



Florida Association of
Aging Services Providers

Florida Association of Aging Services Providers e-Newsletter

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Sponsor: Aging True

Guest Editor: Terri Barton & Tourea Robinson, Aging True

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Message from the President

by Andrea Busada, Broward County Elderly and Veterans Services

Dear FASP Members:

I hope this message finds all of you happy, healthy and with wonderful memories of a Thanksgiving surrounded by loved ones and good food! As you may already know, December 2nd, was designated as "Giving Tuesday," a day for us to come together and give to our community. I truly believe that people are good at heart and willing to give.

Last week, one of our case managers lost her home to a fire. Another of our case managers was at the bank getting some cash to donate, and happened to explain to the bank teller why she was getting cash to assist her co-worker. The bank teller gave her \$20.00 to help – she gave \$20.00 to help a complete stranger! That really bolstered my faith in humanity and put me in the Thanksgiving spirit.

The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University reports that in 2013, 95.4% of households contribute to charity! The Florida Philanthropic Network

reports that individual Floridians gave \$11.6 billion to charity in 2011. That is mind-boggling. We should all be thinking of ways to get involved – to harness that incredible power of giving to help our seniors in Florida.

During this holiday season, we can also reflect on how fortunate we are to have friends, family, and dedicated compassionate co-workers. We are so fortunate to work in a field where we get to help people and improve their lives EVERY SINGLE DAY.

On behalf of the Board and the Management Staff of the Florida Association of Aging Services Providers, we wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season! Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,
Andrea Busada



Charitable Giving by Tourea Robinson, Aging True

According to the Chronicle of Philanthropy, charitable giving in the state of Florida increased from 3.22% in 2006 to 3.9% in 2012. Why is this important you may ask, well, it shows that people are donating more of their earned income to charitable organizations which is an indicator that our economy is stabilizing and that charitable giving is slowly rising to pre-recession levels.

As charitable giving increases in Florida, it is surprising to see that senior services is not among the top areas of giving in a state that, according to AARP, ranks in the top **10** of retirement locations in the nation. Over 23 percent of the 19 million people living in the state are over 60, and that number is projected to rise as life expectancy increases. With that growth, the support for non-profits meeting the needs of seniors will also grow.

Senior services organizations are forced to compete with other causes; education, homelessness, children – while all are just as worthy and necessary in our communities, they often dim the mounting needs of seniors. Seniors are often overlooked, not because they are not important but more so they often are not seen. Those in need of care and assistance are homebound, in nursing homes, and other assisted living facilities tucked away from the eyes, ears and heartstrings of donors.



Therefore, it is our responsibility, as senior services providers, to tell the stories of our clients, their families and the impact we have on their overall quality of life. We should be confident and willing to tell the compelling, yet unknown, story of a client who, if not for our programs and services, would be in a nursing home, or worse dead because they are unable to prepare meals, bathe themselves and/or clean their home. These stories must be shared and shared frequently.

Government funding for senior service providers are steadily declining while the need is steadily climbing. Private donors will be needed to supplement and replace those dwindling funds. Now is the time to begin to cultivate and share your organization's story.

If you have not done so, put together a concise and compelling message to share in the community. If you have, tell it more often and to more people. They can never hear too often, or too much, how great the need is today and will be in years to come.



Dr. Carol J. Neil for successfully defending her dissertation entitled,

“ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE ELDERLY, SELF-EFFICACY AND JOB SATISFACTION AS PREDICTORS OF NURSES’ INTENT TO STAY IN LONG TERM CARE”



Tips from IRS for Year-End Gifts to Charity

IR-2014-110, Nov. 25, 2014

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today reminded individuals and businesses making year-end gifts to charity that several important tax law provisions have taken effect in recent years. Some of the changes taxpayers should keep in mind include:

Rules for Charitable Contributions of Clothing and Household Items

Household items include furniture, furnishings, electronics, appliances and linens. Clothing and household items donated to charity generally must be in good used condition or better to be tax-deductible. A clothing or household item for which a taxpayer claims a deduction of over \$500 does not have to meet this standard if the taxpayer includes a qualified appraisal of the item with the return.

Donors must get a written acknowledgement from the charity for all gifts worth \$250 or more. It must include, among other things, a description of the items contributed.

Guidelines for Monetary Donations

A taxpayer must have a [bank record or a written statement](#) from the charity in order to deduct any donation of money, regardless of amount. The record must show the name of the charity and the date and amount of the contribution. Bank records include canceled checks, and bank, credit union and credit card statements. Bank or credit union statements should show the name of the charity, the date, and the amount paid. Credit card statements should show the name of the charity, the date, and the transaction posting date.

Donations of money include those made in cash or by check, electronic funds transfer, credit card and payroll deduction. For payroll deductions, the taxpayer should retain a pay stub, a Form W-2 wage statement or other document furnished by the employer showing the total amount withheld for charity, along with the pledge card showing the name of the charity.

These requirements for the deduction of monetary donations do not change the long-standing requirement that a taxpayer obtain an acknowledgment from a charity for each deductible donation (either money or property) of \$250 or more. However, one statement containing all of the required information may meet both requirements.

Reminders

The IRS offers the following additional reminders to help taxpayers plan their holiday and year-end gifts to charity:

Qualified charities. Check that the charity is eligible. Only donations to eligible organizations are tax-deductible. [Select Check](#), a searchable online tool available on IRS.gov, lists most organizations that are eligible to receive deductible contributions. In addition, churches, synagogues, temples, mosques and government agencies are eligible to receive deductible donations. That is true even if they are not listed in the tool's database.

- **Year-end gifts.** Contributions are deductible in the year made. Thus, donations charged to a credit card before the end of 2014 count for 2014, even if the credit card bill isn't paid until 2015. Also, checks count for 2014 as long as they are mailed in 2014.
- **Itemize deductions.** For individuals, only taxpayers who itemize their deductions on [Form 1040 Schedule A](#) can claim deductions for charitable contributions. This deduction is not available to individuals who choose the standard deduction. This includes anyone who files a short form (Form



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1040A or 1040EZ). A taxpayer will have a tax savings only if the total itemized deductions (mortgage interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes, etc.) exceed the standard deduction. Use the 2014 Form 1040 Schedule A to determine whether itemizing is better than claiming the standard deduction.

Record donations. For all donations of property, including clothing and household items, get from the charity, if possible, a receipt that includes the name of the charity, date of the contribution, and a reasonably-detailed description of the donated property. If a donation is left at a charity's unattended drop site, keep a written record of the donation that includes this information, as well as the fair market value of the property at the time of the donation and the method used to determine that value. [Additional rules apply](#) for a contribution of \$250 or more.

Special Rules. The [deduction for a car](#), boat or airplane donated to charity is usually limited to the gross proceeds from its sale. This rule applies if the claimed value is more than \$500. Form 1098-C or a similar statement, must be provided to the donor by the organization and attached to the donor's tax return.

If the amount of a taxpayer's deduction for all noncash contributions is over \$500, a properly-completed Form 8283 must be submitted with the tax return.

IRS YouTube Videos:

Year-End Tax Tips: [English](#)

Charitable Contributions: [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)

Exempt Organizations Select Check: [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)



IRS.gov has additional information on charitable giving, including:

[Charities & Non-Profits](#)

[Publication 526, Charitable Contributions](#)

[Online mini-course](#), Can I Deduct My Charitable Contributions?



IRS Updates Health Insurance Marketplace on IRS.gov



The IRS recently updated the [Health Insurance Marketplace](#) page on IRS.gov. The page now has two key sections.

The first focuses on the Form 1095-A and what individuals and families can expect at tax time with respect to information about their 2014 Marketplace coverage. Notably it includes information about how to contact the federal and state marketplaces.

The second section focuses on the current open enrollment period that runs through Feb. 15.

Resources

"Just taking breaks from being sedentary may benefit older adults," by Roxanne Nelson (_Reuters_, November 6, 2014).

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/11/06/us-health-elderly-sedentary-breaks-idUSKBN0IQ2KU20141106>



Magic Johnson helps Simply Healthcare to score

BY JOSEPH A. MANN JR.

http://www.miamiherald.com/news/business/biz-monday/article4195560.html#emlInl=5-Minute_Herald



New Medicaid Rule Could Challenge State Shift Away From Nursing Homes

http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2014/11/19/new-medicaid-rule-could-challenge-state-shift-away-from-nursing-homes?utm_campaign=2014-11-19-14%20Stateline%20Daily.html&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua



Florida frailest seniors waiting for care

http://www.mypalmbeachpost.com/news/news/national-govt-politics/floridas-tide-of-seniors-rising-even-faster-than-p/nh3q6/?icmp=pbp_internallink_textlink_apr2013_pbpstubtomybp_launch#2f7b7ac0.3597709.735553



January 2015

January 22-23, 2015: Courtyard Orlando Lake Buena Vista, Orlando, FL. 2nd Annual Meals on Wheels Association of Florida State Conference. For more information: Nicole Kirkpatrick nkirkpatrick@agingtrue.org 904-807-1260

March 2015

March 23-27, 2015: Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL. American Society on Aging Conference—Aging in America. <http://www.asaging.org/aia12>

April 2015

April 15, 2015: Double Tree Hotel, Williamsburg, VA. Southern Gerontological Society Conference. <http://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/>

FASP is on Facebook - Are You?



Do you or does your organization have a Facebook or Twitter account?
We would love to “like” “Friend” and/or “follow” you too.

FASP - Florida Association of Aging Services Providers Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/FASP-Florida-Association-of-Aging-Services-Providers/186392068069967>

FASP - Florida Association of Aging Services Providers Twitter

<http://twitter.com/FLAgingServProv>



DOEA - Florida Department of Elder Affairs Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Florida-Department-of-Elder-Affairs/128604923878650?sk=wall>

FCOA - Florida Council on Aging Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Florida-Council-on-Aging/74320166787>

FCOA - Florida Council on Aging Twitter

<http://twitter.com/#!/FCOA1>



www.broward.org



www.fadsa.net



www.coawfla.org



<http://www.bmbinc.com>



<http://www.centralbnk.com/>



Washington County Council on Aging

<http://www.washcocoa.com>



www.newvisioneyecenter.com



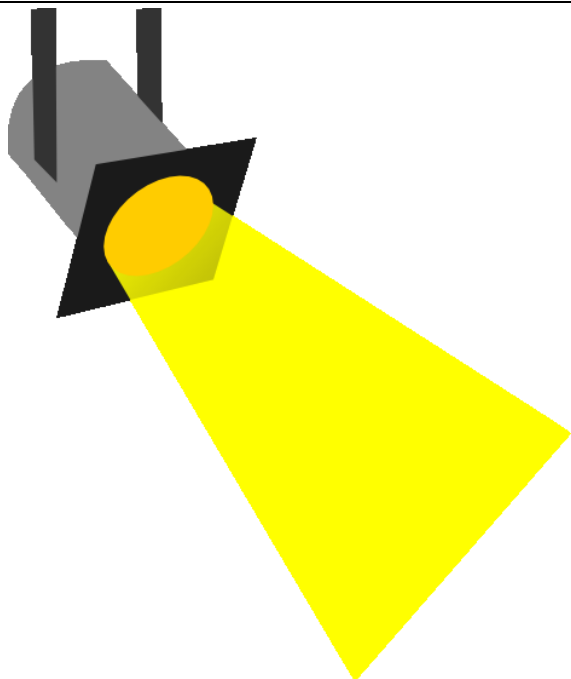
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This issue of the FASP e-Newsletter was brought to you by the generous donation of



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The intent of the FASP Newsletter is to keep you informed about program updates and information relating to aging services providers. If you have any comments about the newsletter, suggestions on ways to improve it and/or items you would like included, please contact FASP by e-mail at moreinfo@fasp.net or by phone at (850) 222-3524.

FASP's Mission: Supporting older adults and the providers that serve them through information, connection, and resources

JOIN US FOR THE 2015
FLORIDA CONFERENCE ON AGING!

AUGUST 10-12, 2015

The Caribe Royale
Orlando, Florida

