

# How You Can Help Create An Age-Friendly New York City

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The Fund's vital programs help to create an "age-friendly New York," and make it possible for our older adults to live enriched, healthy lives. However, to accomplish this goal we need your help. Your financial support - as an individual, foundation or corporation - will help ensure the well-being of the seniors we care for today and those who will need care tomorrow.

Gifts of all sizes are deeply appreciated and, if desired, can be directed to honor the memory of a loved one, to pay tribute to special family members, or toward your company's specific interests. The Fund also offers a large number of naming opportunities that can be designed specifically to meet your preferences. The Aging in New York Fund assures that your gift will support purposes that are consistent with your philanthropic vision.

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## Getting Real About Aging

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The Aging in New York Fund responds to the pressing unmet needs of the fastest-growing population in New York City.

# Helping NYC Elderly Live Connected, Vibrant Lives

The Aging in New York Fund is an independent 501(c)(3) dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for older New Yorkers and their families. The Fund's two-fold mission is to:

- 1 Provide innovative service models that address the pressing unmet needs of New York City's elderly, their caregivers and the network of community service providers; and
- 2 Serve as the fundraising arm for grants and donations that support the NYC Department for the Aging's critical work.

Founded in 1982, the Fund was initially established to tackle the issue of food delivery on weekends to homebound seniors. Bringing together public and private support, a demonstration project was implemented that eventually spun off and became the model for programs across the country: the independent nonprofit Citymeals on-Wheels. In recent years, the Fund has launched a number of major impact projects designed to support the multifaceted lives and evolving needs of the City's older adults.

The Fund's priority is to enrich life for the City's elderly. During these challenging economic times, the Fund is focusing its attention on **four key initiatives**.

**Linking aging services to healthcare.** As we learn about the social determinants of health, the potential benefits of programs run at senior centers and community based organizations to improve health and reduce healthcare costs are becoming more obvious. In a public/private partnership with the City's leading senior services organization, the New York City Department of Aging (DFTA), ANYF has embarked on a multi-year project to build a bridge between healthcare (insurance plans and hospitals) and the NYC aging services network that will enable more older adults to receive evidence based health promoting services while creating a new funding stream for the agencies in the senior services network. ANYF is creating a Management Services Organization (MSO) to link agencies into a network offering a variety of services (e.g., falls prevention) and then negotiating and administering contracts with health care payers. This way, more at-risk older adults can be served and agencies can be even more effective in their work to maintain the health and independence of older New Yorkers.

**Reducing Food and Income Insecurity.** Over the past two years, the Fund has conducted locally-based workshops across NYC to raise awareness of the food insecurity issues facing NYC's seniors. The Fund will continue to partner with community organizations in the hardest hit neighborhoods to publicize this important issue. Many seniors need help with accessing entitlement programs such as SNAP, (formerly known as "Food Stamps"), the Medicare Savings Program, SSI, EPIC and Medicare Part D, Medicare Buy-in Programs and Medicare "Extra Help," Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption Program and the Home Energy Assistance Program.

**Addressing Vision Care as a Public Health Priority.** With only 10% of New York City's seniors with vision problems availing themselves of rehabilitation services, there is great need for a central portal to provide information and referrals for the aging network, care professionals and the general public. As the lead partner of the NYC Coalition on Aging and Vision, comprised of the leading vision rehabilitation providers across the City, the Fund is now working to expand the Coalition's reach, increase awareness of vision rehabilitation's role and educate older New Yorkers through its website: [nycvisioncoalition.org](http://nycvisioncoalition.org). Please view our video at <http://bit.ly/NYCVisionCoalitionVideo> for more information.

**Innovating Senior Services.** In addition to incubating its own major impact projects, the Fund serves as the charitable arm of the NYC DFTA, assisting with creative programming, and development and fiscal oversight of grant projects. Recently this has included: helping senior centers most affected by Sandy restore full service capacity; increasing access to healthy food for seniors living in food insecure neighborhoods by involving them in decision-making and advocacy; constructing a web-based nutrition management application to improve served meals; and testing new protocols in late life depression and anxiety among clients of elder abuse.

