



ICP Connections

News for our clients, families and community

SUMMER 2023



Dear Friends and Families,

Happy Summer! Doesn't it feel great to wake up to bright sunshine and leave our jackets behind for the day? I hope you are embracing summer in whatever ways nourish your soul. I'm enjoying taking in that early sunshine each morning with my husband and a cup of coffee on our front porch, meditating, and sharing about our day ahead.

I love that summer is so full of opportunities for connection (our word of the year!), which we know is vital to our health and well-being. Connections with our fantastic community include farmer's markets and summer concerts in local parks (good news—ICP offers rides to both!), outdoor dining, checking out the fun friendship benches in downtown La Grange (ICP's bench is near Steak + Vine!), and simply chatting with friends and neighbors who are out and about.

We can also benefit from connecting with nature this season by pausing to observe lightning-fast hummingbirds and playful squirrels, or watching baby birds learn to take flight. Gardening can be a peaceful, hands-on connection to nature, even if we grow just one cheerful plant on a porch or windowsill. Consider planting a second to surprise a friend or neighbor!



Creating and expanding meaningful connections for older adults has always been central to ICP's mission. While our ride services provide essential transportation, the connection that occurs between driver and client during those drives is equally significant. And our outreach services like library delivery, Petal Pusher bouquets, and friendly phone calls provide added opportunities for older adults to connect.

To ensure ICP has the resources to continue fostering these connections and delivering our services, we are busy recruiting volunteers and gearing up for our Fall Benefit! Our service area and new client requests continue to grow, and we are committed to meeting these needs. But we can't do it without your support—ICP's connection to this wonderful community makes it all possible!

We are so appreciative of the clients and families, donors and businesses, volunteers, and like-minded community organizations who generously support our Fall Benefit. Not only does their support secure services for ICP clients, but our community is strengthened by expanding our collective commitment to caring for our older adult friends and neighbors.

This newsletter includes ways to support our benefit, but I want to specifically mention that if you have any connections (there's our word again!) to silent auction items we could offer for bid at our benefit, we would greatly appreciate your help! Ideas include lake house getaways, sports/concert tickets, fun experiences, and group dining. Our silent auction is a HUGE component of our fall benefit fundraising!

Thank you for being a part of the ICP family. Savor the sunshine and enjoy your summer!

 Janet Garreau, Executive Director

Help us maintain Top-Rated GreatNonProfit Status by writing a review of your experiences with ICP! Just visit www.greatnonprofits.org and search for Interfaith Community Partners. THANK YOU!



Our Heartfelt Thanks to...

Ascension Living Bethlehem Woods Village for hosting our Rise & Shine Gratitude Breakfast on April 20th, where we honored **ICP donors, sponsors, and supporters** and celebrated the many ways their contributions strengthen our community!



Janet Garreau with Val, ICP client and impressive guest speaker; Sheri Kupres accepting on behalf of Brian Davis, Home Helpers Home Care, Business Partner of the Year; and David Vanderberg, one of our ICP Volunteers of the Year



The many sponsors and participants of the **La Grange Park Run for the Roses 5K** held on Mother's Day, and to the **La Grange Park Chamber of Commerce** for designating ICP to receive half of the event proceeds!



Rotary Club of La Grange for their generous donation to support ICP programs!

Tate's Old Fashioned Ice Cream Shop for being the perfectly delicious spot to host our Volunteer Appreciation Ice Cream Social in April! And of course, **THANK YOU, ICP VOLUNTEERS!**



Bloom 'n Toss and Mariano's for donating flowers to help ICP spread some cheer with our 4th Annual May Day Make & Take flower event!

La Grange Pointe, Aliza Zivic, and Maria Haraus for hosting our volunteer appreciation happy hour event on their beautiful rooftop!



ICP'S 21ST ANNUAL FALL BENEFIT IS COMING UP! September 29, 2023

We're gearing up for our biggest fundraiser of the year and hope you will support this important event however you can! This event will raise essential funds to ensure ICP can continue our mission of supporting older adults with safe transportation and outreach services.

How YOU can make this event a success:

1. Contribute a silent auction item!



Our silent auction is a HUGE part of our benefit fundraising! Do you have a great auction item you could donate to our benefit? Maybe you have connections to organizations or individuals who might donate an amazing item or experience for a great cause? Examples include getaways at lake houses, Chicago sports tickets, concert or event tickets, experiences at restaurants (a dinner for 8 or whiskey tasting for 6, etc.), as well as connections to liquor or jewelry donations. If you can help, please contact our office at 708-354-9328! Thank you!

2. Bid on our auction items—this will be online starting the week of our event. You do not need to attend to bid! Info to come.

3. Attend with family and friends

We've got a fun and games theme planned along with music, appetizers, drinks, a silent auction, and more! Watch our website and Facebook page for ticket info coming soon!

4. Donate the ticket price in lieu of attending

5. Share our event with friends and family!

THANK YOU!

Client News + Updates



PLEASE SCHEDULE RIDES 1 WEEK AHEAD SO WE MAY FULFILL YOUR REQUESTS

Please schedule rides at least 1 week in advance to help us meet all ride requests. Once you have a need, give us a call right away—you can schedule as soon as you make your appointment, even if it's months away! Thank you!



SPRING & SUMMER OUTINGS

Would you like to visit a local farmers market or village summer concert? Or perhaps enjoy a one-hour drive just to get some sunshine and see the seasonal foliage? Call our office to book a ride! Weekdays only, please.

**Medical and essential care appointments take priority over leisure rides when we are short on drivers. Thank you for your understanding!*

SERVICES CLOSED ON LABOR DAY

Our office will be closed and there will be no ride services in honor of Labor Day, Monday Sept. 4th.



OUTREACH SERVICES AVAILABLE

Please keep in mind that your friends at ICP are here for you! In addition to safe, accompanied transportation, we offer friendly phone calls with our kind volunteers if you are seeking a little more connection and conversation, as well as library delivery services to homebound older adults who can't get to the library. Feel free to call the office for more information, or refer to your ICP Client Guide for details on all of our services. We also have a lot of community connections and resources we can refer you to if there is something else we can help with!



Questions? Just give us a call!
708-354-9328

BE AWARE & BE PREPARED:

6 Financial Scams Targeting Older Adults

by Mary Carol Tlusty, Assistant Vice President-Branch Manager, FNBC Bank & Trust



At FNBC Bank & Trust, we see clients of all ages dealing with financial scams, but senior citizens are frequent targets of financial fraud.

According to the National Council on Aging, in 2021, there were 92,371 older victims of fraud resulting in \$1.7 billion in losses. Here are some tips to protect yourself from financial scams.

BE AWARE of common financial scams:

Government impersonation scams: Scammers pose as government officials, such as the IRS or Social Security Administration, and demand money or personal information.

Sweepstakes and lottery scams: Scammers may contact you and tell you that you have won a prize, but you need to pay a fee to claim it.

Romance scams: Scammers may create fake online profiles and pose as someone they are not in order to build a relationship with you. Once they have gained your trust, they may ask for money or personal information.

Robocall scams: Scammers may use robocalls to make it seem like they are from a legitimate company, such as a bank or credit card company. They may then ask for personal information or your credit card number.

Push Payment Fraud: A scammer will impersonate a company or individual you know to trick you into making payments to them. We see this often with Grandparent Scams where a caller impersonates a grandchild and says they are in a crisis situation and need money to get home or get out of a dangerous situation.

Tech support scams: Scammers call you and claim there is a problem with your computer. They will then offer to help you fix the problem, but they will actually install malware on your computer that allows them to control your computer and gain access to your accounts.

BE PREPARED to protect yourself:

Pay attention to your bank accounts. Check your bank and credit card statements regularly. Notify your bank of any unusual or unauthorized activity.

Be skeptical of any unsolicited calls or emails. Banks, credit card companies, and government agencies will not contact you and ask you for your personal information. If anyone pressures you to provide a social security number, account number, or a password, it's probably a scam.



Be careful about the information you share online. Don't share your personal information on social media or with people you meet online.

Don't send money to someone you have only met online. If someone you meet online asks for money, it is probably a scam, especially if they pressure you or create a sense of urgency.

Never pay upfront fees to claim a prize. If you are told that you have won a prize, but you need to pay a fee to claim it, it is a scam.

Talk to family and friends about financial scams. The more people are aware of these scams, the less likely they are to fall victim to them.

If you notice unusual or unauthorized activity on your bank accounts, contact your bank immediately. In addition, if you think you have been the victim of a financial scam, you should report it to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). You can file a complaint online at [ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov) or by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP.

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WHY I SUPPORT ICP!

HEAR FROM SOME OF THE AWESOME PEOPLE MAKING OUR MISSION POSSIBLE



"As someone who was lucky enough to be raised with grandparents in the house, I knew firsthand the gift of older adults' love and wisdom as well as the challenges of their growing number of doctors' appointments. ICP provided me with an opportunity to demonstrate to my children the importance of valuing all generations. As my children become adults, I hope they continue to pay it forward through important nonprofits like ICP."

— Kathleen King,

longtime ICP volunteer and Board member

*This year marks Kathleen's 20th anniversary as an ICP volunteer! Thank you for your dedication to ICP and older adults and for being an inspiration to all of us, Kathleen!

JUST FOR FUN

Simple Summer Pasta Salad

Combine cooked pasta of your choice with sliced tomatoes, cucumbers, drained canned chickpeas, crumbled feta cheese, and baby spinach. Dress with a simple vinaigrette of olive oil, lemon juice, salt, pepper, and oregano. To make ahead, just wait to stir in the spinach when serving. Enjoy!

yum!

Kind Words from ICP Clients



Many thanks for helping me get to my doctor visits. Many, many thanks to everyone that helps!

Thank you so much for the services you provide for the elderly. I appreciate the dedication and kindness of your staff and drivers.

Thank you for graciously driving me to pick up my prescription.

Thank you for the delicious treat. You always brighten the day! Your care for us older adults is so appreciated.

Thank you so much for setting up the transportation for me. My driver was very nice and everything went according to plan!

Thank you for bringing me the delicious chicken soup. It was very good and I really enjoyed it! Thank you for thinking of me.



DROP US A LINE!



Clients and families, please know our staff and volunteers LOVE the notes you send! They lift our spirits and warm our hearts!

We'd love to hear your thoughts on ICP and our services. If you would like to write a thank-you letter to a volunteer driver (or any volunteer!), just mail it to our office and we will make sure they get your letter!



CONGRATULATIONS

to our 2022 Volunteers of the Year!



David Vanderberg joined ICP as a volunteer in February 2020 and has taken 231 trips, driven 2,694 miles, and kindly donated 228 hours of his time

to our older adult clients! David has driven clients to adult day centers, physical therapy, and to dialysis.

David was selected as a Volunteer of the Year for the extraordinary care and connection he brings ICP clients. He is the volunteer who not only drives clients, but who becomes friends with them and is genuinely interested and caring of their well-being. Our clients truly appreciate his kind way of connecting with them and have told us so on many occasions. David is the real deal!



Alice Walker started with ICP in July 2019 and has taken 491 trips, driven 3,499 miles, and generously donated 420 hours of her time to ICP

clients! Alice has taken clients to dialysis, cardiac rehab, the grocery store, food pantry, and to church.

We chose Alice as a Volunteer of the Year because she is notorious for going above and beyond for the clients she drives. If an unexpected situation arises during the course of a self-assigned ride, Alice understands what needs to be done and goes on auto-pilot to help the client. Neither ICP nor our clients know what we would do without Alice!

Thank You, David & Alice!!!

Welcome New Volunteers!

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Don Brown | Al Narbutaitis |
| Jack Donahue | Mariann Orr |
| Kevin Draz | Tim Rost |
| Larry Fisher | Julie Ryan |
| Sara Goggin-Young | Geri Sargent |
| Krystyna Kalata | Larry Stephan |
| Karen Lynch | Ed Sugay |
| Diane Merrion | |



We loved treating the world's best volunteers to a Volunteer Appreciation Happy Hour June 1st!

Board & Staff News

Meet our newest Board member, Michelle Mahoney!

Michelle is Vice President, Director of Social Impact at the Leo Burnett advertising agency where, in partnership with executive leadership, she is responsible for integrating social responsibility strategy. Her role strengthens, streamlines, and grows the agency's commitment to pro-bono clients, community and employee engagement, and charitable giving.



Michelle's personal and professional passion is sharing her time, talent, and resources with non-profit organizations. She has a long history of local to global volunteering and has sat on non-profit boards to share her network and her marketing and communication skills for the greater good. Supporting older adults has been a consistent and heartfelt endeavor throughout Michelle's life. The mission of ICP is so very important to Michelle and she is grateful to have the opportunity to serve on our Board!

Happy Together!

Our cheerful map-themed friendship bench is located near Steak + Vine and is part of the La Grange Business Association's public art exhibit this summer! Painted by the talented Kimberly Arndt, the bench will be auctioned at the West End Arts Festival with proceeds going to ICP! Special thanks to our generous sponsor, Sharon Flaim, Founder, Catherine's Community Closet.



SO MUCH FUN AT THE LA GRANGE PET PARADE!

Thank you to the clients, volunteers, Board members and community friends who walked with us, handed out candy, and helped share information about ICP!



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COMPASS

I am so happy to support the work of Interfaith Community Partners and their fantastic work helping seniors throughout our local communities.

If you are thinking about downsizing, I can help!



Shannon Kutcek, Senior Real Estate Specialist (SRES)
Real Estate Broker
708.955.3683
shannon.kutcek@compass.com



Thank you!




SEEING DOUBLE!
We had to giggle when some ICP staff members seemed to be thinking along the same lines (and florals) recently, resulting in an unplanned Twin Day at the office!

ICP IN THE COMMUNITY
We were thrilled to be a part of these recent community events and spread the word about caring for the health and welfare of older adults!





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Welcome to our SUMMER newsletter!

- Client service updates and reminders
- Fall Benefit news and ways to help
- How to protect yourself from financial scams
- Volunteers of the Year
- Community events and fun photos...and more!

OUR MISSION

The mission of Interfaith Community Partners is to maximize the independence and well-being of older adults by enabling connections with others in their community.

OUR SERVICES

Our core service is providing older adults with safe, accompanied transportation to medical appointments, therapies and life-enhancing errands. We also provide home visits and phone calls to check in on older adults, deliver their library materials, and brighten their days however we can. Through our Petal Pushers program, volunteers and local garden clubs re-purpose donated flowers into bouquets for clients and business partners.

COMMUNITIES SERVED

Broadview - Brookfield - Burr Ridge - Clarendon Hills - Countryside - Darien - Downers Grove - Hinsdale - Hodgkins - Indian Head Park - La Grange - La Grange Park - Lyons - McCook - North Riverside - Oak Brook - Riverside - Westchester - Western Springs - Westmont - Willowbrook - Willow Springs