approved. Elder Rights and Adult Protective Services received funding increases — from \$2.5 million to \$13.87 million. Unfortunately, the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) program incurred an 8 percent funding reduction and SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program), known as SHINE in Florida, was reduced by

9.6 percent. For more information on the SCEP program, [click here](#). For more information on the SHIP program, [click here](#).

As Congress begins working on the 2018 budget, efforts are being made to increase overall funding for the Older Americans Act program and services, as well as to reject additional cuts to the SHIP and SCSEP programs and restore funding. Everyone's advocacy efforts, educating elected officials on the importance of these programs for older adults, helping them to live and age with independence and dignity in their homes and communities, are greatly needed. This is a great opportunity to "Age Out Loud," tying nicely into this year's Older Americans Month theme.

Celebrating Seniors this month!



May is Older American's Month. This year's theme is "Age Out Loud." Aging in America is not the same as it has been in the past. This theme highlights giving older Americans a voice about how they're aging with the changing trends of society.

More than ever, older Americans are working longer, engaging in their communities and trying new things. They are also taking charge by striving for wellness, focusing on independence and advocating for themselves and others. "Age Out Loud" is a great way to celebrate what getting older in America looks like today.

For more information about Older Americans Month and how you can join the "Age Out Loud" movement, [click here!](#)

A Night with the Stars, Saturday, June 3rd



Crooners, Cars & Cocktails

A Night with the Stars
Saturday, June 3rd at
WJCT Studios

The 2017 *A Night with the Stars* event will be as dazzling as ever! Now in its fourth year, *A Night with the Stars* continues with all the glitz to make you feel glamorous. Vintage cars, hip



Dr. Kenneth A. Tannenbaum to be honored at *A Night with the Stars*

Devoted supporter for seniors, Dr.

gaming tables, a delish light buffet presented by Blue Bamboo Restaurant, and music from the region's best big band orchestra – Crescendo Amelia Big Band – are guaranteed to make you swoon and sway. Join us for *A Night with the Stars*, where proceeds from this event will assist seniors facing critical needs.

Date: Saturday, June 3

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

**Location: [WJCT Studios](#)
100 Festival Park Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32202**

[Tickets are now available!](#)

For sponsorship information, call Liz Morgan at 904-608-3823 or email [Liz Morgan](#).

Supported by a grant from



Kenneth A. Tannenbaum, has been named the *2017 Delores Barr Weaver Elder Advocate Award* recipient. He currently serves as chair of the Baptist AgeWell Institute Community Advisory Council, founder of the Coalition to End Senior Hunger in Northeast Florida and is a member of the ElderSource Institute Board.

"As an octogenarian myself, I have been blessed with so much and, frankly, it disturbs me a great deal to see people my age living a life with limited quality. Many of our elders need a great deal of what I'd regard as basic necessities; they deserve better," said Tannenbaum. "I am pleased that I have been able to help in some small way and it is my hope that I can continue to do so for many more years," he added.

Tannenbaum will receive his award during the 4th annual *A Night with the Stars* on Saturday June 3, 2017.

Thanks to all of our event sponsors



Event Recap
LGBT Lens: Challenges and Issues in LGBT Caregiving



Thank you to everyone who came out on April 13th to support ElderSource



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Institute and the event *LGBT Lens: Challenges and Issues in LGBT Caregiving*. Keynote speaker, Christopher MacLellan, offered his personal history as a caregiver for his partner. "LGBT people aren't looking for special treatment," MacLellan said. "They want to be treated with dignity and respect, especially during end of life care."

Many important issues were addressed during the panel discussion that included Toula Wootan, caregiver advocate with Community Hospice of Northeast Florida; Evin Willman, development and public relations professional; Clay Meux, attorney with Rogers Towers, and Chris MacLellan, caregiver and LGBT advocate. "It's important that we have this discussion for the people who can't speak for themselves," said Willman.

A special thank you to all the sponsors – Baptist Health; Rogers Towers, Attorneys at Law; SAGE; and Randy Meg Kammer and Jeffrey Wollitz – along with the host Darnell Smith, Florida Blue Market President for the North Florida region. "We will get there, and we'll get together," he said in his closing remarks.

For more information about ElderSource Institute please visit their [website](#) or follow them on [social media](#).

April Employee of the Month



A big thank you and congratulations to our April Employee of the Month, Suzy, our front desk receptionist. Suzy was nominated because of the various ways she has inspired change with her creative thinking by completing office tasks more efficiently and regularly taking on tedious tasks with a positive attitude. Suzy is applauded for her outstanding "behind-the-scenes" support so our clients get the information they need in timely fashion. Congratulations Suzy on your hard work!

Save the Date for Northeast Florida Senior
Events



A don't-miss event for Northeast Florida caregivers and seniors

Saturday, May 13, 2017
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel
225 East Coastline Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Caregiver Expo 2017

Date: THIS Saturday, May 13, 2017

Time: 9 am to 3 pm

Location: Hyatt Regency Jacksonville
225 East Coastline Drive | Jacksonville, FL
32202

More than 100 exhibitors will share information and resources tailor-made for caregivers and seniors. The event is FREE and respite care is available. Please note: parking is \$5 in The Hyatt garage.

[Register for free now!](#)



Annual Jacksonville Senior Expo

Date: Wednesday - Thursday, May 17-18

Time: 9 am to 3 pm

Location: Prime Osborne Center

Join the City of Jacksonville for the annual Senior Expo filled with great information and resources for area seniors! Other activities include live entertainment, hourly drawings, free health screenings and much more.

[Click here for information.](#)



ElderSource Institute -LGBT Elder Cultural Competency Training

Date: May 17

Time: 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Location: 10688 Old St. Augustine Rd
Jacksonville, FL 32257

Our nation has a growing population of aging adults with increasing needs. As any other

alzheimer's  association®

THE BRAINS BEHIND SAVING YOURS:

View these featured events from Alzheimer's Association this month:

May 16, 2017

Dealing with Challenging Behaviors Q&A

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: Brookdale Crown Pointe
10050 Old St. Augustine Rd.
Jacksonville, FL
904-570-3080

May 17, 2017

Caregiver College Session 1: Living with Alzheimer's — Early Stage Care

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Fleet Landing
1 Fleet Landing Blvd.
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

older adult, LGBT seniors face the typical challenges of aging. However, because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity they are at a higher risk for abuse, discrimination, isolation and exploitation. LGBT elders are five times less likely to access services than non-LGBT seniors. This training is targeted towards community members and professionals who work with older adults and want to be knowledgeable and aware of the needs and concerns of LGBT elders.

[Click here to register NOW](#)

Also hosted by ElderSource Institute

Elder Abuse Prevention and Awareness Training

Date: June 21st

Time: 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Location: 10688 Old St. Augustine Rd
Jacksonville, FL 32257

[Click here for more information](#)

1-877-473-4023

May 18, 2017

Lunch and Learn: Effective Communication Strategies

Time: 12:00 pm

Location: Barnabas (Weaver Building)
1303 Jasmine St.
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034
904-261-7000

[View all of May events for Alzheimer's Association](#)

Connect with us



ElderSource values all people – including but not limited to all nationalities, socio-economic backgrounds, abilities, races, genders, religious perspectives, sexual orientations and gender identities – in everything we do. We welcome the unique insights and perspectives of all persons in our quest to fulfill our mission.

myeldersource.org | info@myeldersource.org | 904-391-6600

[Visit our website](#)