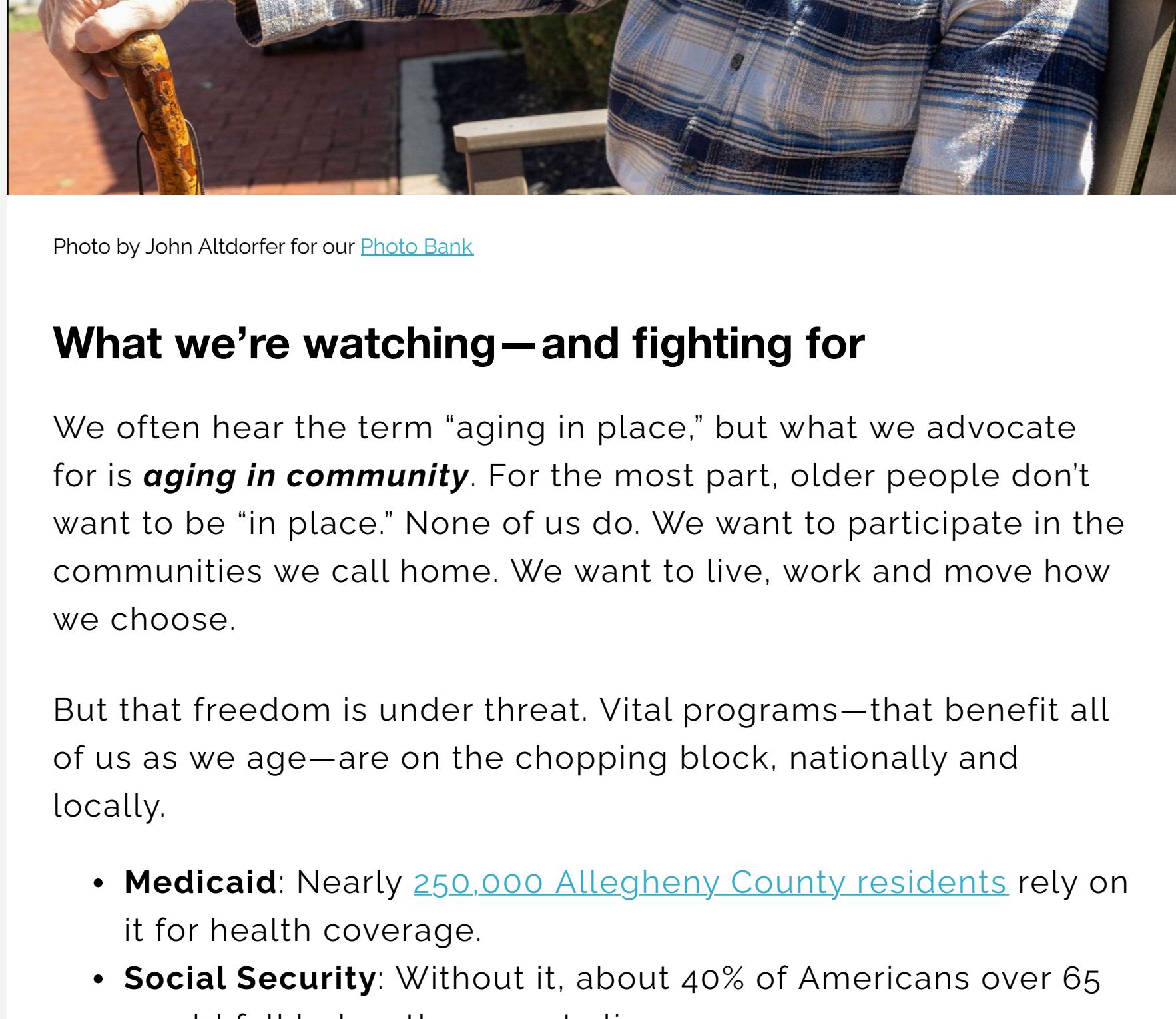


Making our region more inclusive of all ages



NEWSLETTER

May 2025

Photo by John Altendorfer for our [Photo Bank](#)

What we're watching—and fighting for

We often hear the term "aging in place," but what we advocate for is ***aging in community***. For the most part, older people don't want to be "in place." None of us do. We want to participate in the communities we call home. We want to live, work and move how we choose.

But that freedom is under threat. Vital programs—that benefit all of us as we age—are on the chopping block, nationally and locally.

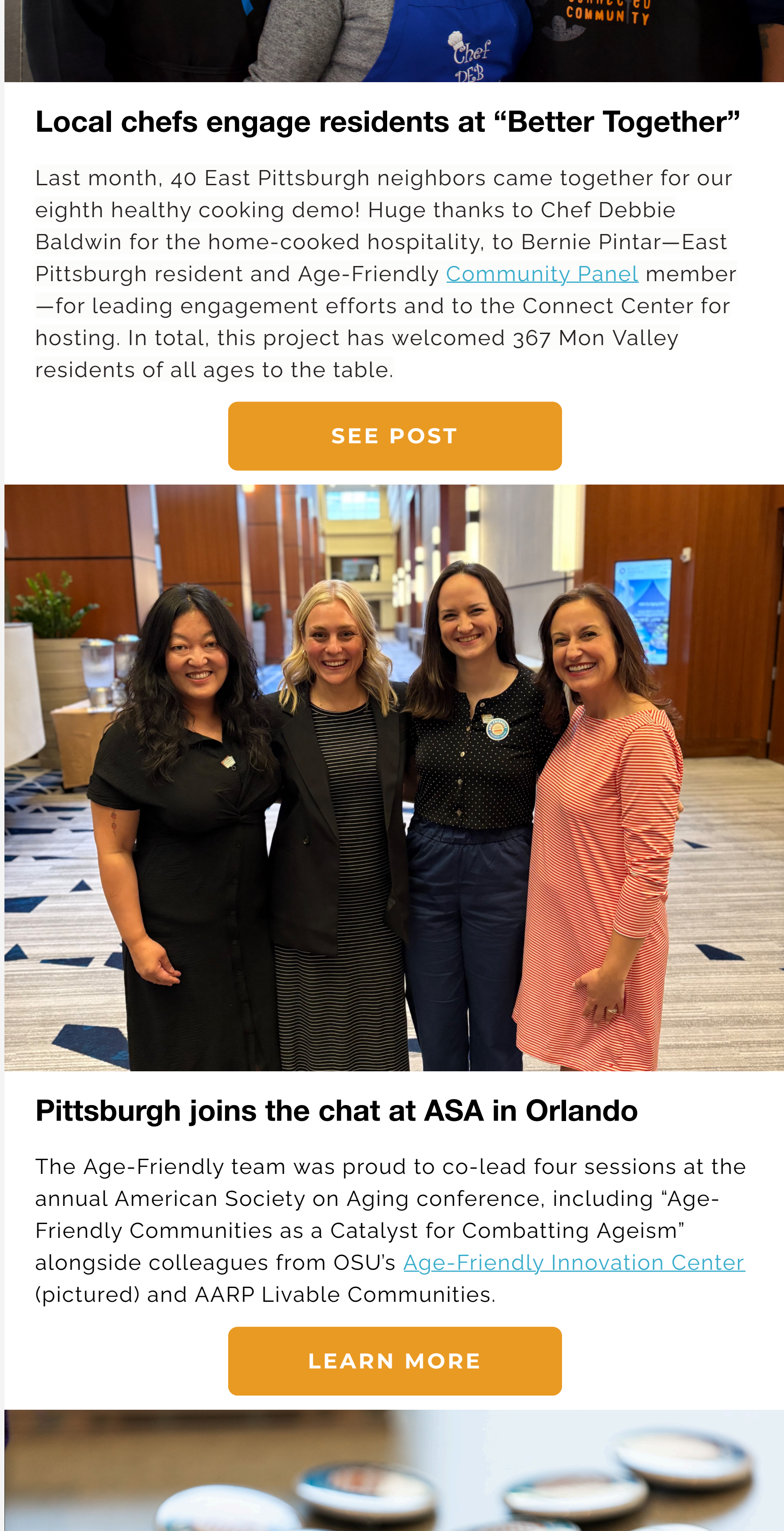
- **Medicaid:** Nearly [250,000 Allegheny County residents](#) rely on it for health coverage.
- **Social Security:** Without it, about 40% of Americans over 65 would fall below the poverty line.
- **Older Americans Act:** It funds meals, in-home care, senior centers and more. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) that oversees it is being dismantled.
- **Pittsburgh Regional Transit and ACCESS:** Cuts would impact 100+ bus routes and 60,000+ paratransit trips a year.

It's a lot to track. We will share what we know and ways to take action. To start, reach to [your representatives](#)—we love this [Aging on the Line](#) campaign—and strike up conversations with people in your orbit. Say, "We all contribute to our communities and deserve to live and thrive here. Protect these foundational programs."



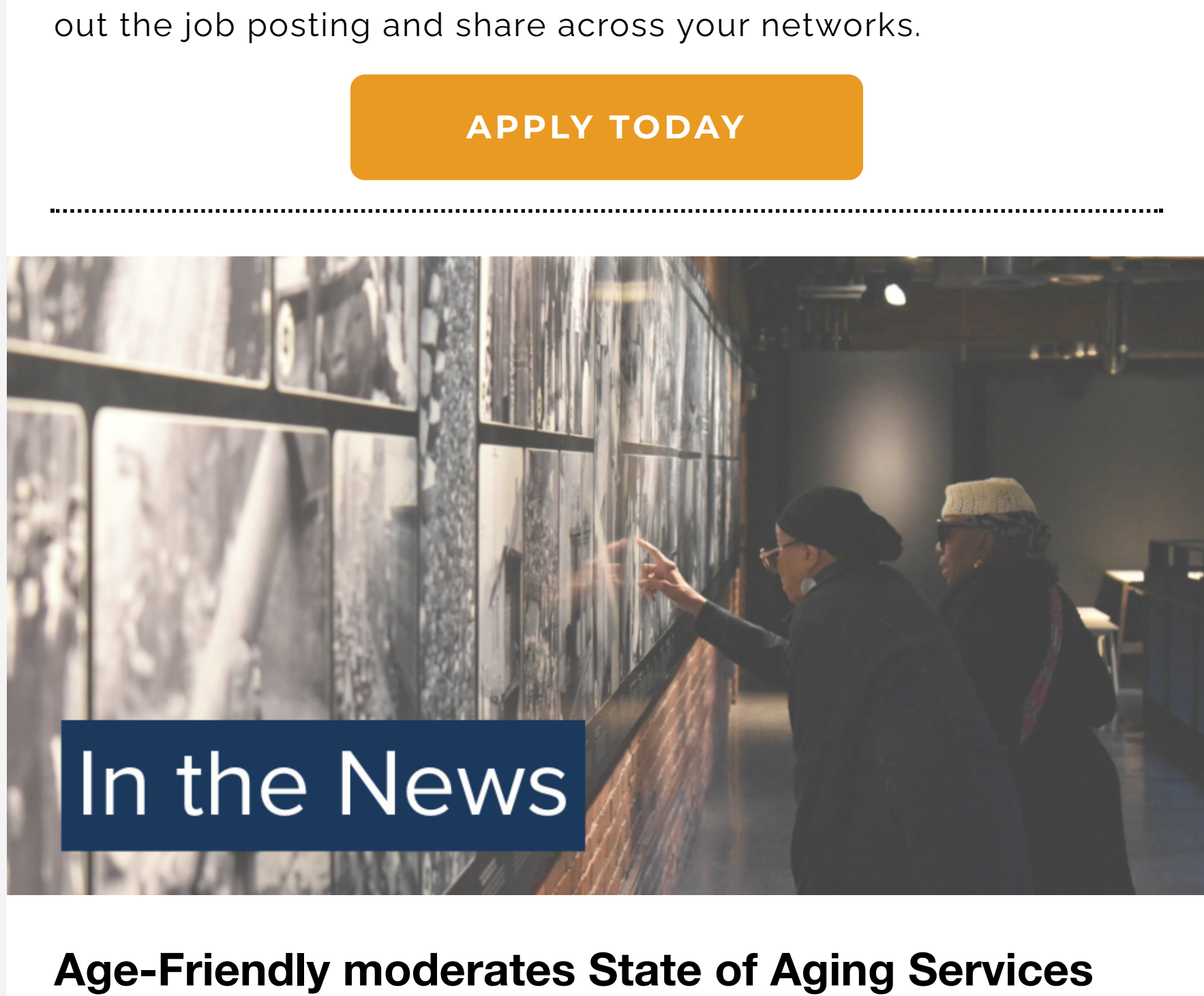
Age-Friendly Pennsylvania: Our movement poised to go statewide

On April 17, leaders from across the Commonwealth—including Lt. Gov. Austin Davis, Congresswoman Summer Lee, Pennsylvania Department of Aging Secretary Jason Kavulich and Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Executive Director Rich Fitzgerald—came together to envision a future where all Pennsylvanians can age "with power, peace and pride." We were proud to [co-host this event](#) in McKeesport (one of our Age-Friendly Neighborhoods!) and celebrate local wins with partners like SWPPA, Pitt School of Social Work, Penn State Greater Allegheny and ACCESS.

[SEE PHOTOS](#)

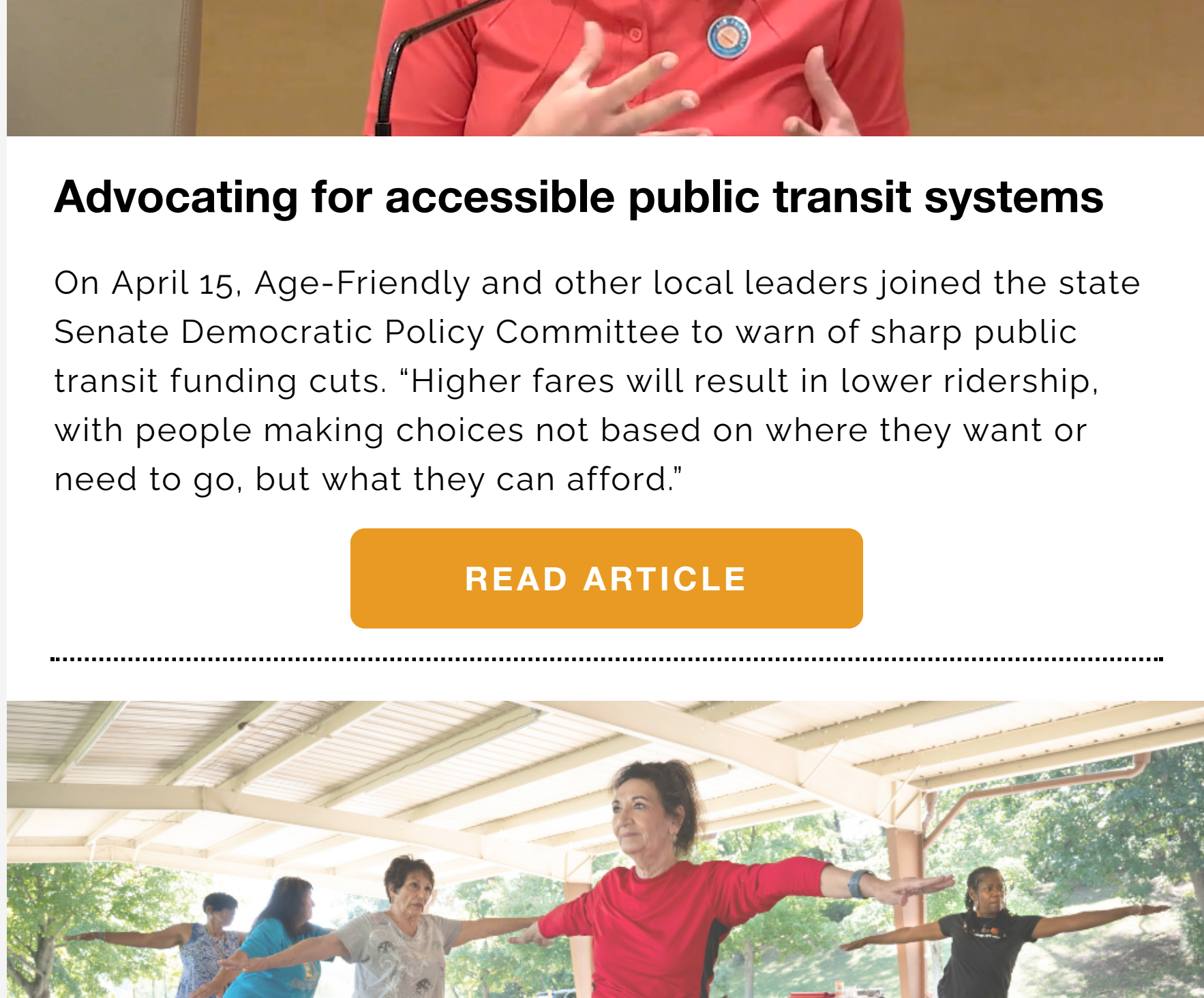
Age-Friendly Scholars wrap up a year of learning

Congrats to our Age-Friendly Scholars! These students from colleges across our region—Carlow, Carnegie Mellon, Chatham, CCAC, Duquesne, Penn State Greater Allegheny and Pitt—spent the academic year learning about the global age-friendly movement and applying the framework to their future careers as designers, doctors, software developers and more.

[MEET THEM](#)

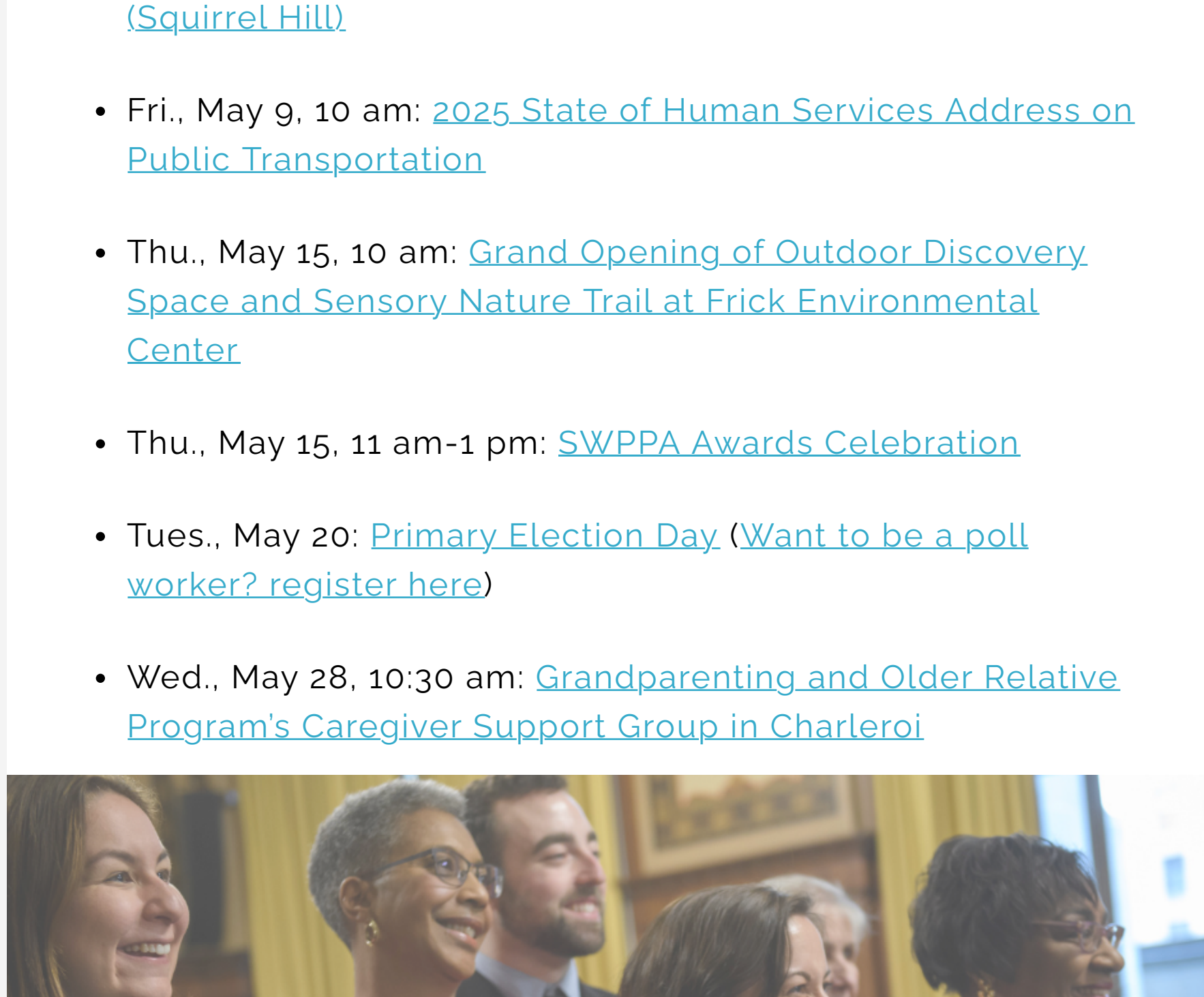
Local chefs engage residents at "Better Together"

Last month, 40 East Pittsburgh neighbors came together for our eighth healthy cooking demo! Huge thanks to Chef Debbie Baldwin for the home-cooked hospitality, to Bernie Pintar—East Pittsburgh resident and Age-Friendly [Community Panel](#) member—for leading engagement efforts and to the Connect Center for hosting. In total, this project has welcomed 367 Mon Valley residents of all ages to the table.

[SEE POST](#)

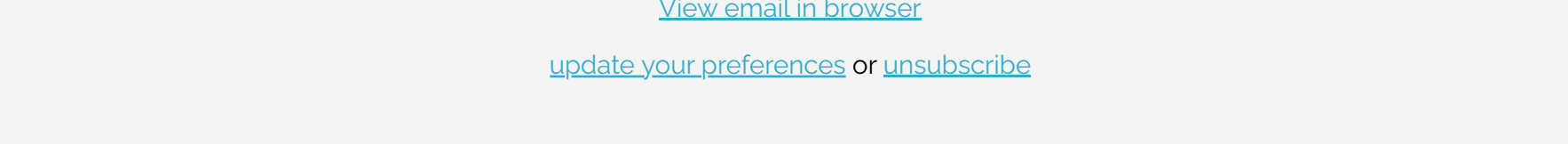
Pittsburgh joins the chat at ASA in Orlando

The Age-Friendly team was proud to co-lead four sessions at the annual American Society on Aging conference, including "Age-Friendly Communities as a Catalyst for Combating Ageism" alongside colleagues from OSU's [Age-Friendly Innovation Center](#) (pictured) and AARP Livable Communities.

[LEARN MORE](#)

We're hiring! Regional part-time positions open

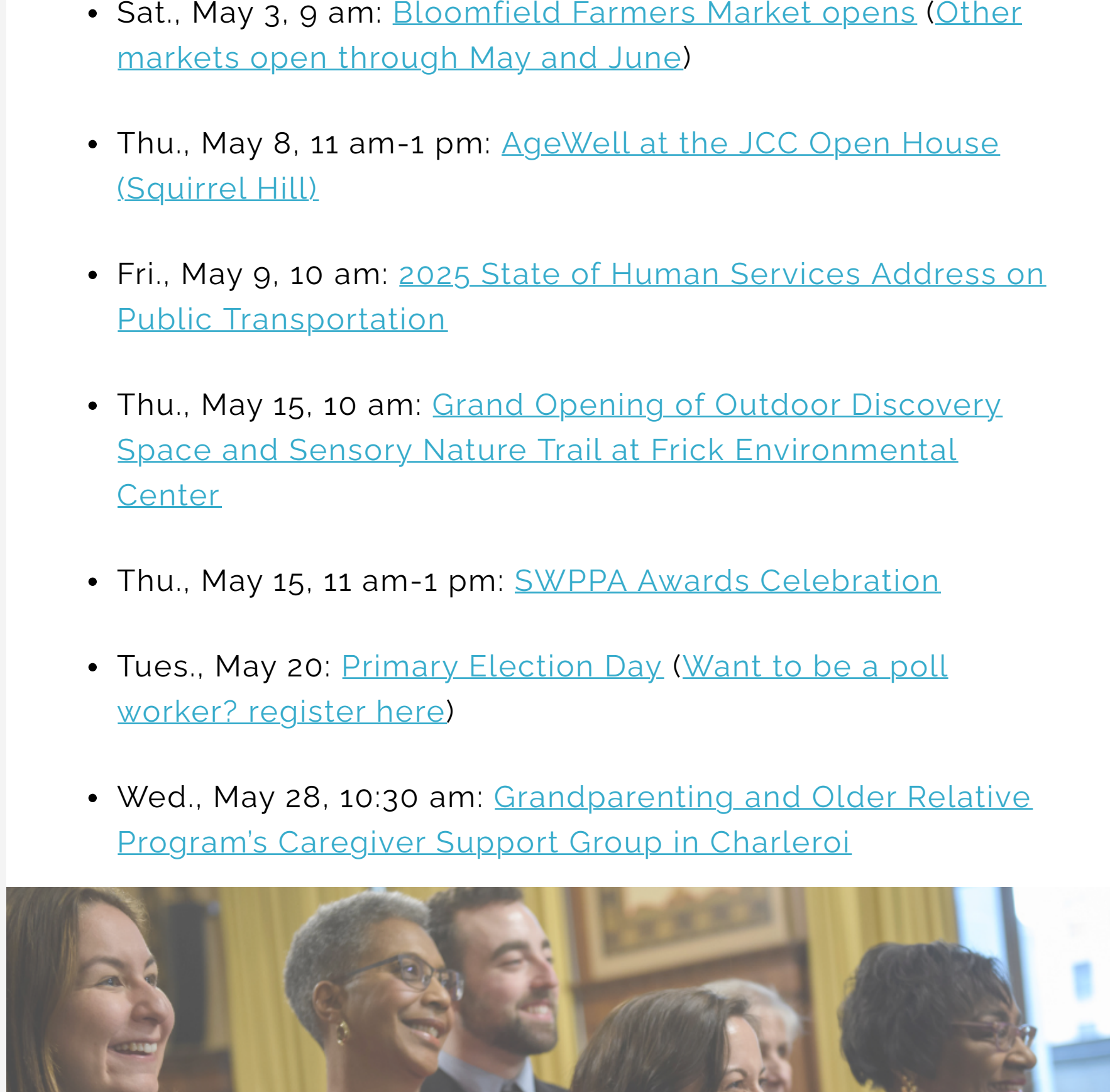
SWPPA and Age-Friendly just posted two Community Engagement Coordinator contract positions in Westmoreland and Washington Counties. Ideally, we're looking for folks who live there and know the communities and business landscapes. Interested or know someone who'd be a great fit? Please check out the job posting and share across your networks.

[APPLY TODAY](#)

In the News

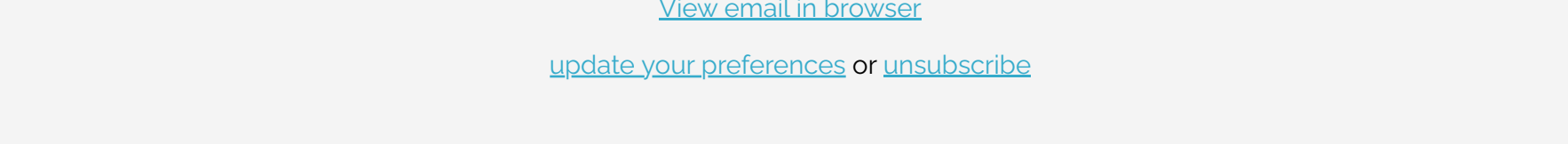
Age-Friendly moderates State of Aging Services

Our Executive Director Laura Poskin sat down with Erin Dalton, Director of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, and Dr. Shannah Tharp Gilliam, Director of the Area Agency on Aging, for a deep dive into the future of programs, services and funding for our older neighbors and their care partners.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

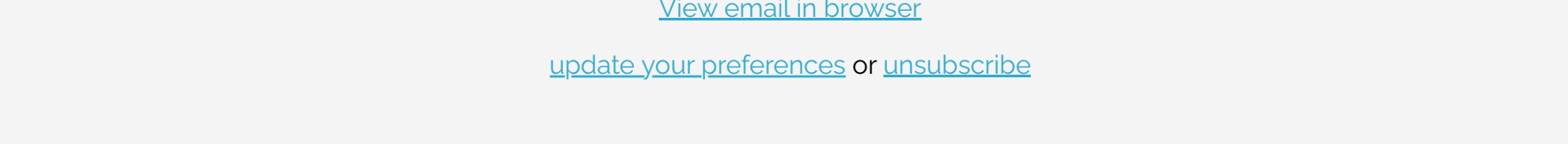
Advocating for accessible public transit systems

On April 15, Age-Friendly and other local leaders joined the state Senate Democratic Policy Committee to warn of sharp public transit funding cuts. "Higher fares will result in lower ridership, with people making choices not based on where they want or need to go, but what they can afford."

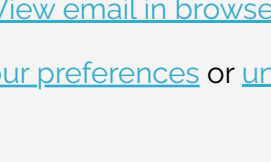
[READ ARTICLE](#)

Upcoming Events

- Thu., May 1: [Older Americans Month begins](#)
- Sat., May 3, 9 am: [Bloomfield Farmers Market opens \(Other markets open through May and June\)](#)
- Thu., May 8, 11 am-1 pm: [AgeWell at the JCC Open House \(Squirrel Hill\)](#)
- Fri., May 9, 10 am: [2025 State of Human Services Address on Public Transportation](#)
- Thu., May 15, 10 am: [Grand Opening of Outdoor Discovery Space and Sensory Nature Trail at Frick Environmental Center](#)
- Thu., May 15, 11 am-1 pm: [SWPPA Awards Celebration](#)
- Tues., May 20: [Primary Election Day \(Want to be a poll worker? register here\)](#)
- Wed., May 28, 10:30 am: [Grandparenting and Older Relative Program's Caregiver Support Group in Charleroi](#)



We are all aging.
We are in this
together.



5738 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15217

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