

From the desk of President & CEO Orion Bell

Looking Forward Looking Back

Predicting the future is hard. Predicting the recent past can be even harder. What seemed significant or important in the moment, upon reflection, may not have been. Something trivial or random turns out to be consequential or life altering. Picking out milestones is easier if you have traveled a great distance. Looking back over one year in an organization that has been around for over a century is a bit like describing a trip based on backing out of the driveway. But, it is the end of the year. It is human nature to pause and reflect and predict. So here goes. A lot happened in 2023. [Read the full blog.](#)



There's Still Time to Make Your End of Year Gift

Benjamin Rose delivered 184,555 nutritious meals to aging adults this year—an average of 561 meals a day. The home-delivered meals program means a lot to the older adults in our community.

"The drivers and delivery team that I have are the best; they lift my spirits up on a daily basis when I see them," says Margaret.

Margaret is one of the many who rely on Benjamin Rose for support, but we can't do it without you – **please make a donation to Benjamin Rose before the end of the year to directly impact the lives of older adults today.** [Donate now!](#)

Benjamin Rose Staff Present at the Gerontological Society of America Conference

Staff from the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging attended the Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting in Tampa, Florida in November. The research team presented on a variety of topics highlighting their current research projects:

Farida Ejaz, PhD, senior research scientist II, presented *Acceptability of a Reminiscence Therapy Tablet App: Impact on Residential Care Staff of Persons Living with Dementia*

Samantha Tuft, PhD, research analyst, presented *Predictors of Whether Self-Neglect is Validated by Adult Protective Services Case Managers*

Lacey DiFranco Skrbin, research analyst, presented *Recruiting and Retaining Residential Care Communities During the Covid-19 Pandemic: Lessons Learned*

Farida Ejaz, PhD, Samantha Tuft, PhD and Jessica Bibbo, PhD, senior research scientist, presented *Testing an Intervention to Prevent Caretaker Neglect: Challenges in Recruiting Study Participants*

Morgan Minyo, research analyst, presented *Investigating the Use of Formal and Informal Supports by Older Adults Living Alone with Multiple Chronic Condition*

Jessica Bibbo, PhD presented *Opportunities and Considerations When Working with Aging Pet Owners: The Development of Guides for Professionals.*



Join us for the First Second Wednesday of the Year

Join us virtually from 9 - 10 a.m. EST on **Wednesday, January 10** for the first Second Wednesday of the year! President and CEO, Orion Bell, will provide an overview of the programs and services offered by Benjamin Rose. Second Wednesdays are a great opportunity to learn more about us and how you can get involved in our work. [Register now!](#)

Sorting Out the Risks and Benefits of Medications for Dementia and Mild Cognitive Impairment

Join Benjamin Rose on Thursday, January 18, 2024 from 12– 1 p.m. EST to learn more about the risks and benefits of medications that are currently on the market to treat dementia and mild cognitive impairment. We will also discuss ways to get the most benefit and minimize the risks of these medications and have a brief discussion on medications that are being studied for these conditions that appear to be close to being marketed. Lastly, you will learn from Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging about an evidence-based care-coaching program, BRI Care Consultation™, that is available for free in select counties throughout Ohio to support individuals with, or at risk of, dementia, including individuals with IDD and their caregivers. [Register now!](#)

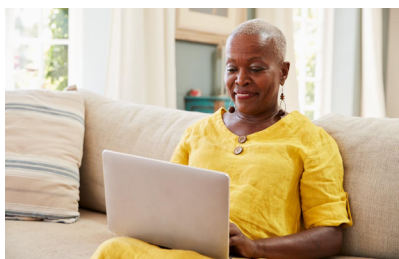


Help Prepare Simple Tax Returns for Individuals & Families

Benjamin Rose is looking for volunteers to help prepare free personal income taxes. In this position, volunteers help to file free and accessible tax returns for middle to low-income participants at one of our free tax clinics between February and April as a part of our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). You can help by volunteering to be a tax preparer or a tax site greeter.

Tax Preparer- Tax Preparer Volunteers help to review taxpayer information, enter information into the electronic filing software, and provide high-quality tax preparation within their certification level and the scope of the program. You will be required to attend one of the free, two-part trainings and become officially IRS certified to prepare taxes for our VITA program.

Tax Site Greeter- Greeters help to welcome taxpayers to our tax clinics and help to review client's documents to ensure they have brought the correct documentation with them, outline the process for clients and make copies of needed documents for tax preparers. [Learn more.](#)



Resources for Caregiving

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

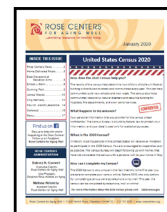
Each month, we add new content to help caregivers manage a loved one's care, navigate challenges and take care of themselves. Recent articles explore topics such as [challenging the stigma of dementia](#), [holiday blues](#), [decoding dementia's genetic condition](#) and [navigating strokes](#).

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 Notes

Orion Bell, president and CEO, served on an expert caregiving panel presented by AARP Ohio. The panel was titled *Leading with Care: Building a Path Forward* and was presented at the Ohio Statehouse in November. You can watch a recording of the panel [here](#). Orion also presented at the AARP Ohio Caregiving Month Town Hall. He discussed family caregiving in Ohio as part of National Caregivers Appreciation Month.

Julie Hayes, content manager, authored Bridging the [Digital Divide Through Education and Empowerment](#) for Next Avenue.

