

Central Midlands Area Agency on Aging



World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

June 15th was World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD). Older adults throughout the United States lose an estimated \$2.6 billion or more annually due to elder financial abuse and exploitation. Elder abuse also creates health care and legal costs for our society. However, we can change this. Learn more at: eldermistreatment.usc.edu/WEAAD-home.

Central Midlands AAA's Ombudsman department had their annual WEAAD event on June 26, 2024. The SC Attorney General's Office's Beatrice Fields presented on fraud and scams. She shared information on social media/ internet schemes, romance schemes, fake promissory notes, and the dangers of sharing personal information. If you know someone who has been abused, neglected, or exploited who resides in a long-term care facility please call **LaToya Buggs-Williams**, Ombudsman Program Manager, at **803-376-5389**.



Volume 2, Issue 3
July 1, 2024

Happy Summer!

Inside this issue:

<i>WEAAD</i>	1
<i>Open Enrollment, Caring for the Care- giver</i>	2
<i>Volunteer Spotlight, IR&A</i>	3
<i>Staff</i>	4

Open Enrollment Will Be Here Before You Know It!

Medicare Open Enrollment is right around the corner. Open enrollment runs **October 15 through December 7** and is the time of year when beneficiaries can make certain changes to their Medicare coverage. Take action during Open Enrollment to make sure your coverage will meet your needs in 2025.

Do you have questions about your coverage? Central Midlands Area Agency on Aging offers free, in-depth, and objective insurance counseling and assistance to Medicare-eligible individuals, their families, and caregivers. Our AAA's SHIP counselor, **JaJuana Davis**, can help with the following topics:

- How to enroll in Medicare
- Reviewing health or prescription drug plan options
- Assistance programs you or your loved one may be eligible for
- Medicare eligibility criteria
- Explaining how Medicare works with supplemental policies, such as retiree coverage, Medicaid, and other insurers
- Troubleshooting billing issues
- Submitting appeals

Don't see your question? Give us a call to see if we can help! Call us today at **803-376-5390, ext. 312**.

Family Caregiver Support Program — Caring for the Caregiver

Each month, the Family Caregiver Support Program of the Central Midlands Area Agency on Aging hosts "Caring for the Caregivers," an education and support program for caregivers in our region. There is no meeting in July for summer break, but the meetings for the remainder of 2024 are scheduled for the following dates:

- August 15th
- September 19th
- October 17th
- November 21st
- December 5th

Reservations are requested at **803-376-5390** and ask for **Laura Davidson**. Lunch will be provided.

Volunteer Spotlight

Ms. Linda Nuttry is a certified Volunteer Ombudsman. She has the following to say about serving her community in this capacity: *"Hello, my name is Linda Nuttry and I am a Volunteer Ombudsman. As a Volunteer it has given me such joy. I look forward to seeing the residents every month and seeing their whole attitudes change when they see my face. Seeing the residents smile brings a*

sense of peace within me. I feel like just me being there makes a great difference in many of their lives. When I go to see them, I give them my undivided attention. I listen to them no matter how many times they might repeat themselves. When the residents tell me 'thank you for coming to see us' that really makes my day. This was an assignment made just for me."

Ms. Nuttry, thank you for your dedication! If you are interested in becoming a Volunteer Ombudsman, give **Fretoria Addison**, the Ombudsman Volunteer Program Coordinator a call at **803-376-5389**.



*Linda Nuttry,
Certified Volunteer
Ombudsman*

Do You Know a Senior Needing Information, Referral, and Assistance?

The Information, Referral, and Assistance (IR&A) department of the Central Midlands Area Agency on Aging helps seniors locate and access community resources available to them.

Information, Referral, and Assistance staff helps seniors with finding resources such as

rental assistance, power bill assistance, medical appointment transportation, food banks, medical supplies, home repairs, and more. If you know a senior seeking information, maybe we can help guide them in the right direction. If you have a question for our Information,

Referral, and Assistance Specialist, please call **Jannie Davis** at **803-744-5140**.

Central Midlands Area Agency on Aging

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We're online!
**[www.central
midlands.org](http://www.centralmidlands.org)**

Is there a topic
you'd like included
in this newsletter?

Reach out to Lindsey
Woolley at [lwoolley@
centralmidlands.org](mailto:lwoolley@centralmidlands.org) or
803-744-5152 and let us
know!



Staff:

Anna Harmon—Area Agency on Aging Director
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Lindsey Woolley—Aging Program Coordinator
Lauren Mueller— Nutrition Services Coordinator
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Laura Welsh-Davidson—Family Caregiver Advocate

Kori Williams—Family Caregiver Assistant
Debbie Hollins—Family Caregiver Assistant
JaJuana Davis—SHIP and IR&A Coordinating Manager

Jannie Davis—IR&A Specialist
Janyce Davis—Consumer Choice Program Manager

Ebony Davis—Assessor Coordinator Manager

Amber Summers—Aging Assessor
Nakayla Pickett—Aging Assessor
Mikaela Myers—Aging Assessor
Falon Thomas—Aging Assessor

Lolita Rice—Aging Assessor
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Tiffany Brown—Aging Grants Assistant
Shanaria Johnson—Aging Assessor/Aging Assistant

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Jessica Kelly—Associate Ombudsman

Aleigha Chee-you—Ombudsman Program Assistant
Brittany Brown—Aging Grants Specialist
Tracy Darby —Aging Finance Specialist

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