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LAUREL AREA FAITH IN ACTION

*Hearts and Hands
Helping Seniors*

STAY CONNECTED:

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**STRATEGIC PLAN
2025 - 2030**

ABOUT LAIVC

Since 2001, the mission of LAIVC's Laurel Area Faith in Action has remained unwavering. We are dedicated to providing assistance to our recipients so they can continue to enjoy life, confident they have somewhere to turn when they need help.

The words of Benjamin Franklin, "Failure to plan is planning to fail," resonate as strongly today as ever. Inspired by this wisdom, the Board of Directors, staff, and Executive Director of Laurel Area Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers, Inc. (LAIVC) have come together to update the strategic plan for the next five years.

This planning process has enabled our organization to prioritize key objectives that will guide us through 2030. We remain committed to our mission, vision, and values, ensuring we provide vital support to our aging neighbors, age 60 and older, across Latrobe, Derry, Ligonier (and their respective townships), as well as Unity Township, for many years to come.



“As I grow older, sometimes I feel like I don't matter. When my telephone reassurance volunteer calls, I feel connected and loved.”




—Program Recipient

THE HEART OF LAIVC

MISSION STATEMENT

We are dedicated to providing support that empowers local seniors to live confidently, age well, and stay connected to the heart of their community.

ORGANIZATIONAL VISION

-  Compassionate Hearts
-  Connecting Hands
-  Creating Hope

CORE VALUES

- Compassion
- Integrity
- Generosity
- Inclusivity
- Professionalism
- Transparency
- Kindness
- Faith

2024 Program statistics



329
Recipients



236
Volunteers



4,028
Hours



9,308
Services

In 2024, we had 9,308 volunteer hours, which equates to an estimated value of **\$311,724.92 based on the national average of ****\$33.49 per volunteer hour.****

*Average value of a volunteer hour in the United States according to Independent Sector.



Through coming together as a community, we create meaningful connections, see the positive impact we're making, and recognize the difference we bring to others' lives. Our hope is that this spirit of giving and involvement stays with us, inspiring lifelong dedication to helping others.

RELATIONAL CONNECTIONS

GOAL:

Amplify awareness and strengthen support for our organization by engaging with the community, building strategic partnerships, and expanding outreach efforts.

RATIONALE:

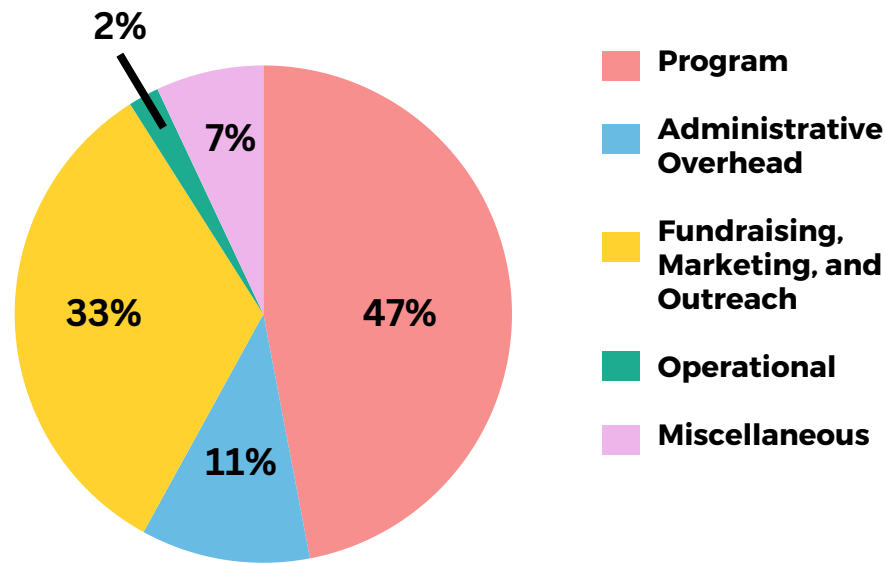
Raising awareness is vital for deepening our connection with the community, attracting new partners, donors, volunteers, and recipients, while expanding our outreach. By effectively communicating the positive impact of our mission, we will inspire greater engagement and support, which are critical to ensuring the long-term sustainability and growth of our organization.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Identify and foster community partnerships
- Expand outreach through local media outlets
- Enhance and maintain an active social media presence
- Revitalize coalitions with churches, businesses, and organizations
- Establish a support network for caregivers
- Raise awareness of current services while helping individuals identify their needs
- Position the organization as a trusted resource for referral services

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE

How Operational Support Fuels Our Mission To Serve The Local Aging Population



Our organization's success in providing essential, volunteer-led services to local seniors relies on the infrastructure that supports these programs. Critical areas like staffing, operations, and technology allow us to deliver free, high-quality services while ensuring volunteer coordination, compliance, and safe, reliable care. By investing in these areas, you not only help us build a stronger, more resilient organization but also ensure that as we all age, the support needed to thrive is available. Together, we can serve more seniors and make a greater impact in the community—an investment in their future and yours.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

GOAL:

Secure the organization's long-term financial sustainability to support continued growth and mission-driven impact.

RATIONALE:

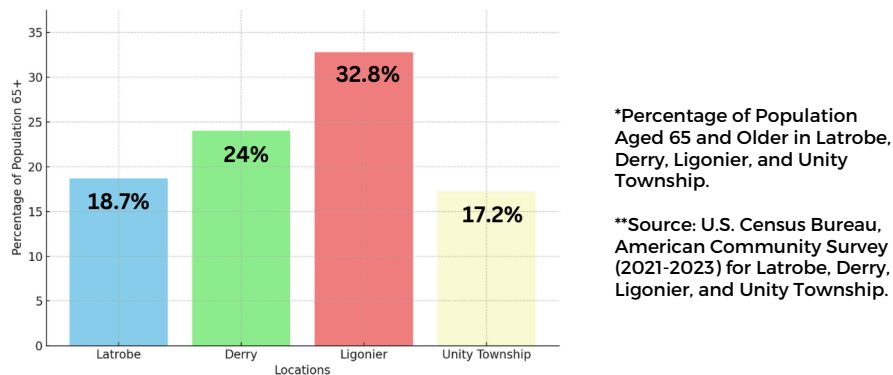
Financial sustainability is essential for any nonprofit organization. A strong financial foundation will enable LAIVC to efficiently and effectively fulfill our mission. Achieving financial sustainability requires the ability to generate revenue and manage expenses, ensuring the long-term stability and success of our organization.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Diversify income streams to reduce reliance on one funding source
- Acquire new grant partnerships with mission-aligned foundations and organizations
- Build a strong donor base and use technology to enhance donor retention
- Develop annual fundraising initiatives
- Enforce strict budget control and follow strategic planning to boost revenue
- Foster a Planned Giving and Legacy Giving Program

LOCAL STATISTICS

LAIVC provides free, volunteer-led services that meet key wellness needs of older adults, such as social connection, daily structure, and independence. By offering services like telephone reassurance calls, transportation, and grocery shopping, LAIVC reduces the need for paid assistance while keeping local seniors connected and supported, enhancing their overall quality of life.



DID YOU KNOW?

- A round-trip Uber ride to the doctor's office in Westmoreland County, PA, **costs about \$18 to \$40.**
- Instacart delivery fees range from \$3.99 to \$7.99, with service fees of 5-10% and optional tips of \$5 to \$10, bringing the **total to \$10 to \$20 per delivery (excluding grocery costs).**

On average, services like transportation and grocery shopping save recipients over **\$1,000 annually**, offering essential relief to seniors on fixed incomes. These savings also create a long-term investment in the community's future, as aging impacts everyone—whether it's your parents, siblings, or even yourself. Supporting these services now helps build a stronger, more connected community for years to come.

PROGRAMMATIC RELEVANCY

GOAL:

Ensure LAIVC stays relevant by addressing the evolving needs of our communities and recipients, both now and in the future.

RATIONALE:

By continually assessing the needs of our recipients and aligning our services to meet those needs, we bring our vision to life.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Establish partnerships to connect recipients with resources
- Conduct ongoing "Needs Assessment" of the community
- Align services to address the needs identified in the assessment
- Add an educational component to the website
- Position program services—including **transportation, grocery shopping, telephone reassurance, referral assistance, handyman projects, technology mentoring, and special initiatives like providing Christmas gifts to each program recipient**—as essential support for the local aging community



Honor the past, plan for the future, and take purposeful action in the present.

FORWARD FOCUSED

GOAL:

Secure the long-term sustainability of LAIVC by building a strong asset base of financial and human resources. Invest in technology to meet the organization's growing needs. Actively recruit and retain engaged board members committed to its mission.

RATIONALE:

Time waits for no one, and financial demands will persist with daily operations. Keeping up with evolving technology is essential for efficiently managing any organization. To "future-proof" LAIVC against obsolescence and financial challenges, we must continuously learn, grow, and prepare for what lies ahead.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Build a contingency fund
- Participate in educational opportunities to prepare LAIVC for future trends
- Acquire a new proprietary database to manage daily operations and donor relationships
- Upgrade the technological server platform to enhance efficiency and security