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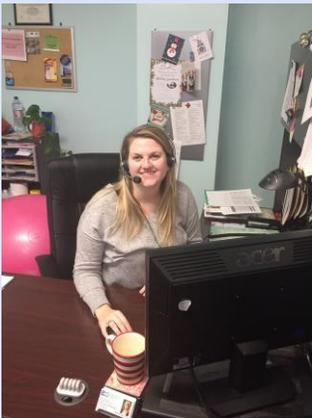


A Monthly Publication of the Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging & Independent Living

Aging NEWS



BGAAAIL Services Snapshot: Aging & Disability Resource Center



The staff in BGAAAIL's Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) stay busy each day answering calls, emails, and personally meeting with seniors, disabled persons, and caregivers seeking a variety of services and goods. For many, the ADRC is the first stop in getting much needed assistance.

The four staff members in the ADRC, all of whom are Certified Information Referral Specialists, field more than 1,000 calls and hundreds of emails a month inquiring about programs administered by BGAAAIL and other agencies both public and private. Staff members go to great lengths to assist with all information requests, no matter how unique. ADRC Specialist Sarah Eldridge once gathered information on aisle locations in a local grocery store for a disabled elderly woman. ADRC Specialist Molly Newman once took a call from a senior who had discovered a raccoon in her home and needed options to have it removed.

For callers inquiring about BGAAAIL-administered programs, ADRC staff carefully screen each individual, caregiver, or family member to ensure that they are steered to the appropriate service for which they may qualify including the Home & Community Based (HCB) Waiver, Supports for Community Living (SCL) Waiver, Michele P Waiver (MPW), National Family Caregiver Support Program, home delivered meals, transportation, and homecare assistance.

Contact BGAAAIL's Aging & Disability Resource Center at 859-266-1116 or adrc@bgadd.org if you or a loved one are in need of assistance. Heather, Randy, Molly, and Sarah are standing by to help!



President George H.W. Bush: A Testament To Staying Active Through The Senior Years

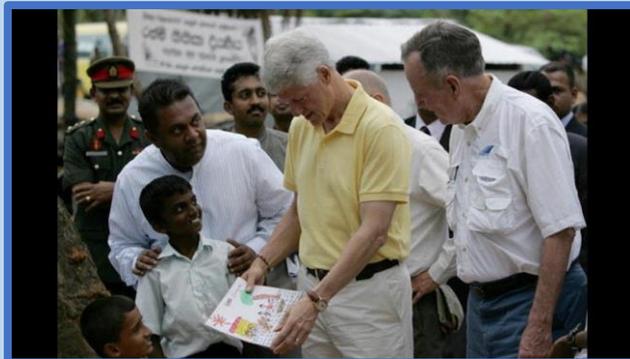


Former President George H.W. Bush didn't let getting older stop him from staying active, vibrant, and doing what he loved. The former president's passing on November 30 at age 94 after many years as an active senior citizen reminds us all that age is truly just a number.

Bush made the news on his 75th, 80th, 85th, and 90th birthdays when he partook in one of his favorite pastimes—skydiving. Bush, a WWII pilot who logged more than 1,200 flight hours during the conflict, loved aviation and never let his age keep him from his passion.

The former president's other passion—public service—never waned in his senior years, either. After the devastating 2004 Tsunami that killed an estimated 227,000 people and caused billions in damage, Bush, then 80 years old, embarked on a months-long tour with former President Bill Clinton to raise aid and assistance for countries affected by the disaster.

Even in retirement, Bush lived the words he spoke so eloquently right up until his passing: "I will keep America moving forward, always forward, for a better America, for an endless enduring dream and a thousand points of light. This is my mission, and I will complete it."



Kinship Care Bill Filed For 2019 Session

State Rep. Chris Fugate has prefiled HB 329, a measure intended to revive kinship and fictive care support for grandparents and others who obtain custody of minor children. The bill contains language that would appropriate \$17.5 million in each of fiscal years 2019 and 2020 to provide monetary support of \$300 monthly per child up to age 18.

The measure, if passed, would be welcome news to grandparents and others with permanent custody of minor children who were not in the original Kinship Care Program that was closed to new applicants in 2013. While temporary custody and foster care cases are eligible for state monetary assistance, there are currently no provisions for permanent custody cases that were not already in the original program.

While passage of HB 329 isn't certain and it's implementation, if passed, would likely occur towards the Summer of 2019, families in need of assistance have other options in the meantime. The state Kinship Care Hotline was established in 2015 to connect families with resources such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid and other programs. Kinship Care experts can be reached at the hotline number 1-877-565-5608 or by email at DCBSchildprotection@ky.gov.

Family Caregiver Workshop Offers Tips & Resources For Dementia

Caregivers from across the Bluegrass region gathered at the Alzheimer's Association offices in Lexington on December 7 for the Family Caregiver Workshop. The workshop, conducted every quarter, is co-sponsored by BGAAAIL, the Alzheimer's Association, the Sanders-Brown Center on Aging, and Baptist Health Medical Group with a focus on information and resources for individuals serving as caregivers for dementia and Alzheimer's patients.

The December workshop featured interactive presentations by Dr. Gregory Cooper of Baptist Health Medical Group Neurology who spoke on understanding dementia, Hardin Stevens of the Sanders-Brown Center on Aging who spoke on dementia care community resources, April Stauffer of the Alzheimer's Association who spoke on communicating with dementia patients, Kelly Parsons of the Sanders-Brown Center on Aging who spoke on understanding and responding to behaviors, and BGAAAIL's own Regina Goodman who spoke on caring for the caregiver.

If you or a loved one are caring for someone with Alzheimer's or dementia and would like more information on the next workshop, please contact Regina Goodman at the BGAAAIL at 859-269-8021 extension 313 or rgoodman@bgadd.org.



Dr. Gregory Cooper addresses attendees at the quarterly Family Caregiver Workshop.

BGADD & BGAAAIL Team Up With Nursing Home Ombudsman For Silver Bells Program



Employees of BGADD and BGAAAIL teamed up with the Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency for the 10th annual Silver Bells holiday gift drive. The program takes donations of gifts for needy family care and nursing home residents. For many seniors served by the program, the donations and delivery agents are the only gifts and visitors they receive through the holiday season.

BGADD and BGAAAIL employees donated items such as pajamas, gloves, lotion, shoes, cold weather gear, jewelry, and assorted toiletries to dozens of seniors in the Bluegrass region.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE REGION



Seniors participating in the annual Health Fair at the Estill County Senior Center



Seniors participating in the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program at the Harrison County Senior Center



Seniors enjoying craft-making at the Jessamine County Senior Center



Seniors from the Richmond Senior Center enjoying a classic game of Bingo



Seniors from the Scott County Senior Center enjoying a tour of the Kentucky Governor's Mansion

Ask The Experts >>>

Q: Where can I report a scam against myself or a senior?

A: Office of the Attorney General of Kentucky Scam Hotline

1-888-432-9257

from the **director...**



Celeste Collins, BSW
BGAAAIL Director

Hello,

Boy it's cold outside. Ole man winter is about to hit us. Please remember to check on the elderly and homebound in your community. This can be an extremely lonely time of year for some people. I would also like to thank the staff at Bluegrass ADD. They pulled together and made sure 26 people receive gifts this Christmas through the Bluegrass Nursing Home Ombudsman Silver Bells program

I hope everyone enjoyed this Holiday Season. Best wishes to everyone for a wonderful New Year!

Sincerely,

Celeste

Contact us at **859-269-8021**

www.bgaail.com



699 Perimeter Dr
Lexington, KY 40517

Upcoming Aging Events >>>

Finding A Happy & Healthy Mental Balance

Bluegrass Care Navigators

January 17 Noon – 1:00 pm

Brookdale Richmond Place

RSVP: 859-269-6308 ext. 103