



From the desk of President & CEO Orion Bell

Looking Back

"The only time you should ever look back, is to see how far you've come." -- Berta Lippert

Soon we will be closing the books on 2022. It has been a year of change and growth at Benjamin Rose, as we adapted to changing environments and sought out ways to meet the needs of older adults and family caregivers.

When the year began, many COVID protocols were still in place. Like many agencies, our programs were delivered remotely, online or in limited settings in an effort to limit community spread. This presented challenges for a population on the wrong side of "the digital divide." Fewer than one-third of the clients we surveyed had access to a computer or laptop in the home. Fewer than half had high-speed internet available to them. Benjamin Rose partnered with other agencies to offer Wi-Fi access, computers and computer literacy and other online programs to help older adults gain access to services. And we expanded our own virtual presence in other areas, including [behavioral health counseling](#), [financial education](#) and caregiver supports, all the while looking forward to reopening in-person programming and services. Read the full article at benrose.org/ceo-blog.

There's Still Time to Support Our Annual Campaign!

As we continue to focus our efforts on doing everything we can to keep older adults remain active and engaged, we are asking for your support to ensure we can continue providing lifesaving meals to the older adults who need them most. Make a gift to the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging annual campaign! [Donate now!](#)



WeCare...Because You Do is Now Available at No Cost to Ohio Residents

WeCare... Because You Do, a program of Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging for family caregivers and the older adults for whom they care, is now available at no cost to Ohio residents thanks to a grant from the [CareSource Foundation](#).

Delivered virtually, WeCare empowers caregivers to navigate and coordinate community services, plan for long-term care, address financial and legal concerns, explore housing options and understand respite possibilities. The goal of this program is to reduce stress and provide a personalized approach to assistance as well as access to resources that, oftentimes, caregivers don't know they need – much less know where to find. [Find out how you can get started with WeCare at no cost.](#)

Become a Tax Preparation Volunteer

Tax season can feel stressful and filing taxes can feel overwhelming for many people in our community. While some are able to turn to paid tax preparers, there is a need for high quality services at no cost for our middle to low-income communities.

With no previous experience required, you can help ESOP and Benjamin Rose in preparing free personal income taxes through our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). We are in need of tax preparers and tax site greeters at our free tax clinics between February 2023 and April 2023. [Volunteer now!](#)



Share the Love This Holiday Season

As part of a national partnership with Meals on Wheels America, Subaru of America, Inc. will donate \$250 to the purchaser's choice of participating charities – one of which is Meals on Wheels – for every new vehicle purchased or leased from November 17, 2022, through January 3, 2023. Since the Subaru Share the Love Event began in 2008, Subaru and its participating retailers have donated nearly 4 million meals and friendly visits to seniors being served by local Meals on Wheels programs across the country. [More information.](#)



Upcoming Programs

Financial Education Workshops

[ESOP's five session workshops are offered every other week.](#) January 9—13, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Aging in Place: Know Your Housing Options

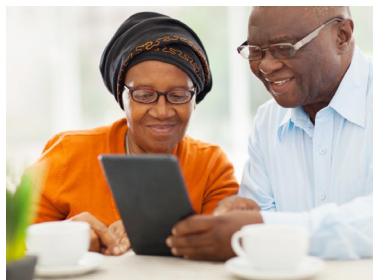
[Learn how to assess your home for safety, accessibility and affordability.](#) January 10, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Home Seller Education: Know Before You Sell

[Explore the best ways to maximize your profits and avoid pitfalls.](#) January 17, 6 - 8 p.m.

Homebuyer Education

[This free class teaches you the basics of the homebuying process.](#) January 23—26, 6 - 8 p.m.



Resources for Caregiving

Visit our Resource Library to find tips and useful information for caregivers.

Each month, we add new content to help caregivers manage a loved one's care, navigate challenges and take care of themselves. Recent articles explore topics such as [useful items to have in the home when caring for a loved on with dementia](#) and [weighing the costs of living options as an older adult](#).

Staff Notes

Orion Bell, president and CEO, authored an opinion article for Crain's Cleveland Business titled [Support for caregivers should come from employers, friends, family.](#)

Lisa Weitzman, MSSA, LISW-S, ASW-G, C-ASWCM, director of strategic partnerships, was interviewed for an article in Crain's Cleveland Business titled [Caregiver resources are a lifeline for families.](#)

Julie Hayes, content manager, authored an article for Next Avenue titled [The Impact of the Holidays on People with Hoarding Disorder.](#)