

Annual Report 2023

OUR MISSION

To empower individuals navigating the aging life cycle with a focus on those 60 years of age and older.



Letter from the Executive Director & Board Chair

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Executive Director, Moraine Valley
Community College

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Downtown Park Forest Property
Manager, Village of Park Forest

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Elder Care Coordinator, MR,
Compassionate Care Coordination,
LLC

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Attorney, Huck Bouma P.C.

On behalf of Pathlights, we are honored to share with you the achievements and progress we have made in our mission to support older adults and help them thrive.

This Annual Report captures the essence of the dedication, resilience and compassion of our team. With support from our staff, volunteers, partners and funders, we have been able to make significant strides in fulfilling our mission. Our service area is home to 88,000 adults age 60 and over and it's our honor to be the trusted resource for them and their families as they navigate their journey.

Our work can be life changing for individuals and those who love them. We listen and empower our clients to take steps that enhance their lives and help them age in the community safely, for as long as possible. Our work is also vital to create strong, healthy, and compassionate communities.

Some of the 2023 highlights include:

Impactful Programs – Our programs have continued to make a tangible difference in lives. New initiatives were launched or enhanced this year include:

- TechWise – a program that trains individuals on how to use technology, assists with internet access, provides a social outlet, and reduces impacts of social isolation.
- AgingWell – a permanent supportive housing program prioritizing older adults who are chronically homeless.
- ARPA Home Project – provides person-centered services related to preserving an older adult's housing and/or preventing homelessness.

Community Engagement – Our strong partnerships with local organizations, volunteers and community leaders have amplified our reach and effectiveness. This year, we participated in over 180 educational and community events. Our volunteers provided 8,802 hours of service.

Building Awareness – Through educational programs, informational campaigns, tool kits and collaborative partnerships, we aim to foster a deeper understanding and ensure that both older adults and those who care for them are well-informed and empowered to access the support they need.

Volunteer Opportunities – This year we have been successful in strengthening existing and forming new partnerships with businesses, sponsors and donors, enhancing our financial sustainability and enabling us to broaden our impact.

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the support we have received and look forward to continuing our important work in the coming years. We invite you to explore our Annual Report which provides an overview of initiatives, financial information, and meaningful outcomes.

Warmest regards,



Elaine Grande
Executive Director



Steven L. Pappageorge
Board Chair



Our Impact



SERVED **70,609** HOME DELIVERED MEALS



INVESTIGATED **532** ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE



HOSTED **61** SUPPORT GROUPS



DIRECTED **25,128** INTAKE AND REFERRAL CALLS



COMPLETED OVER **1,700** COST SAVING APPLICATIONS



SAVED OUR CLIENTS OVER **\$1.2 MILLION**
THROUGH COST SAVINGS BENEFITS PROGRAMS



HELPED **14,900+** CLIENTS

Help After the Hospital

“

The helpers are out there. You are only as alone as you are sitting in your house. Make the first move. Pick up the phone, call community resources, and find out what you might be eligible for.

”

DONNA

Donna is a go-getter. She's curious, motivated to learn new things and has lots of diverse interests. When her son was young, the single mom coached his soccer team and participated in 24-mile open road bike rides with him. She spent a rewarding 40-year medical career at some of Chicago's biggest hospitals.

Retirement meant more time with her son, a move to suburban Oak Lawn and lots of short getaways to visit small towns in Michigan and Wisconsin. Then six years ago **Donna's health needs changed overnight** as a result of a much-needed spine surgery. Before the surgery, she assumed she would spend recovery time in the hospital and a rehabilitation center and then simply go home, bounce back and resume her busy life. So she didn't take much notice when a social worker at the rehab mentioned a community care worker would visit her home to make sure she was safe and getting along well. After all, she was an active 70-year-old who felt like a 20-year-old on a good day.

Melissa, Pathlights' care coordinator, was waiting for Donna the day she came home from rehab by ambulance. Donna looks back to that day now and says she was "in a state of denial" about how she would manage alone on the third floor of a condo building. **"I had no idea how much help I truly needed.** I was really at my lowest point trying to use walker with a permanently dislocated shoulder and arthritis that was getting worse every day. Everything was hard to do."

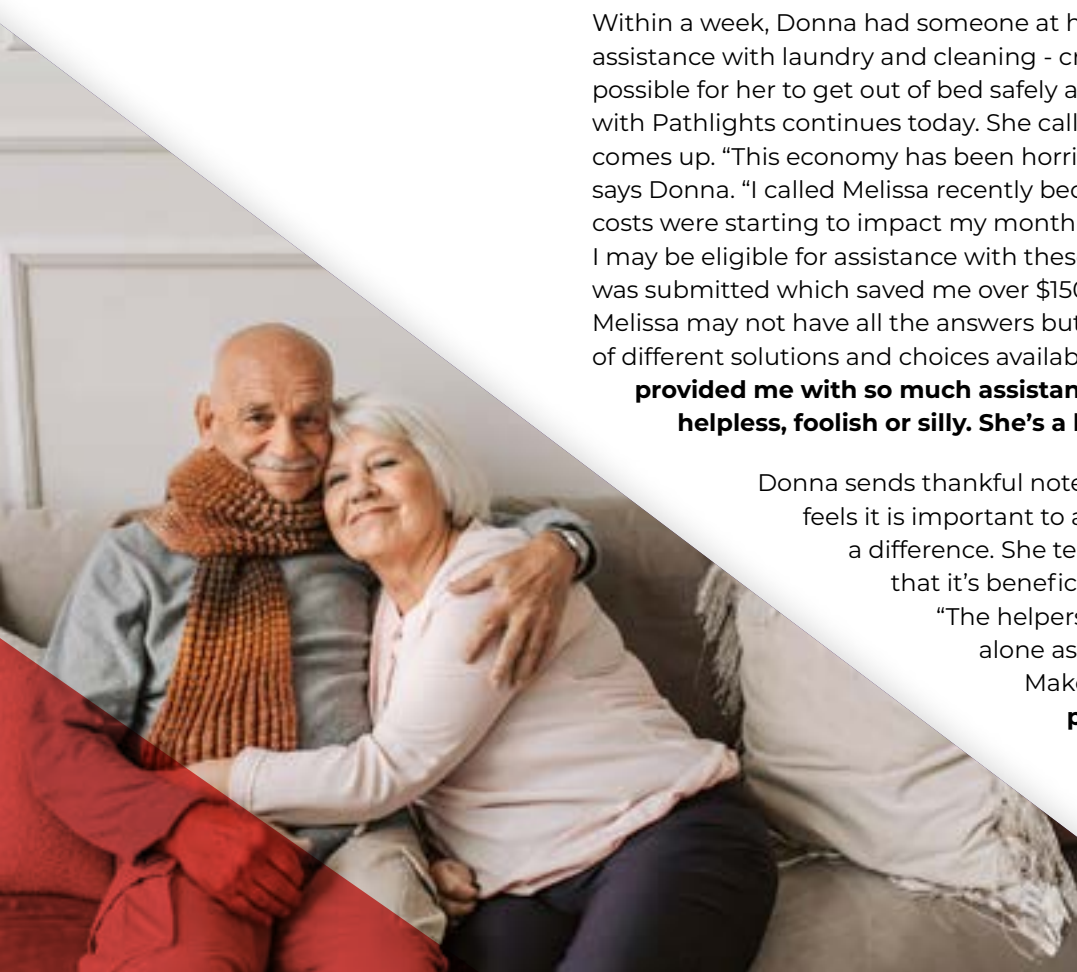
Donna says Melissa was realistic and tactful. She completed a thorough evaluation and told Donna about available resources she was qualified to receive. "She was the helping voice and helping hand I didn't know I needed," she says. **"She guided me with respect and dignity so I could make my own decisions."**

Within a week, Donna had someone at her home to help her. She received assistance with laundry and cleaning - critical services that made it possible for her to get out of bed safely and start to heal. That connection with Pathlights continues today. She calls Melissa when a new challenge comes up. "This economy has been horrid for fixed income folks like me," says Donna. "I called Melissa recently because my incontinence supply costs were starting to impact my monthly budget. She advised me that I may be eligible for assistance with these extra costs and an application was submitted which saved me over \$150 a month." Donna adds that Melissa may not have all the answers but, "she listens to me and has lots of different solutions and choices available. **Through the years, she has provided me with so much assistance - all without making me feel helpless, foolish or silly. She's a keeper."**

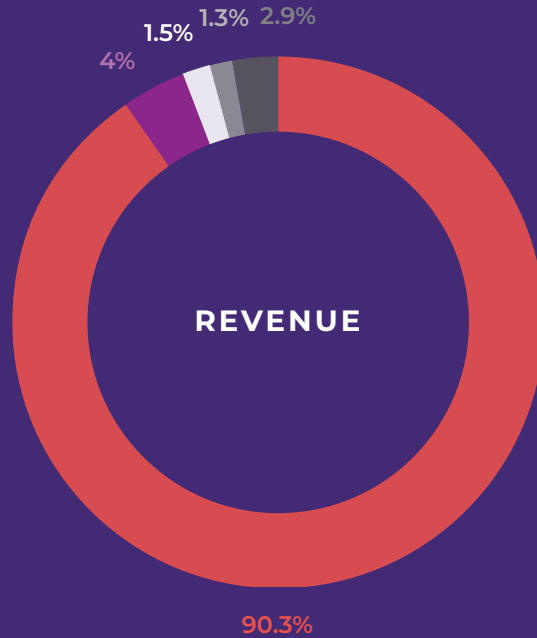
Donna sends thankful notes to Pathlights regularly as she feels it is important to appreciate people who really make a difference. She tells others who are aging in place that it's beneficial to accept community support.

"The helpers are out there. You are only as alone as you are sitting in your house.

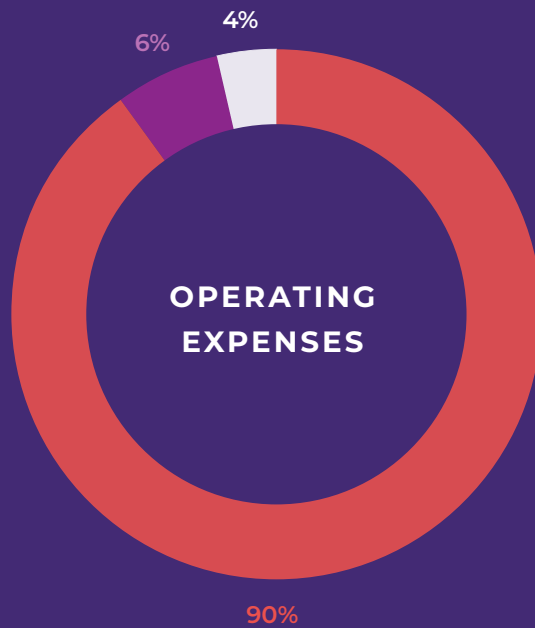
Make the first move. **Pick up the phone, call community resources, and find out what you might be eligible for."**



2023 Financials



- **Government grants**
\$4,835,716
- **Private Foundations**
\$215,969
- **Project Income**
\$82,400
- **Contributions**
\$71,694
- **Other**
\$147,809



- **Program**
\$4,611,515
- **Management and general**
\$329,828
- **Fundraising**
\$180,876

This information summarizes Pathlights' financial activities for the period between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023. A copy of the audited financial statements will be provided upon request.

Thank You

We truly appreciate the generosity of our supporters and partners. You've helped over 14,000 individuals age with independence and dignity in the community.

100%
of board members give back to the organization

136
combined years of board service

8,802
total volunteer hours

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Always Best Care Senior Services
Arden Courts Promedica Memory Care
AT&T
Bria Health Services
ComEd
Franciscan Village
Grace Point Place
Governor's State University School of Extended Learning
Hoyne Savings Bank
JenCare Senior Medical Center
Law Offices of Stephen Sutera P.C.
Mom's Meals
Moraine Court Supportive Living
Moraine Valley Community College
Old Plank Trail Community Bank & Trust
Porter Place
Republic Bank
Right at Home of Orland Park
The Horton Group

COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

Action Sertoma Club Inc.
Calvary Reformed Church of Orland Park
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
City of Hometown
Crestwood Police Association
Gifts for Hope

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Hometown Community Chest
Lemont Junior Woman's Club
LindahI Bros
Lions Club of Lemont
Midwest Operating Engineers Local 150
Oak Lawn Raiders
Orland Park Rotary Club
Palos Heights Woman's Club
Rotary Club of Moraine Valley
State Representative Fran Hurley
State Representative Kelly Burke
State Senator Bill Cunningham
St. Catharine of Alexandria
St. Helen Women's Philoptochos
Surbanan Service League
VFW Post 5819
Village of Alsip

FOUNDATION/FUNDING PARTNERS

AgeOptions
BEDS Plus
Metropolitan Family Services Southwest
Cook County Department of Public Health
Illinois Department on Aging
National Council on Aging
Northern IL Community Initiatives
Northwestern Medicine Palos Hospital
RRF Foundation for Aging
United Way of Metro Chicago

WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED



Corporate Partnership



Donate



Become an Ambassador or Board Member



In-kind donations of incontinence supplies or Homecoming Baskets



Volunteer



Sign up for our Newsletter



Attend an educational event





OUR MISSION

To empower individuals navigating the aging life cycle with a focus on those 60 years of age and older.

OUR VISION

Pathlights aims to be a premier leader in human services, supporting individuals regardless of demographics or circumstances by:

- Maximizing potential across the life cycle
- Providing innovative opportunities and solutions
- Partnering with families and communities

OUR VALUES

- Client and family centered
- Compassion
- Respect
- Professional excellence

CONTACT US

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Jobs@Pathlights.org

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 Pathlights