



**MAKE A
DIFFERENCE**

Above and Beyond

Lynn Hogue has been the Assistant Administrator at Cole County's Clarke and West Point locations for the past eight years. She works with the home-delivered meals program as well as the congregate nutrition program activities at both locations.

In early June, Lynn headed out on her usual delivery route. One of her first stops was at the home of Cindy, a meal recipient she had been working with for several months. She knocked but got no answer. Cindy's dog barked, and Lynn thought she might've heard a voice. She wasn't sure if it was the television or perhaps Cindy was on an important phone call. After waiting a bit, she decided to continue on her route and reach out to Cindy by phone to reschedule.

Lynn continued her drive through Cole County but just couldn't shake the feeling that something was not right. She knew her meal recipients very well and knew it was unlike Cindy to not be present for her delivery or to call in.

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Lynn decided to make the drive back out to Cindy's home where she once again got no answer. Feeling compelled to do something more, she went around the house and found a back door unlocked. Lynn made entry and called out to Cindy who faintly answered from



Lynn Hogue prepares for the delivery of meals to homebound participants.

the living room floor where she had been lying for more than a day and a half. She immediately called 911 and helped comfort Cindy who had experienced a medical emergency. Medical staff arrived to find Cindy's blood pressure dangerously low.

While recovering at the hospital Cindy was informed that had Lynn not made the decision to return and called 911 when she did the outcome may not have been a positive one.

"Our nutrition team members in all nineteen counties are such caring people. They know how important it is to

get to know the individuals they work with and go that extra mile for each. We are so proud of them," said Lorie True, Nutrition Manager at Aging Best.

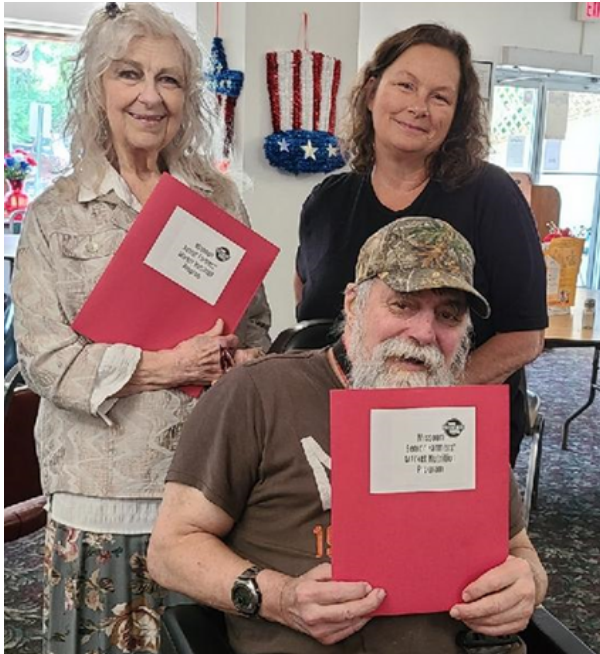
In addition to home-delivery programs, most of Aging Best's nutrition centers also offer congregate dining and a great selection of activities. If you would like more information on receiving home-delivered meals or nutrition center locations and activities, contact Aging Best at 800-369-5211, visit our website at www.agingbest.org or email us at help4u@agingbest.org.

Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

Aging Best's Community Options & Services team has been very busy the past few months. Although the team is always in high demand, June marked the annual opening of the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, a USDA program that offers up to \$50 in vouchers to be used at local farmers' markets and approved roadside stands.

Interest in the program this year has been very positive. The pandemic may have temporarily reduced the number of stands and consumers last year, but the 2022 season is already becoming a busy one. Farmers' markets not only provide fresh items but bring business to local farmers as well. Aging Best's Community Options & Services team has

done an amazing job of organizing the enrollment process and making it as convenient as possible. Team members



Trish Luther, back right, is pictured with program participants, Berdella Platz and Arnie O'Rear.

have held several on-site sign-up events at various locations and will be holding more as the season continues.

Berdella Platz and Arnie O'Rear were assisted by Trish Luther, Community Options & Services Manager, at a recent on-site event. "It was wonderful!" said Berdella. "She explained how the process works to the entire group. Then we were able to individually do our enrollment. She was so helpful. I am excited to go to the farmers' market and get some fresh tomatoes and cucumbers."

Aging Best has team members located throughout the 19-county service area to

check eligibility for this program as well as other types of resources and assistance. You may be surprised to learn you are eligible for savings programs you were unaware of.

If you would like more information on receiving farmers' market vouchers or checking your eligibility for other savings opportunities, contact Aging Best at 800-369-5211 or help4u@agingbest.org.

South Central Pension Rights Project

The South Central Pension Rights Project helps individuals understand and exercise their pension rights. The organization provides free-of-charge services to workers or retirees and their family members who currently live or work in Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

Free-of-charge services are provided regardless of age, income, or the amount of benefit sought. Attorneys and paralegals provide services by mail, phone or email at:

South Central
Pension Rights Project
1920 E. Riverside Drive
Suite A-120, #501
Austin, TX 78741
800-443-2528

www.southcentralpension.org

Juneteenth Festivities

Several Aging Best staff members were able to participate in the Juneteenth festivities in Columbia. The event kicked off with a parade through downtown Columbia that ended at Douglass Park.



Left to Right: Marissa Peterson, Jamie Kennedy, Rebecca Nowlin, Ben Nowlin, Brenda Doyle, Carol Senior and Trish Luther prepare for the parade.

Following the parade food and activities were available at the park. Many organizations were present. The Aging Best team had a great time and is already looking forward to next year's event.

Juneteenth (short for "June Nineteenth") marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops' arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States.



The Long-Term Care Ombudsmen have been working hard to meet their annual continuing education hours for the program. This year the program is requiring 18 hours. This is a big jump from prior years when only eight hours of continuing education were required.

In previous years they have had two Ombudsman in-service requirements, but this year an additional one hour virtual learning session has been added to take place every other Wednesday. Topics are related to the role of the Ombudsman in long-term care facilities. Resident discharges, electronic monitoring and Missouri Protection and Advocacy are a few of the topics covered. Time is also set aside to discuss cases and learn from each other.

The mission of the program is to provide Ombudsman services to all residents of all long-term care facilities through advocacy and education. Volunteers play an important part in carrying out that mission.

If you would like information on volunteering for the program contact Ronda Giger, Regional Ombudsman Program Director or Rebecca Baker, Regional Ombudsman Coordinator at 573-443-5823 or rgiger@agingbest.org.

Activities



Camden Nutrition Center



Salem Nutrition Center



California Nutrition Center



Cole County Nutrition Center



Tipton Nutrition Center



Eldon Senior Center



Vienna Senior Center



Osage Beach Senior Center