

Making our region more inclusive of all ages



NEWSLETTER

June 2025



State leaders launch Age-Friendly Pennsylvania

It's official—the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is now the 13th state to join the WHO/AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities! Thank you, Governor Josh Shapiro, for your commitment to Pennsylvanians all ages.

Leaders from across the state—including our Executive Director Laura Poskin and Steering Committee Co-Chair Paul Winkler—have been working towards this moment for more than a year. What comes next?

Regional Engagement Tour stops: Events, like the one [we hosted in McKeesport](#) with Lt. Gov. Austin Davis, are being organized across the state.

Funding and technical assistance: The Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) is making [opportunities available](#) for Age-Friendly planning and projects.

Age-Friendly PA Learning Collaborative: Led by us! Yep, we are partnering with the state to host monthly virtual programs, starting Thursday, July 10 at 1pm. Click below to sign up.

JOIN US



Community Panel tests home tech for fun and function at Healthy Home Lab

Ever seen someone go wild over a stair lift? We sure did! A few weeks back, our Community Panel explored Pitt's [Healthy Home Lab](#) to test out high- and low-tech solutions for independence and comfort as we age—like stair lifts, smart bulbs and adjustable railings. Big thanks to the Healthy Home Lab for helping us reimagine home as a place for freedom, safety and fun at every age.

SEE PHOTOS



Teams across Allegheny County tackle ageism at work in Age-Inclusive Workplaces Workshops

Ageism is how we think, feel and act towards others and towards ourselves based on age. Have you experienced ageism in the workplace? We're trying to change that, in part through our interactive workshops. Staff and volunteers discuss their own views on aging, and our staff walk through what we can do to promote age inclusion. Recent participants include teams from the [Area Agency on Aging's](#) Aging & Disability Resource Center, Allegheny County Health Department, Steel Smiling, CareerLink and AgeWell Pittsburgh. Interested in hosting a session? Let's get it on the books.

SCHEDULE US



Age-Friendly at the SWPPA Awards

Shoutout to these changemakers building a better region for all ages! We're still beaming about the Southwestern Pennsylvania Partnership for Aging (SWPPA) Awards, where we honored:

- **Dr. Ray Engel** (Pitt Social Work) for a lifetime of research and advocacy on aging and intergenerational relationships
- **Jawanna Warren** (Clairton Family Center) for trailblazing Age-Friendly Neighborhoods and Community Panel projects
- **Jefferson Regional Foundation** for their generous support of community initiatives, including Age-Friendly's work!
- **Brad Davis** (Presbyterian SeniorCare Network) for his unwavering care and compassion

This is what age-friendly looks like—and it's growing stronger.

SEE PHOTOS



Riding for transit in Harrisburg—on a PRT bus

"When transit stops, Pennsylvania stops." On June 4, our Associate Director Cassandra Masters boarded a Pittsburgh Regional Transit bus with partners from Transit for All PA! and Pittsburghers for Public Transit and headed to Harrisburg. Their mission? To protect and expand public transit across the state. Want to join? Let your legislators know what transit means to you.

SHARE A MESSAGE



From Observer-Reporter: Medicaid cuts threaten rural hospitals + residents

"This is a step backward... in every way. For the individuals who will be impacted, and for the hospital system, it will be very bad." SWPPA Board President Joe Angelelli recently spoke out about how Medicaid cuts passed by the U.S. House of Representatives would impact thousands of people in Western Pennsylvania, not just older adults. Check out the article for more info—and what you can do to help. The short of it: call your [U.S. Senators](#).

READ ARTICLE



From The D.U. Quark: Age-friendly lessons from classrooms to communities

Check out this write-up in *The D.U. Quark*—Duquesne University's student-run scientific journal—by Sarah Cole, one of our [Age-Friendly Scholars](#). It's inspiring to see students like Sarah embracing what it means to be age-friendly and sharing that spark with their classmates, colleagues and beyond. Read her article to learn how we're working together to build a Pittsburgh where everyone belongs at every age.

LEARN MORE



From WESA: Community Panel member pushes for Mon Valley transit

Joyce Keith—a McKeesport resident and a founding member of our Community Panel—was recently featured in a WESA/McKeesport Community Newsroom article about the push for better public transit for the Mon Valley: With the proposed cuts, "Harrison Village wasn't covered, Jenny Lind Street isn't covered, Versailles and Grandview Avenues and White Oak Borough isn't covered. Whoever did this forgot the Black community."

READ ON



Upcoming Events

- Wed., June 18, 8:45 pm: [screening of Fences at Flagstaff Hill in Wednesbury Park](#)
- Tue., June 24, 9 am: [Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Voucher Distribution](#)
- Wed., June 25, 12 pm: [Hill District Walking Club at Pitt CEC](#)
- Fri., June 27, 10 am: [Allegheny County DHS Area Agency on Aging Annual Public Hearing](#)
- Sun., June 29: [Open Streets PGH in the East End](#)
- Tue., July 1, 9:30 am: [Dementia Friends Virtual Info Session](#)
- Thu., July 10, 1 pm: [Age-Friendly PA Learning Collaborative Kickoff](#)
- Wed., July 16, 2 pm: [Memory Cafe at JCC South Hills](#)



We believe everyone has the right to live, work and move how they choose.