



**DIRECTION
HOME** AKRON
CANTON
AREA AGENCY ON AGING & DISABILITIES

2022 FALL CONFERENCE



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

St. George Orthodox Church
3204 Ridgewood Rd
Fairlawn, OH 44333

8AM-4:30PM



SESSION EVALUATIONS, DIGITAL PACKETS

Use this QR Code to fill out your session evaluations, download a digital copy of the PowerPoint, and to download a digital program.

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2022 FALL CONFERENCE AGENDA

Wednesday, September 28, 8AM-4:30PM

Bringing together professionals and leaders from healthcare, social services, and public administration, the Fall Conference examines the issues, practices, and discoveries affecting the lives of the older adults and individuals with disabilities we all serve.

(5.5 CEUs: LSW/LISW/SWA, RN)

8:00-8:30AM State of the Agency

8:30-9:45AM Closing the Care Gap, Senior Service Levies in Ohio

10:00-11:15AM The Next Generation: The Future of Long-Term Services and Supports
(MyCare/OAA)

11:15AM - 12:30PM Creative Partnerships for a New Reality: The Impact of the Pandemic on
Older Adult Supports

1:30-2:45PM PACE Panel

3:00-4:30PM Age Friendly Panel



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2022 FALL CONFERENCE SESSION SUMMARIES

8:30-9:45AM Closing the Care Gap, Senior Service Levies in Ohio (1.0 CEU for LSW/LISW/SWA; RN)

Older adults who do not qualify for Medicaid face significant challenges in obtaining community-based supportive services that allow them to live independently at home. Many Area Agencies on Aging administer County-based Senior Service Levies that use property taxes or other resources to fund services such as Meals, home care, care management and more. The Akron-Canton area does not have such a resource, however. Hear from two experts from Cincinnati and Youngstown who administer senior service levies in their areas on scope, logistics, campaigns and more.

10:00-11:15AM The Next Generation: The Future of Long-Term Services and Supports (MyCare/OAA) (1.0 CEU for LSW/LISW/SWA; RN)

With uncertain policy changes ahead for Ohio, it can be difficult to know what to expect and how Long Term Support Services will be affected. With so much to consider, from policies to care management, client impact and beyond, this session will examine different perspectives regarding Medicare, Medicaid and MyCare. This presentation will give a systemic viewpoint on Medicaid, how LTSS aligns with Medicaid presently, while also reviewing possible potentials in the future and where Area Agencies on Aging will play a role. Care management is a large part of LTSS and is critical in the shift to home and community based care. Learn about successes and challenges within LTSS programs and what solutions there may be. Finally, the role of the Ombudsman in MyCare is extremely important in ensuring the rights of consumers are protected. Current Ombudsman roles and potential future outcomes will be discussed.



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11:15AM - 12:30PM Creative Partnerships for a New Reality: The Impact of the Pandemic on Older Adult Supports (1.0 CEU for LSW/LISW/SWA; RN)

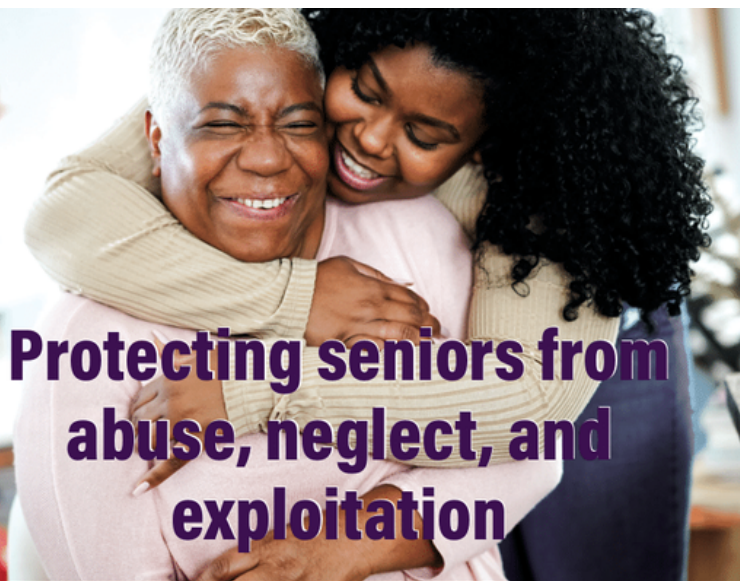
Social service organizations and local government were put into positions to quickly pivot to address the needs of older adults and people with disabilities during the COVID-19 lock down. Learn how Direction Home Akron Canton partnered with Akron-Summit Public Library and Summit County Council to address the new and exacerbated needs of the community brought on by the pandemic.

1:30-2:45PM PACE Panel (1.0 CEU for LSW/LISW/SWA; RN)

PACE (Program for All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) programs coordinate and provide all needed preventive, primary, acute and long-term care services so older individuals can continue living in the community. Integrated models of care are studied and implemented, regardless of healthcare settings, to improve the lives of older adults 55+ living in PACE service areas and certified to need nursing home levels of care. Today, there is a unique opportunity to expand PACE as a solution for many individuals to receive the help they need with activities of daily living to stay at home. Shawn Bloom of the National PACE Association shares a national perspective on PACE and its history, Ann Conn of the McGregor Foundation overviews the McGregor Foundation and its history, and Elizabeth Miller, Quality Director of McGregor PACE, discusses clinical aspects of the program and model of care through an interdisciplinary team approach. This panel will illustrate how PACE can be used to support dually enrolled individuals, and as a strategy for states as part of their continuum of plans.

3:00-4:30PM Age Friendly Panel (1.5 CEUs- LSW/LISW/SWA; RN)

Program will present findings from the Age Friendly Akron and Age Friendly Summit Strategic Plans. These plans reflect outcomes of community-based surveys, group discussions and post card response opportunities from community members.



The core committees of Age Friendly Akron and Age Friendly Summit working with Planning Next, a Columbus based civic planning consulting organization, developed action steps separately for Age Friendly Akron and Age Friendly Summit. Presentation will discuss how the Strategic Plans of the county and the city can be coordinated in many areas with separate focus as needed. The strategic plans can positively impact the well-being of adults and older adults 50+ and their caregivers, if needed, in the community. Research shows that adults and older individuals having access to social connectivity, quality supportive programs and services, and participation in the decision-making process is associated with maintenance/improvements in physical and mental wellbeing. The Action Steps identified from the engagement activities reflect the priorities of the community. Committees have been created to determine priorities and implement identified priorities.

Summit County Adult Protective Services (APS) assists vulnerable adults aged 60 and older who are in danger of harm, are unable to protect themselves, and may have no one to assist them.

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ILENE SHAPIRO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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2022 FALL CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

8:30-9:45 AM
1.0 CEU

*Closing the Care Gap, Senior Service
Levies in Ohio*



JOE ROSSI

CEO, Direction Home of Eastern Ohio, Inc.

Joseph Rossi has been CEO of Direction Home of Eastern Ohio, Inc. (DHEO) since 2010. He began his career at DHEO in 1990 as the Housing Coordinator before being named the Special Projects Director. Joe was then promoted to Chief Operating Officer, where he oversaw the home and community-based programs and Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.



KEN WILSON

VP of Program and Business Operations, Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio

Ken Wilson has 30 years of experience working in senior services. He administers 4 senior service levy programs, and has led 15+ successful campaigns to raise local funding for home and community based services. Ken is experienced with public policy advocacy work at the local, State and Federal levels He received his Masters degree in Gerontological Studies from the Scripps Gerontology Center at Miami University.

10-11:15AM
1.0 CEU

*The Next Generation: The Future of Long
Term Services and Supports (MyCare/OAA)*



LJUDMILA BURCHFIELD

Senior Vice President of Compliance and Legal Affairs, Direction Home Aging & Disabilities

Ljudmila Burchfield has been actively involved in complex contract negotiations and executions counseling on innovating proposals and solutions as Direction Home's Sr. VP of Compliance and Legal Affairs. Prior to joining Direction Home, she served as legal counsel and compliance officer to hospitals, healthcare systems and healthcare plans. Her experiences include physicians' and corporate contracts, research, Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement, acquisitions, HIPAA, Fraud/Waste/Abuse, and corporate compliance.



CHRIS FAGERSTROM

Senior Vice President of Home & Community-Based Services, Direction Home Aging & Disabilities

Chris has been with Direction Home Akron Canton for the past 20+ years, working to maximize the health outcomes of members served while keeping program costs low and client satisfaction high. Chris is known for his work in implementing the Assisted Living Medicaid Waiver program and for working collaboratively with United Healthcare and CareSource to lead the successful launch of the long-term services and supports components within the MyCare Ohio program.



FRANCINE CHUCHANIS

Director of Entitlement Rights, Direction Home Aging & Disabilities

Francine has served as Direction Home Akron Canton's Medicare specialist since 2002 and is responsible for Medicare education, training and appeals. She is the Regional MyCare Ohio Ombudsman and is responsible for assisting with MyCare Ohio Medicaid and Medicare complaints, appeals, and consumer education.

2022 FALL CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

11:15AM-12:30PM
1.0 CEU

Creative Partnerships for a New Reality: The Impact of the Pandemic on Older Adult Supports



BARBARA WHITE

Deputy Director, Akron-Summit County Public Library

White has served the library for over 30 years. Prior to her role as Deputy Director, White was the neighborhood services manager, the Highland Square/West Hill branch manager and early childhood librarian, a mobile services children's librarian, audiovisual services librarian at the main library, and a school-age/young adult librarian at the McDowell branch, now known as the Fairlawn-Bath Branch Library. She has a bachelor's degree in religious studies and classics/fine arts from New York University and a master's in library science from Kent State University.



JEFF WILHITE

Summit County Council Vice President, District 4

Jeff Wilhite has over thirty (30) years of Public Service and Private Business experience. Mr. Wilhite has served The Greater Akron Community in a dedicated manner in the areas of housing, hunger, the environment, education, economic development, and invention/intellectual property.

1:30-2:45PM
1.0 CEU

PACE Panel



ANN CONN

CEO & President, McGregor Foundation

Ann has 20+ years of experience working in the Senior Living Industry. Ann received her BS in Business Administration from Youngstown State University and her executive MBA from Case Western University in Cleveland, Ohio. Ann currently serves on the board directors for the Leading Age Ohio and Evergreen Cooperative Board, while maintaining her leadership as President and CEO for the McGregor Foundation.



SHAWN BLOOM

CEO, National PACE Association

Shawn has been with the National PACE Association since 2000. Shawn previously worked at the Missouri Association of Homes for the Aging, and in the Policy and Governmental Affairs Division of the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging. Shawn has testified before national legislative and scientific bodies on elderly and long-term care policy issues. He completed his Masters in long term care at the University of North Texas, Center for Studies in Aging.



ELIZABETH MILLER

Quality Director, McGregor PACE

Elizabeth has been the McGregor PACE Quality Director for 5 years- responsible for the management of the quality improvement program and collaborating with staff on initiatives aimed to improve experiences and outcomes for participants. She manages the quality, medical records, and data departments and has co-managed several CMS audits and assisted in the expansion of services in Cuyahoga County. She believes in the work she does with the PACE care delivery system, which advocates for seniors to age in place and remain at home for as long as possible.

2022 FALL CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

3-4:30PM
1.5 CEUS

Age Friendly Panel



SUMMIT COUNTY EXECUTIVE ILENE SHAPIRO

County Executive Ilene Shapiro became the fifth Summit County Executive in August of 2016. As Executive, Ilene manages a budget of nearly a half billion dollars and ten departments. Executive Shapiro is an accomplished business leader with a history of successful business ventures for high growth, established, turn-around and start-up organizations and led Shapiro Consulting, which specialized in the areas of Sales, Marketing, Business Planning, Workforce and Economic Development.



MAYOR OF AKRON DANIEL HORRIGAN

Daniel Horrigan was sworn in as the 62nd Mayor of Akron on January 1, 2016 and was elected for a second term which began in 2020. Since 1999, he has been a dedicated public servant to Summit County and the City of Akron. After earning a BA in Economics from Kent State University, Mayor Horrigan earned an education degree from the University of Akron. With a core focus of growing Akron's population again, he has been laser-focused on key areas of opportunity, including jobs and economic inclusion, improving infrastructure, investing in safety equipment and programming, uplifting neighborhoods and investing in public spaces.



SUSAN SIGMON

Strategic Community Advisor

Susan Sigmon has spent her career in supporting individuals' rights to receive their care in the setting of their choice. Susan was employed at Direction Home Akron Canton for over 20 years before retiring from her position as Vice President of Managed Long Term Care. Her responsibilities consisted of clinical oversight of care management services. She has also presented at numerous state and national conferences regarding effective program development for community-based individuals.



DR. HARVEY STERNS

Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Director Emeritus, Institute for Life-Span Development and Gerontology, The University of Akron

Dr. Sterns received his Ph.D. in Life-Span Developmental Psychology from West Virginia University in 1971. His major areas of interest include behavioral intervention in long-term care, training and retraining, career development, and work/retirement adjustment. Author and editor of text books and peer-reviewed articles, Dr. Sterns is a frequent invited speaker on cognitive aging, therapeutic interventions, and aging and work.

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- Alzheimer's and Dementia Resources
- Family Caregiver Support
- Program Screening/Eligibility
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*as able

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