

HEALTH INITIATIVES

IMPROVING THE LIVES OF SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY



THE CHALLENGE:

- Although it costs less than half to care for older adults at home versus an institutional setting, there is limited funding for home and community-based services.
- Local senior centers play a significant role in older adults faring well in the home; however, the quality of center-based programming is inconsistent.
- Many older adults and their caregivers are overwhelmed trying to navigate the often confusing and sometimes uncoordinated spectrum of services for older adults.

United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania's mission is to harness, leverage and strategically invest the collective power of donors, advocates and volunteers, to drive measurable results that improve the lives of people in our region.

HEALTH: HEALTHY AGING

OUR GOAL: United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania helps older adults stay healthy and safe in their homes and communities.

OUR STRATEGIES:

- Develop innovative models that provide older adults with sustainable and coordinated community-based services (i.e., home maker services, in-home health services, home-delivered meals, minor home repairs, transportation to medical appointments).
- Improve and sustain the capacity, quality and programming of senior centers, adult day care providers, in-home health aides, and caregivers that serve older adults.
- Advocate for public policies and build public awareness around the need for, and success of, home and community-based services for older adults.
- Support benefit enrollment, depression screenings and intervention, in-home health aide services, and friendly visits to older adults.

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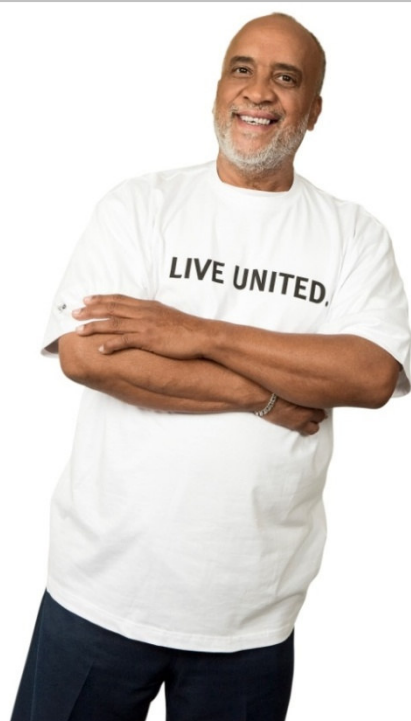
OUR IMPACT:

- Supported the accreditation by the National Institute of Senior Centers of over 90% of all senior centers in Pennsylvania.
- Created an assessment tool for senior centers that helped them evaluate their effectiveness and impact on older adults in their neighborhoods.
- Invested in providers of in-home services who helped 12,000 older adults receive health assessments, meals and minor home repairs.


OUR WORK

GOALS FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS:

- Educate and mobilize volunteers to support older adults in local neighborhoods and Community Networks of Care.
- Increase the length of time, in years, that older adults can stay in their homes and community.
- Advocate for state-level policies that will increase resources available to support home and community-based care.
- Create at least one effective and sustainable Community Network of Care.



United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania
1709 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1294
215-665-2500
www.LIVEUNITEDsepa.org

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United Way
of Southeastern Pennsylvania