



From the desk of President & CEO Orion Bell

CEMETERIES

“There won’t be any grass on that one.”

I don’t remember the exact year she said it, but I remember where I was when I heard it. Shortly after my uncle died, I had gone along on a trip with my aunt and my parents to a rural cemetery in eastern Kentucky. The graveyard sits next to a small church near the house where my mother was born. A number of my kinfolk comprising four generations of family are buried there. It had been Memorial Day weekend, and we had gone to visit the gravesites. In many rural communities, Memorial Day (or Decoration Day) is not only a time to remember those who have passed on and to lay flowers on a grave. It may also be the time for maintenance of the plots: mowing, weeding, planting. The shade trees that stand along the gravesides are ones planted by the families of the souls buried there. Along with flowers for the graves, you may also take your hedge clippers or string trimmer when visiting.

Read the full blog at benrose.org



TAKE THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS OWNING YOUR NEW HOME

ESOP’s FREE HUD-approved homebuyer education class can teach you the important basics of the homebuying process. We will provide you with the knowledge you’ll need to secure an affordable mortgage and buy the right house for you.

This full day class will cover the following:

- Understanding credit & managing money
- Learning the mortgage loan process
- Shopping for a home
- Understanding insurance and inspections
- Maintaining and sustaining homeownership

Arrive at 9:30 to sign in and enjoy complimentary coffee and pastries. Lunch will be provided for attendees.

Directly following the Homebuyer Education workshop, we will also be hosting a Pre-Approval Clinic from 4 - 7 p.m. At this event, housing professionals will be available to answer questions and provide resources.

Register at benrose.org



THERE'S STILL TIME TO SUPPORT OUR DAY OF GIVING CAMPAIGN

Thank you to our supporters who helped us celebrate our 115th anniversary and Older Americans Month by contributing to the Day of Giving campaign on May 24. If you missed it, you can still honor the older adults in your life by making a donation today.



Benjamin Rose is responsive and supportive to the needs of older adults and caregivers. By donating to the Benjamin Rose Day of Giving, you will enable older adults to live independently, stay engaged and active in their community, and navigate towards a financially secure future.

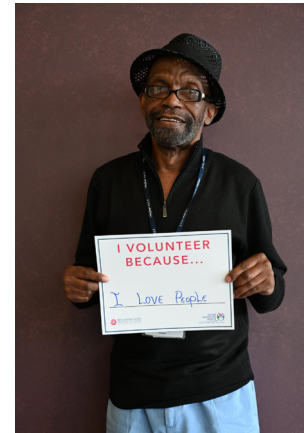
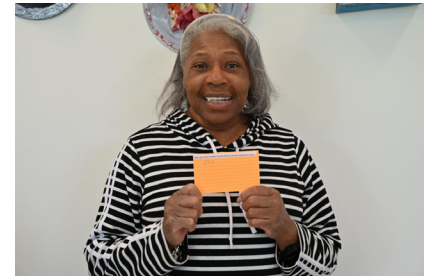
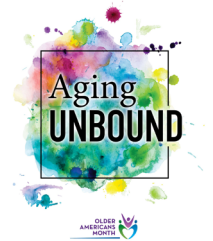
Your contribution, no matter the size, will make a difference in the lives of older adults and those who care for them. Together, let us ensure that Older Americans Month is a time of celebration, empowerment and advocacy for older adults.

[Donate Now!](#)

HAPPY OLDER AMERICANS MONTH!

Established in 1963, Older Americans Month (OAM) is celebrated every May. Led by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), OAM is a time for us to acknowledge the contributions and achievements of older Americans, highlight important trends, and strengthen our commitment to honoring our older citizens.

This year's theme, Aging Unbound, offers an opportunity to explore a wide range of aging experiences and to promote the importance of enjoying independence and fulfillment by paving our own paths as we age. Check out some of the fun from our different older adult participants this past month.



Make a Gift

We need your help to protect and care for the most vulnerable people in our community— older adults, adults with disabilities and caregivers. [Make a gift today.](#)

CALLING ALL GARDENERS!

Do you love gardening?! As a part of Serve Ohio's Day of Service that encourages and promotes hands-on volunteer engagement, we have received funding to create three raised garden beds for the residents of Benjamin Rose's Margaret Wagner Apartments. These raised garden beds will help our older adults to more easily garden, socialize and enjoy nature! To help assemble and plant the garden beds, we are looking for 4 - 6 interested volunteers who are available on Friday June 23 from 9 - 11a.m. The garden beds will be assembled and planted at Margaret Wagner Apartments. Volunteers must be able to lift 30 pounds, stoop, kneel and perform basic gardening duties. We also encourage you to dress in comfortable gardening clothes and feel free to bring your favorite pair of gardening gloves-however ones will be provided for those who do not bring gloves.



If you are interested in volunteering, please reserve your spot by emailing rwhelan@benrose.org or calling 216-373-1932.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Homebuyer Education (Spanish)

- Our free, [HUD-approved class teaches the important basics of the homebuying process](#). June 5 - 8, 6 - 8 p.m.

Bridging the Health Literacy Gap in Dementia Care: A Culturally Inclusive Approach

- [Explore the role of personal and organization health literacy](#). June 7, 1 - 2 p.m.

Financial Education Workshops

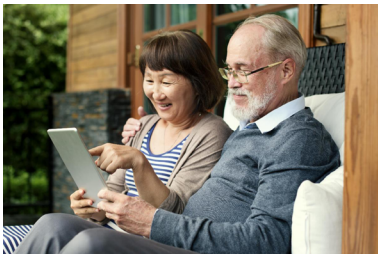
- [ESOP's five day workshops are offered every other week](#). June 12 - 16, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Virtual Second Wednesday with Benjamin Rose

- [Learn more about Benjamin Rose and our programs from President & CEO Orion Bell](#). June 14, 9 - 10 a.m.

Homebuyer Education

- [Our free, HUD-approved class teaches the important basics of the homebuying process](#). June 26 - 29, 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 [simplifying personal care routines for people with memory loss](#), [keeping bones fits and healthy](#), [recognizing the symptoms of dementia with IDD](#) and [changes in mental health](#).

STAFF NOTES

Orion Bell, President & CEO, **Bonnie Paul**, Social Worker and **Leila Washington**, Building Manager, presented **Comfort and Dignity: Addressing the Interests of Older Adults for the Cleveland Council of World Affairs**.

Tam Cooper, Director of Behavioral Health Services, presented **The More You Know: Hoarding** for NAMI of Greater Cleveland.

Chanteal Hall, Care Consultant, presented **When Grit Isn't Enough: The Need to Build Support as a Caregiver** for the National Council of Negro Women Cleveland Section.

Lauri Scharf, Care Consultant & Master Trainer, presented **Emotions, Finances, Caregiving and Moving** for iDESIGN.