

SAGE Eldercare is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Engage SAGE is a publication for SAGE's friends and supporters.



CELEBRATING VEARS of making a difference!



Dear Friends,

When we empower our seniors to embrace independent living, the ripples of positive change extend throughout our community. Together, as we celebrate our 70th birthday

milestone, we can make a tangible difference in the lives of our older-adult residents.

Your generous contributions enabled us to fulfill our mission and create a meaningful impact on seniors in our community. The 2023 At a Glance statistics illustrate the transformative effects we achieved, thanks to supporters like you. However, approximately 30 percent of the costs incurred in delivering these crucial services remain uncovered by insurance companies, leaving a funding gap that only your compassion and generosity can fill.

Your support transcends mere numbers; it directly transforms the lives of seniors and their caregivers, reflecting the core values that have guided us through seven decades of service.

As healthcare costs soar and our senior population continues to grow, your sustained support becomes the bedrock of our ability to provide exceptional clinical care to our neighbors, your loved ones, and, perhaps one day, even yourself.

HOMECARE

89 clients · 41,077 service hours

ADULT MEDICAL DAY PROGRAM

90 clients · 36,934 service hours

MEALS ON WHEELS

105 volunteers · 202 clients · 30,573 meals

GROCERY SHOPPING

13 clients · 285 trips

SOCIAL WORK

More than 425 clients

SHIP (STATE HEALTH INSURANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM)

619 beneficiaries

Every dollar you contribute is a powerful investment to ensure local seniors can age at home with the dignity they deserve, a testament to the enduring commitment we share as we commemorate our 70th year of service. Your ongoing commitment is truly invaluable, and we express our deepest gratitude for the positive impact you can bring to the lives of our community's seniors.

With deepest gratitude,

Galina Muller
Executive Director
SAGE Eldercare



Scan the code to donate securely today!







School Groups Return to SAGE

ACTIVITIES INCLUDED A FOOD DRIVE, GINGERBREAD HOUSES AND HOLIDAY CRAFTS

We're very excited to be able to welcome school groups back to SAGE! Recently, Nina Tiger, our Community Relations Manager, worked with several local schools which generously donated both their time and talents to enrich the lives of our seniors.

Lincoln-Hubbard Elementary School's Pride Pals, a group of 5th graders dedicated to community service, organized Thanksgiving food drive for Meals-On-Wheels. Over a two-week period, the

students put up posters, made morning announcements, and sent out videos about the Meals-On-Wheels mission and

Students bring enthusiam and a fresh perspective, while seniors share wisdom and experience. purpose of the food drive. As a result, the students collected over 40 bags of food ensuring that homebound seniors in our program have access to nutritious, easy to prepare meals throughout the winter months.

In December, middle schoolers from Kent Place School visited Spend-A-Day for a fun afternoon of decorating

gingerbread houses. This intergenerational activity not only brought holiday joy and laughter but also fostered meaningful connections between the students and Spend-A-Day clients.

Other schools who have recently visited SAGE, or made holiday cards, placemats and ornaments, include St. Teresa's Pre-Kindergarten, Washington Elementary School, Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, and Kent Place and Oak Knoll Upper Schools.

We're looking forward to more in-person visits from students in 2024. Students bring enthusiasm and a fresh perspective, while seniors share wisdom and experience. These interactions not only combat loneliness among seniors but also instill empathy and compassion in students, proving that small gestures can make a big difference.

If your school would like to work with SAGE, please contact Nina Tiger at (908) 598-5514 or ntiger@sageeldercare.org to discuss different options.





Clockwise from top: Lincoln **Hubbard Pride** Pals, Kent Place gingerbread house making, and Oak Knoll holiday cards



Board of Trustees Adds Four

"We are delighted to welcome Kathleen, Michael, Allen and Patricia to the Board of SAGE Eldercare, especially as we commemorate our 70th birthday milestone," said Leslie Harding, Board President. "Their diverse backgrounds, extensive business experience, and shared commitment to community engagement align perfectly with our organization's longstanding mission to provide a comprehensive array of programs and services for older adults and caregivers, promoting independence and enhancing quality of life. As we celebrate this significant anniversary, their invaluable contributions will undoubtedly strengthen our ability to continue serving our community with excellence and compassion."

MEET RODNEY CROSS

Spend-A-Day Program Offers Community and Independence

Meet Rodney Cross, a Pittsburgh Steelers fan and resilient individual who, at the age of 13, survived a stroke-induced coma, losing his ability to speak. Now, with the aid of a tablet, Rodney navigates life's challenges with determination. SAGE's Adult Medical Day program, Spend-A-Day, has a philosophy of providing clients with community and independence. Rodney, a fulltime participant for six years, cherishes not only the program's routine but also the enriching activities that fill his day, encompassing favorite pastimes and convenient meals. The program continues to be a reassuring presence, alleviating concerns about him being on his own. Beyond scheduled activities, Rodney finds solace in the supportive community fostered by the program. Daily check-ins and reciprocal greetings from participants create a caring atmosphere. The program staff, including Diana, Brenda, Doreen, and Marc, serve as an extended family for Rodney.

Participating in SAGE's Spend-A-Day program has transformed Rodney's life, provided purpose, and inspired him to help others on their journeys. His story highlights the profound impact of community, support, and purpose that our



program brings to individuals like him. Sage's Spend-A-Day program, which emphasizes community and independence, has made it possible for Rodney and others to thrive regardless of their health status or level of dementia. Learn more about SAGE's Spend-A-Day program on our website, www.sageeldercare.org.

The Bolger Foundation has generously offered a \$50,000 Capital Improvements Grant Challenge! To unlock this incredible support, SAGE is tasked with raising \$200,000 for our capital improvement projects—new roof installation, 11 bathroom renovations, and indoor/outdoor surveillance technology. Your support will make a meaningful impact. Join the rally by donating at www.sageeldercare.org today!

New Members



Kathleen Lally of Summit served as Vice President, Investor Relations with Public Service Enterprise Group prior to her retirement. She is also a board member of the New Jersey Utility Shareholders Association. Kathleen earned her Bachelor of

Arts in Political Science from St. Peter's University. She has assumed the role of Treasurer of the SAGE Board of Trustees and continues her service as a volunteer for SAGE's Meals on Wheels Program.



Dr. Allen M. Khademi of Summit is currently Vice President of Medical Affairs at Christian Health Care Center in Wyckoff, where he specializes in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitative Services.



Michael E. Bressman of Morristown is Director of Development at Golda Och Academy. He previously served in leadership positions in higher education, health care, and Jewish nonprofit organizations. He holds a Master of Arts from

Columbia University and a Bachelor of Arts from Drew University.



Patricia Daquila of New Providence is a Managing Director and Senior Wealth Planner with Peapack Private Wealth Management.



290 Broad Street, Summit, NJ 07901

Did you know? Donations may also be made in the following forms:

- Qualified charitable donation from your IRA
- Grant from a Donor Advised Fund
- Gift of appreciated securities
- Legacy in your estate plan

Call 908-598-5504 to learn more!

2024 Executive Committee

Leslie Hardin, *President*Prospect Capital Advisors
Cheryl LaBelle, *Vice President*Community Representative
Kathleen Lally, *Treasurer*Community Representative

2024 Board of Trustees

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Peapack Private Wealth Management
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Christian Health Care Center
Adam Psichos, Glenmede
Robyn Roberts, Robyn Roberts, CPA

Upcoming Events

Non-Profit Org.

US Postage PAID Union, NJ Permit No. 451

70 YEARS OF SERVING SENIORS!

Join us in celebrating SAGE's 70-year commitment to enhancing the quality of life of older adults in our community. A number of events are being planned for the year-long celebration. Visit www.sageeldercare.org for information.

POP-UP SHOP

APR

JUN

Thursday, April 11, 11am-7pm, at SAGE Eldercare. Wide selection of vendors. 20% of all vendor sales benefit SAGE Eldercare!

CASINO NIGHT

Friday, June 14, 7pm-10pm, ELKS Lodge, Summit. Individual tickets \$100; sponsorships available. Call 908-598-5504.