

From the desk of President & CEO Orion Bell

A Lesson in Loss

For the past two years, I have had a traveling companion. He's been on business trips and vacations and family gatherings. He's been to Austin and Boston, Seattle and Tampa, Detroit and Los Angeles, and many places in between. He is in a lot of photographs from places I have visited. His name is Notch, a sticker of a Minecraft character that I carry in my wallet. Notch entered my life in a hospital room in the final hours of my father's life. Dad was nearing the end, and family had gathered to be at his bedside. Among them was my seven-year-old grandson. My parents were thrilled to meet their great-grandchildren, and I have to think Dad took some notice of a child's voice among those in the room around him. The atmosphere was somber. We all knew we were saying our goodbyes. And, with the insight that comes with being seven, my grandson took it on himself to lighten the mood. And so, he handed each of us a sticker from the activity book that he had brought on the trip. His parents, his aunts and uncles, and his grandparents, each received a sticker he picked out, along with a bit of why he thought it was the right one. Something that would bring a smile and make us feel better. Mine was Notch. [Read the full blog.](#)



Bingo Night Fundraiser

The Benjamin Rose Young Professional Council invites you to an evening of fun, food and prizes at our Bingo Night Fundraiser, presented by [Skylight Financial Group](#)!

Friday, October 17, 2025

6–8 p.m.

Benjamin Rose Conference Center

11890 Fairhill Road Cleveland, OH 44120

Enjoy a delicious taco bar, drinks and plenty of chances to win exciting prizes—all while supporting Benjamin Rose's programs and services. [Tickets are on sale now!](#)

Become a sponsor of the Bingo Night Fundraiser! Gain visibility for your business while supporting the mission of Benjamin Rose. For more information on bingo sponsorship opportunities, contact Jen Cosma at (216) 373-1688 or jcosma@benrose.org. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, [download the prospectus](#). Online sponsor payments can be made [here](#).



Applications are Now Open for the 2026 Young Professional Council

Are you a young professional looking to give back while growing your leadership experience? Applications are now open for the Benjamin Rose Young Professional Council (YPC) — a group of emerging leaders dedicated to improving the lives of older adults and caregivers in Greater Cleveland.

As a YPC member, you'll:

- Connect with like-minded peers and community leaders
- Gain hands-on experience in outreach, philanthropy, event planning and board governance
- Strengthen your leadership and professional skills
- Play a key role in shaping programs that make a difference for older adults and families

Meetings are held bi-monthly on the last Tuesday of the month from 6:00–7:30 p.m. at Benjamin Rose. Apply by November 14 at 5 p.m. [Apply now!](#)

Harm Reduction for Hoarding: Translating Research Knowledge to Community Practices

Join the Hoarding Connection of Cuyahoga County for their Annual Hoarding Conference! This year’s topic is **Harm Reduction for Hoarding: Translating Research Knowledge to Community Practices**.



During this day long interactive workshop, keynote speaker Christiana Bratiotis, PhD Professor at the University of British Columbia, will give an overview of the definition, diagnostic categorization, demographics, prevalence, course and manifestations of hoarding. Information will also be provided about evidence-based hoarding assessments, including harm reduction interventions and the newly developed Home Environment Assessment Tool for Hoarding (HEATH).

Workshop attendees will have the opportunity to develop skills through hands-on practice with a standardized case study. Tips and strategies for enhancing motivation, effective communication and reducing risk of harm are offered for those working with and supporting people with lived experience of hoarding. Virtual and in-person registration is available. [Register now!](#)

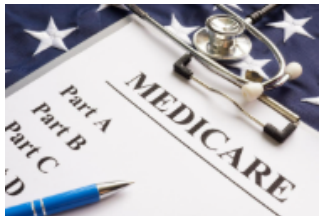
The Emotioal Side of Caregiving

Join us for “The Emotional Side of Caregiving,” a special lunch and learn event where we’ll explore the often-overlooked feelings of stress, guilt, grief, and compassion fatigue that many caregivers experience. Participants will discover practical strategies for managing stress and maintaining emotional balance. We will provide tools for resilience and self-care, as well as time for open discussion and shared experiences. Whether you’re a family caregiver or a professional, this event offers a supportive space to reflect, connect and recharge. [Register now!](#)



Medicare Changes: What Caregivers and Advocates Need to Know

Join us for an important conversation with **Bob Blancato**, Executive Director of the Elder Justice Coalition, as he unpacks the latest changes to Medicare in 2025 and 2026. This webinar will highlight key updates impacting older adults, caregivers, and service providers, and offer insights into how these changes connect to broader advocacy efforts. Participants will gain a clearer understanding of what to expect and how to effectively support the needs of older adults in their communities. [Register now!](#)



Save the Date: Annual Caregiving Conference

Benjamin Rose invites you to join us for our Annual Caregiving Conference, **From Story to Strategy: Empowering Caregivers, Shaping Policy**, on Tuesday, **December 2, 2025**, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year’s full-day conference will explore two central themes: the caregiver experience and the policies that can better support caregivers, such as paid family caregiver leave.

The morning session will feature opening remarks from Regina Brett, author and journalist for The Plain Dealer, followed by keynote speaker and esteemed author **Dasha Kiper** (pictured at right). Kiper will share insights on why caregiving can feel so overwhelming, drawing from brain science to explain the challenges of adapting to illness—and how caregivers can navigate these struggles.



Attendees will also hear firsthand experiences from a panel of local caregivers, moderated by Tiffany Tarpley of Good Morning Cleveland. In the afternoon, the focus will turn to current and emerging caregiver policies, with perspectives from organizations such as Collaborate Cleveland and the Ohio AARP chapter. **Registration is coming soon.**

Sponsor the Caregiving Conference! By joining us as a sponsor, your organization will demonstrate its leadership in supporting the caregiving community while gaining visibility among a diverse and engaged audience. [Download the sponsorship prospectus.](#)

Join Orion Bell to Learn More About Benjamin Rose

Interested in learning more about the programs and services of Benjamin Rose? Join us on **Wednesday, October 8 at 9 a.m.** for Second Wednesdays with Benjamin Rose. Benjamin Rose President & CEO, Orion Bell will provide an overview of the many programs we offer and discuss how you can get involved in our work. [Register now!](#)



Homebuyer Education

Are you interested in buying a home but not sure where to start?

Our FREE HUD-approved homebuyer education class can teach you the important basics of the home buying process. We will provide you with the knowledge you’ll need to secure an affordable mortgage and buy the right house for you. This course is a four-part series. [Learn more!](#)



This registration is for the following days, from 6-8 p.m. on Zoom:

- October 20 (Mon)
- October 21(Tues)
- October 22 (Weds)
- October 23 (Thurs)

Financial Education Workshops

Benjamin Rose, a HUD-approved housing and financial counseling agency, provides a variety of free workshops and counseling services.

Our financial workshops are a five-part series. [Register now!](#)



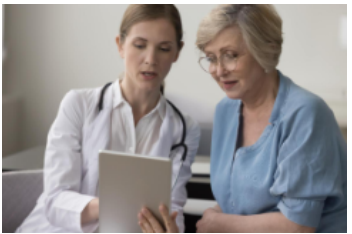
This registration is for the following days, from 2 - 3 p.m.:

- October 20 (Mon)
- October 21 (Tues)
- October 22 (Wed)
- October 23 (Thurs)
- October 24 (Fri)

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 [helping with hoarding cleanup](#) and [advocating for older loved ones in the health care system](#).



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.](#)

Rose Centers Newsletter

Get the latest news and program schedules from the Rose Centers for Aging Well. Sign up today at [ourseniorcenter.com](#).



Staff News

Jessica Bibbo, PhD, senior research scientist, was interviewed for an article titled [Can Dogs, Cats and Other Pets Truly Improve Your Health?](#)

Anthony Bolden, a driver in our Meals on Wheels program, was featured by TV20 in a special ride along they did highlighting the importance of Meals on Wheels. [Watch the interview.](#)

