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# 2026 AgeWell Community Walk

*A Walk - A Celebration - A Community that Cares*

September 12, 2026  
Oak Lawn Park District Pavilion

## Detailed Event Guidelines

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# Pathlights

**Enriched by experience.  
Empowered in life.**

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# Pathlights

## AgeWell Community Walk

*A Walk - A Celebration - A Community that Cares*

### EVENT OVERVIEW



At Pathlights, community is at the heart of everything we do. Guided by our core values—respect, compassion, client-centered service, and professional excellence—Pathlights remains committed to creating a future where everyone can age with dignity, connection, and confidence. Each day, we have the privilege of walking alongside older adults, their caregivers and families, helping them navigate life's challenges. Our commitment to serving the community is more than a mission, it's a promise. A promise to show up, to listen, and to respond with care and integrity.

### What is the AgeWell Community Walk?

Pathlights is offering this first-time family-friendly event to all members of our community. The highlight of the event will be the walk itself showing a united force in the community advocating for older adults. The experience also includes age-friendly fitness activities, community resource booths, food and fun for all ages!

Leading up to the event, participants and teams fundraise to help Pathlights provide the support older adults need to age well in their own homes. — from critical resources to delivering quality care to more than 17,000 people living in Palos, Lemont, Orland, Worth, Bremen and Rich townships. We look forward to engaging with families and businesses who share our commitment to Pathlights' mission and are dedicated to helping raise the funds needed to ensure our continued growth and impact.

We are excited to assemble with an incredible community that is making life better for the older adults and caregivers we serve. The success of our fundraising efforts can lead to the expansion of programs and resources to keep our older population empowered thriving and our caregivers supported.



## Community

# WHY DO WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT?

## Funding Community Match Requirement:

Pathlights receives funding through the Older Americans Act and requires a 15% local match, reflecting a shared commitment between public funding and community investment. Through the support of individual donors, community partners and foundations, we demonstrate that our community values and supports older adults – showing a shared dedication to building strong, healthy communities where people can age well and thrive.

## SUPPORT OVERVIEW

Like you, we believe older adults deserve to live fulfilling and meaningful lives, enriched by the support, connections, and resources within their communities. Our assistance addresses unique needs, fosters independence, and enhances quality of life. Our programs and services are needs-based, and most are available at no cost. We serve people across all financial levels and some programs follow specific eligibility requirements.

## Where are our greatest needs?

In today's changing economy—where nonprofit funding is being reduced on many fronts—Pathlights faces the ongoing challenge of securing more community support. Proceeds from our AgeWell Community Walk play a vital role in sustaining, strengthening and expanding our programs:

- Home Delivered Meals
- Adult Protective Services
- Caregiver Programs and Respite
- Memory Care programs
- Education & Awareness programs



HOME SAFETY



FOOD INSECURITY



FINANCIAL STABILITY



ISOLATION & LONLINESS



LACK OF INDEPENDENCE



CAREGIVING RESPONSIBILITIES

For FY26, Pathlights must raise nearly \$300,000 in community support to maintain vital funding for our programs and services.

# PEER 2 PEER FUNDRAISING FAMILY TEAMS

## Why start a friends and family team?

Pathlights' programs are crucial to help older adults remain safe in their own homes and support caregivers supporting their loved ones. Aging is a shared journey – one that does not have to be made alone and is experienced by all of us every day, not just by older adults. As the number of Americans over age 60 continues to grow so do the needs for our services. We have no doubt you may also know someone who is providing unpaid care for a family member or neighbor - and you probably understand how this responsibility is both gratifying and exhausting.

Whether it's for your spouse, mother, grandfather, friend or simply because you want to make a difference in the world – fundraising for the AgeWell Walk lets you honor your why at our in-person walk event.

## FAMILY TEAMS

## Getting Started

It doesn't just take a village to raise a child. It also takes a village to care for and support our older adults. When you create a fundraising team, your own village can multiply fundraising efforts instantly, enabling us to continue our mission!

Become a team leader and invite your friends and family to join you in raising \$500. Every contribution, big or small, makes a difference — when everyone gives just \$10 or \$20, those gifts quickly add up to reach your goal and strengthen support for older adults in our community.

## Fundraising Tools

When you register your team, you will have access to a variety of tools that will help you to reach your fundraising goal. Use these tools and share them with team members to make the work fun and easy in accomplishing your goal!



## Funding Support/Peer 2 Peer

# PEER 2 PEER FUNDRAISING CORPORATE TEAMS

## Why start a corporate team?

Employees from companies of all sizes can make a difference by participating in the AgeWell Community Walk. Our event can help you to:

- Bring your office colleagues together and provide a great opportunity for team-building!
- Volunteer and represent your company. Employees can show their leadership skills by becoming a Team Captain.
- Give back to your local community!

## CORPORATE TEAMS

## Getting Started

Depending on the size of your company, it is recommended you have at least one designated person to sign up as a Team Captain. For companies where you want to get multiple teams involved you may want to designate a Team Captain for each team. Multiple teams are often created when departments, facilities or divisions want to introduce a bit of friendly company fundraising competition. This element of competition also helps to raise more dollars and will take the company to its goal! The Team Captain/s should lead the effort to recruit additional walkers, personalize the team fundraising webpage, and keep everyone excited and motivated.

## Company Matching Gifts?

Does your company offer a matching gift program? If they do, make sure all team members know how to apply to get their donations matched. You can [search here](#) for your company.

## Corporate Team Tools

When you register your company team, you will have access to a variety of tools that will help you to reach your fundraising goal. Use these tools and share them with team members to make the work fun and easy in accomplishing your goal!



## Funding Support/Sponsorship

# AGEWELL COMMUNITY WALK PARTNER OPPORTUNITY DETAILS



## General Event Underwriting Opportunities - Overview

Companies can choose from a variety of financial support levels, each offering valuable opportunities to showcase their brand at the event and throughout the community.

- **Presenter Level** (\$7,500) features exclusive brand exposure in multiple ways leading up to and at the event. Also includes free registration for your company team to be involved on event day.
- **Impact Level** (\$5,000) features multiple opportunities for brand exposure and free registration for limited team members.
- **Tent Sponsorship** (\$2,500) your choice of tent gives you an opportunity to invest in an aspect of our event that aligns with your mission as well as brand exposure
  - ***\*See corresponding list on page 6 for all available tents***
- **Champion Level** (\$1,000) your investment allows you exposure on our website, t-shirt and additionally on social media.
- **Supporter Level** (\$500) features brand exposure through our website and event t-shirts.

***\*See corresponding chart on page 7 for all specific benefits at each level***

As a corporate partner, your involvement can be customized to help achieve your brand's goals and business objectives, while helping move the mission of Pathlights forward. Please review each of the opportunities outlined in this packet and decide which ones align most closely with your goals and priorities



## Funding Support/ Peer 2 Peer



# AGEWELL COMMUNITY WALK PARTNER OPPORTUNITY DETAILS

## Tent Sponsorships Available



Companies can choose from a variety of interactive themed tents that showcase multiple aspects of Pathlights' commitment to the community. Each tent will have similar basic benefits, while also having unique features associated with its theme. Review the tent options below to see which one your company prefers to support.



**Pathlights Tent** will house information on all of our programs and services. Resources for older adults, caregivers and grandparents raising grandchildren will be available.



**Community Tent** will focus on resources from our trusted partners in the community. Engaging activities are encouraged as well as important information that older adults and caregivers seek to help them navigate the aging journey.



**Registration Tent** will provide a space for team captains and general attendees to pick up their registration items as well as incentive items for our top fundraisers to retrieve. Pathlights' branded merchandise will also be sold here.



**Caregiver Tent** will focus on resources for those caring for a loved one. Engaging activities are encouraged as well as local resources that can help caregivers understand they do not have to manage this role alone.



**Kids Activity Tent** will be a fun and engaging space for kids, featuring interactive activities that help them learn more about older adults. Intergenerational activities are encouraged.



**Sponsor Tent** sponsors who qualify for an exhibitor space, providing an opportunity to share branded materials, promote their company, and engage directly with attendees.



Community



Resources



Funding Support



# PARTNERSHIP LEVELS

## AGEWELL COMMUNITY WALK

Sponsor Benefits	\$7,500 Presenter Sponsor (1)	\$5,000 Impact Sponsor (2)	\$2,500 Tent Sponsor (6)	\$1,000 Champion Sponsor (6)	\$500 Supporter (10)
Featured in all event promotional materials	✓				
Logo on event bibs & event flyer	✓				
Free event registrations	6	4	0	0	0
Website Click through	✓				
Logo in monthly newsletter (3,500 distribution)	✓	✓			
Social Media post on Facebook (1300+ followers)	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Logo on stage banner	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on Pathlights' website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on event t-shirts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Name in annual report	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on Tent Signage			✓		
Distribute branded items in sponsor / or own tent	✓	✓	✓		



Funding Support/Sponsorship



# Pathlights

## AgeWell Community Walk

*A Walk - A Celebration - A Community that Cares*

Thank you for allowing us to educate you about our AgeWell Community Walk. If you are interested in forming a team or sponsoring the event, please contact our Development Team to discuss the details. Our team is happy to answer your questions and help guide you through the process. We hope you will join us on September 12<sup>th</sup> for this exciting new community event!

### Our Development Team



**Alison Parker**

Resource Development Manager  
aparker@pathlights.org



**Karen Young**

Corporate Relations Manager  
kyoung@pathlights.org



#### Email

kyoung@pathlights.org



#### Phone

Office: 708.361.0219

Cell: 773.590.1752



#### Facebook

@pathlightsLL



#### Website

www.pathlights.org

**CONTACT US**