

Insights

October 2022



Celebrating our staff! AgeSpan Service Awards



Every day, our 500 employees make a difference in the lives of others. So today, we took time to celebrate and thank our staff for all that they do for the communities we serve during our annual Years of Service Awards ceremony.

"I am so proud of the longevity of our staff," says Chief Executive Officer Joan Hatem-Roy. "It shows that we have a culture that appreciates and supports our employees with work that is both challenging and fulfilling. This is a place where people feel good about their jobs and their colleagues."

The awards recognized everyone's hard work and highlighted the milestone anniversaries of more than 52 long-serving employees. Hatem-Roy and members of our management team gave heartfelt tributes to those marking 5, 10, 15, and 20 years of service.

Struggling with rising food prices? There is help



We have several programs to assist people with free, nutritious food, including Meals on Wheels, the Brown Bag Program, and our new Mobile Market. You may also be eligible for financial help with buying groceries through SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program).

In a recent [Ask Joan column on food resources](#), first published in the *Eagle Tribune*, our CEO Joan Hatem-Roy explains the options to find help with food expenses. SNAP benefits, for example, increased 12

percent, with Massachusetts households receiving an average monthly increase of \$25-\$30 starting this month.

Now hiring: Signing bonus for GSSC positions



Some adults aged 65 and older may find themselves in situations that require extra assistance to ensure they have a safe, supportive environment to call home.

Our [Geriatric Support Services Coordinators \(GSSC\)](#) provide critical support and advocate for individuals, ensuring they have non-medical services, such as housing, homemaking,

meals, and more. "I enjoy advocating for consumers, whether it be for services they may benefit from, or providing support that can help them live independently, comfortably, and most importantly, safely in their home," says Rose Colon, who has been a GSSC for nearly five years.

Right now, we are offering bonuses for GSSC hires. Come join our GSSC team (bilingual in Spanish or Khmer is encouraged) and get started on a career helping others.

Sign up today for a 15-minute interview for any of our open positions during our [Virtual Hiring event](#) Tuesday, November 1 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Team AgeSpan Spirit walked to end Alzheimer's

Earlier this month, AgeSpan employees, friends, and family came together to walk in the 2022 Walk to End Alzheimer's in Andover.

[Team AgeSpan Spirit](#) was one of more than 250 teams that turned out to show their support for this important cause. Together, the team raised \$4,780 for Alzheimer's care, support, and research. Great job, everyone!



Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

Virtual Memory Café: November 1, at 11 a.m.: The [Memory Café](#) is a welcoming, judgment-free zone for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or any form of dementia or other brain disorders. The Café includes the participation of the care partner as well, for a shared experience. To register, contact Lyn Brennan, Family Caregiver Support Program Specialist, at lbrennan@agespan.org or 978-946-1368.

Managing Money: A Caregiver's Guide to Finances - featuring Dr. Elizabeth Vassey, PsyD (Presented by the Alzheimer's Association): Friday, November 4, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon at the Robb Center, Andover, MA. Learn tips to manage someone else's finances, how to prepare for the future care costs, and the benefits for early planning. [You can register online](#) or call the Alzheimer's Association Helpline at 800-272-3900.

De-Clutterer's Group - 8-week Group Sessions (Virtual): Non-judgmental support for individuals and families struggling with clutter. Two sessions available:

- Tuesdays, Nov. 8, 2022 - Jan. 3, 2023, 1:30-3:30 p.m. (no meeting 11/22)
- Wednesdays, Nov. 9, 2022 - Jan. 4, 2023, 1:30-3:30 p.m. (no meeting 11/23)

Space is limited, and pre-registration is required. Attendees must live in Massachusetts. There are no age restrictions. The fee for the 8-week session is \$250, which may be covered in part by your insurance or available grant funding. To register, contact Karen Sullivan, Clinical Hoarding Specialist, at 978-624-2257 or ksullivan@agespan.org

AgeSpan Free Mobile Food Market: November 15, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon: Held the third Tuesday of every month at the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence, 136 Water Street. Open to Merrimack Valley residents of all ages. Volunteers are needed. For more information, contact AgeSpan Program Manager Ruth Ortiz at rortiz@agespan.org or 978-946-1279.

Ongoing Support Groups

Caregivers Caring for Those with Memory Loss: Day and evening options.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Thursdays (3rd of the month), 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

General Caregiver Support: Thursdays (3rd of the month), 1-2 p.m.

[Register for the family caregiver support groups](#) and learn more about the program.

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For questions or comments, contact us at 800-892-0890 or
communications@agespan.org

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