

Area Agency on Aging IIIA, 3299 Gull Rd., Nazareth, MI 49074 Phone: 269-373-5147 Fax: 269-373-5109 www.kalcounty.com/aaa

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...and more!



## Journey with us to Better LGBT Understanding

**O**n August 27, 2013, in collaboration with the Kalamazoo Gay Lesbian Resource Center, a very special event will happen. It is the showing of the acclaimed documentary, "Gen Silent," along with the release of our area's first "Guide to Long Term Care Planning, Resources, and Services for the LGBTQ Community."

The movie, directed by Stu Maddux, is intended to help healthcare professionals understand the challenges LGBT seniors face when accessing services. The Resource Guide has been carefully developed to address aging issues from the viewpoint of LGBT elders and their caregivers, providing a

wealth of important information. Also included are the results of a survey of agencies that provide long term supportive services and care and how affirming their policies and practices are. Our longer range goal is to offer training to organizations in order to create a safe and welcoming environment for the

LGBT community. So, please mark your calendar for Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-6:30 p.m. at WMU's Little Theater, 1903 West Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo. We appreciate advance reservations, which can be made to the AAALIA at 373-5147.



# GEN SILENT

SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE



©2010 MAD STU Media, LLC

Directed and produced by award winning filmmaker Stu Maddux, this critically acclaimed documentary invites us to walk with six LGBT seniors as they face the challenges of accessing services in the long-term health care system.

SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE

## Tuesday, August 27th

4:00-6:30pm

Little Theatre – Western Michigan University  
1903 West Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Space is limited, please call in advance for a reservation:  
(269)373-5147 or (269)349-4234



### Save the date: September 10th

The VAMC in Battle Creek along with several community mental health partners is planning a **Mental Health Summit** for all Southwest Michigan providers who help veterans. This event will be held in Lansing this year and is a great opportunity for community and VA partners to come together to share our experience, strengths and challenges and learn about how we can partner more effectively to positively serve those who have served us.

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●  
Area Agency on Aging, IIIA, Health & Community Services Dept., Kalamazoo County Government  
Director – Judy Sivak

## Mark Your Calendar

**Thursday, July 18:**  
**Purchase of Service Vendor Meeting,** 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Conference Room A, Wing 2, Floor 1, Health & Community Services, 3299 Gull Road, Kalamazoo. Please see p. 4.

**Friday, July 19:** The Kalamazoo County Center for Health Equity will hold a **Health Equity Summit,** “Collective Consciousness,” 8:30 AM- 3:00 PM. Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo. For

information visit [Summit Schedule](#); to register [Registration](#).

**Friday, July 26:**  
**Professionals Focused on Aging (PFA).** 8-9:30 AM, at Senior Services, 918 Jasper St., Kalamazoo. Presentation by Borgess Geriatric Assessment Center.

**Monday, August 5:**  
**Kalamazoo County Fair Senior Day,** 9:00 am-3:00 pm. ½ price admission for

age 60+; free lunch; activities and entertainment. 2900 Lake St., Kalamazoo.

**Monday, August 19: KCASI Meeting,** “Meet Your Kalamazoo Co. Veterans Affairs Dept. Staff: Find out about benefits you might be eligible for.” 1:15-2:45 PM at Senior Services, 918 Jasper St., Kalamazoo.

**Friday, August 23: PFA,** 8:00-9:30 AM, Senior Services, 918 Jasper St., Kalamazoo. Topic: Health Literacy.

## Older Michiganians Day at the Capitol

Lansing, June 4, 2013: The KCASI bus trip to Older Michiganians Day was well attended and informative. Thanks to all of the advocates and legislators—Rep. Jase Bolger, Rep. Sean McCann, and Rep. Aric Nesbitt—who met to discuss issues important to seniors.



Rep. Sean McCann meets with the group.

Margaret Smith, Interim Director, Ecumenical Senior Center, receives a Claude Pepper Award for outstanding senior citizen advocate, presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of MI. Congratulations!



Mark your calendar now for next year!



The next KCASI meeting is Monday, August 26 at 1:15 PM at Senior Services, 918 Jasper St., Kalamazoo. Find out about VA benefits you may be entitled to! Call (269)373-5147 for more information.

### SAVE THE DATE



#### OLDER MICHIGANIANS DAY

**Date:** Tuesday June 3, 2014  
**Location:** Capitol Building, East Lawn  
**Time:** 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

[www.oldermichigiansday.com](http://www.oldermichigiansday.com)

## I&A Corner

### Need a new Social Security Card, or a number printout?

When someone loses their Social Security card, is it always necessary to replace it? Sometimes, a Security Number (SSN) printout will suffice, which is quicker and easier to obtain. However, a printout is also easier to counterfeit. So, beginning June 24, 2013, proof of identity will be required to be submitted to the Social Security Administration (SSA) in order for them to provide a printout or a replacement SSN card. Before sending your client to the Social Security office, please visit [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov). Original documents proving one's age, identity, and U.S. citizenship are required.

**Information & Assistance line:  
269-373-5173**

### Alzheimer's Caregivers Tip Sheets Available as E-Books

The Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral (ADEAR) Center offers a variety of tip sheets for caregivers, and many are now available for mobile devices in .epub and .mobi (Kindle) formats. The tip sheets offer simple and clear information on topics such as bathing, driving, holiday hints, and communication and personality changes. The tips apply to individuals at any stage of the disease—mild, moderate, or severe.

You may view and download certain tip sheets for your mobile device from the ADEAR website at [www.nia.nih.gov/alzheimers/topics/caregiving](http://www.nia.nih.gov/alzheimers/topics/caregiving).

## Creating Confident Caregivers Training—Open to All

The next Creating Confident Caregivers training is scheduled to begin Monday August 26, 2013 at the Health and Community Services Dept., 3299 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, MI. This training provides the caregiver with an understanding of the conditions that contribute to dementia, strategies for managing challenging behaviors and ways to care for them and maintain their health during this difficult time. Classes will be held from 2-4pm for 6 consecutive weeks (Class will meet Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> in view of the Labor Day holiday).

**Space is limited so call today!**

Please contact Patti Nash, LLMSW, at 269-373-5141 or [psnash@kalcounty.com](mailto:psnash@kalcounty.com) for more information.



  
CREATING CONFIDENT CAREGIVERS

*Creating Confident Caregivers  
class graduates May 22, 2013*

## Providers Meeting

Choices for Independence (CFI) will hold a provider meeting July 18th at 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon at the Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Department, 3299 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, Conference Room A. This meeting will provide contract information and technical assistance for vendors already providing services or for those who desire to become a provider for the CFI program for the next funding cycle.

Please contact Cathy Weissert, (269) 373-5258, or [cbweis@kalcounty.com](mailto:cbweis@kalcounty.com), for further details.

## Senior Project Fresh 2013



Senior Project Fresh is a food assistance program which provides food coupons to individuals over the age of 60 who have limited income. The coupons may be redeemed at participating local Farmer's Markets for fresh, locally grown produce. This year there are changes in the distribution setup and location.

The coupon distribution will take place on **Thursday, July 18 from 8:30 until noon at the Coover room at Senior Services, 918 Jasper Street in Kalamazoo.** The distribution has moved indoors for the comfort and convenience of the applicants. The application can be obtained and completed at the time of the distribution or is currently available at Senior Services, the Area Agency on Aging 3A, or at other Senior Centers in Kalamazoo County. Applicants will be required to have a picture ID and their signed and completed application on July 18 to qualify for the coupons. Proxy forms are also available. For further information, call our Information & Assistance line at (269) 373 5173.

## Home Improvement Solicitors Tool Now Available

The Kalamazoo County Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition is pleased to offer a new tool that will help homeowners deter those uninvited solicitors who make the rounds in neighborhoods with fast talking; unbelievable deals to fix something that may or may not be in need of repairs.

The tool asks the solicitor to complete a form that asks for their contractor license number, license plate number, name

address, phone, and insurance company. It is then completed by the homeowner and mailed to the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's office, which will check on the validity of the licenses and report back to the homeowner. In areas where it is utilized, the number of calls law enforcement get after the fact goes way down. Thanks to Sheriff Fuller who put up the funding for the initial copy costs.

We ask that if you make copies of this tool, it is on yellow paper if possible. It can be downloaded from the AAIIIA Web page, [Protect Yourself Against FRAUD](#) or the Sheriff's Web page, [-Home Imp. Fraud](#) and click A Tool to Respond to Home Improvement Solicitors.

Judy Sivak, MSW,  
Facilitator

Kalamazoo County Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition

### A TOOL TO RESPOND TO HOME IMPROVEMENT SOLICITORS

Kalamazoo County Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition

*Working to reduce and prevent the abuse of older and vulnerable adults through community awareness, education and action.*



Kalamazoo County Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition, c/o Region IIIA Area Agency on Aging 3299 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49048 (269) 373-5147 [www.kalcounty.com/aaa](http://www.kalcounty.com/aaa)

## Senior Expo 2013 – Exhibitor Registration

The October 1<sup>st</sup> Senior Expo is shaping up to be one of the biggest and best ever! Vendors can register by August 1<sup>st</sup> to take advantage of early bird rates. For the first time we are offering the option of registering and paying online by credit card. Sponsorships are still available at Silver and Bronze levels of participation.

Our 17<sup>th</sup> annual Senior Expo will once again offer free admission to our

attendees, thanks in large part to the support from our sponsors. Borgess and Bronson hospitals are generously providing free health screenings. The Kalamazoo Indoor Flea and Farmers Market will be at the Expo Center on the same day; just another reason to come out and spend the day with us. Be looking for the August edition of SW Michigan Spark, free at 500 locations, for your go-to information on the Expo, including informative

articles on topics of interest to seniors, boomers, caregivers, family members, and professionals.

Check out these links for registration, and we'll see you October 1<sup>st</sup>!

[Senior Expo 2013 Mail-In Reservation Form](#)

[Online Registration and Payment](#)

[2013 Sponsor Form](#)

Visit the Web for AAAIIIA Healthy Living Programs—PATH, Chronic Pain PATH, and Matter of Balance—and, the **Community Calendar for Evidence Based Programs**, for new workshop schedules:  
<http://www.kalcounty.com/aaa/>

## HHS launches Health Insurance Marketplace educational tools

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services kicks off their Health Insurance Marketplace education effort with a new, consumer-focused HealthCare.gov website and the 24-hours-a-day consumer call center to help Americans prepare for open enrollment and ultimately sign up for private health insurance. The new tools will help Americans understand their choices and select the coverage that best suits their needs when open enrollment in the new Health Insurance Marketplace begins October 1.

“The new website and toll-free number have a simple mission: to make sure every American who needs health coverage has the information they need to make choices that are right for themselves and their families—or their businesses,” said Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

In October, HealthCare.gov will be the online destination for consumers to compare and enroll in affordable, qualified health plans.”

“... Healthcare.gov and new call center will help consumers prepare for the new

coverage opportunities coming later this year,” said Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Administrator Marilyn Tavenner. “In October, HealthCare.gov will be the online destination for consumers to compare and enroll in affordable, qualified health plans.”

Americans may now access new educational information and learn what they can do to begin to get ready for open enrollment this fall.

Between now and the start of open enrollment, the Marketplace call center will provide educational information and, beginning Oct. 1, 2013, will assist consumers with application completion and plan selection. In addition to English and Spanish, the call center provides assistance in more than 150 languages through an interpretation and translation service. Customer service representatives are available for assistance via a toll-free number at 1-800-318-2596 and hearing impaired callers using TTY/TDD technology can dial 1-855-889-4325 for assistance. To view the website, visit [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov).

## *Peace of Mind through Professional Geriatric Care Management*

*Custom Care*

**is a fee-for-service program developed in response to consumer demand.**

**Our service is confidential, respectful, and follows professional protocols. Call the Area Agency on Aging’s Information & Assistance line at 269-373-5173 for your free phone consultation.**

*Mountains cannot  
be surmounted  
except by  
winding paths.*

*~ Johann Wolfgang  
Von Goethe*



## Staff News

**Lucinda M. Stinson**, formerly Quality Assurance and Planning Coordinator for AAAIIIA, has been promoted to Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Division Manager for Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department. We look forward to working with Lucinda on future projects and wish her the best in her new position.

### AAAIIIA Anniversaries

August 2013:

**Cathy Weissert, Choices for Independence Program~3 years**

**Janice Bonita~6 years**



### Congratulations...

...to Judy Sivak, MSW, Lucinda Stinson, MPA, and Norma Bour, MS, RD, who will be at the National Area Agencies on Aging Conference in August presenting a workshop entitled, "There's No Place Like Home: Using Local Sites to Provide Healthy Living Programs."

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