Your Home Care Source for Montgomery County, MD & Washington, D.C.



Bringing care home.



Our Spotlight Event



# WE TURN THE MIC ON Steve Gurney

Steve Gurney, the renowned voice behind Positive Aging Community, stepping into the spotlight as our guest.

This time, Steve is not the interviewer but the interviewee. It's your chance to see the man who's brought us countless stories and wisdom from the aging community in a whole new role.

But that's not all - you'll have the microphone too! Prepare your questions and be ready to engage in an interactive session.



www.bit.ly/turn-the-mic









Don't miss this unique opportunity to connect, learn, and turn the mic on Steve Gurney.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
THURSDAY, APRIL 11 at 12:00pm

Hosted by: Renan Augusto, MS, CDP, SHSS
Renan is the Director of Digital Marketing for
SmithLife Homecare, In-Home Care & Facility Staffing
SmithLifeHomecare.com

Click to register

See what the buzz is all about!



### Tips from Your Home Care Team: Staying Safe from Scams

Scammers often target seniors, using clever tactics to trick them into giving out personal information or money. Protect yourself by following these key tips:

**Verify Identities:** If contacted for personal info or money, hang up or ignore the message. Contact the company or person directly through trusted means.

**Protect Your Info:** Be cautious with your Social Security, bank, or credit card details. Only share on secure websites (look for a lock symbol in the address bar).

**Stay Informed:** Know about common scams. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) offers updates and alerts. Report any scam attempts to agencies like the FTC to help protect others.

**Use Strong Passwords:** Ensure all your accounts have strong, unique passwords. Consider using a password manager.

**Limit Social Media Sharing:** Be mindful of what personal information you share online. Scammers can use this information to target you.

**Ask for Help:** If you're unsure about a request or offer, talk to a trusted family member, friend, or caregiver before acting.

By staying informed, vigilant, and cautious, you can significantly lower the risk of being scammed and safeguard not only your finances but also your peace of mind.

Still have questions? We're here to help!

Call us at (301) 816-5020 and ask for

Renan Augusto, our Director of Digital Marketing.

# Our Caregiver of the Month

**Congratulations Henedina Ollie!** 



We're thrilled to name Henedina Ollie as our Caregiver of the Month!

Henedina has consistently been praised by her clients for her outstanding professionalism, deep compassion, and proactive approach. A recent client described Henedina as "an absolute angel and very knowledgeable." It's dedicated caregivers like Henedina who position SmithLife Homecare at the forefront of in-home care excellence.

Congratulations, Henedina, from the entire SmithLife Homecare team. Your unwavering dedication to our community is deeply valued!

# Our Spotlight Associate



Name: Andres Arrazola

Title: Sales Manager

Hometown: Sincelejo, Colombia

**Favorite pastime:** Going to restaurants, cooking, spending time with family and watching football- go Ravens!

**Favorite food:** Italian, Latin cuisine, BBQ. My favorite BBQ is brisket, ribs and pulled pork.

**Favorite movie:** Shawshank Redemption and all Marvel Comic movies.

Favorite part of the job: Meeting new people and being able to help.

# **Exciting Recaps of Events**

At the recent Lunch and Learn hosted by Holy Cross
Germantown Hospital, Andres
Arrazola, our Sales Manager,
delivered an informative talk.
The event was a collaborative
effort where SmithLife
Homecare and Charles E.
Smith Life Communities
engaged with hospital staff,
introducing their
comprehensive services and

ongoing care opportunities aimed at enhancing the quality of life for seniors.



SmithLife Homecare and Charles E. SmithLife Communities were excited to host a breakfast event in honor of Social Workers Month, together with the care navigators at Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center.

We offer our warmest thanks to Bridget Edell for her excellent coordination of this gathering, and we are thankful to our partners, Charles E. Smith Life Communities, Veronica Beckley, and Angelique Jackson, for their crucial roles in ensuring the event's triumph. □





We enjoyed networking at the GROWS Extravaganza,
Margaret Schweinhaut Senior
Center! It was a fantastic
opportunity to connect with
peers and discuss their
valuable work in senior
planning across Montgomery
County. Thanks for welcoming
us!



Chesapeake Hearing Centers and the Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce hosted an engaging informational meeting. The discussion focused on the profound implications of hearing on balance, cognitive functions, and potential connections to dementia, proving to be both insightful and thought-provoking. At SmithLife Homecare, we are thrilled about the chance to network and collaborate with our peers in the community, underscoring our commitment to enhancing health and wellness together.



# What's Happening Soon

# COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

UNDERSTANDING HOSPICE CARE FOR SENIOR SERVICE PROFESSIONALS.

### WHEN

**April 4, 2024 8:30 – 10:30 AM** 

#### WHERE

# Montgomery Village Health Care Center

19301 Watkins Mill Rd, Montgomery Village, MD 20886

#### **REGISTER AT**

HTTPS://GROWS.MEMBERCLICKS.NET/COURAGEOUS-CONVERSATIONS



#### PANEL:



ILENE GRUBER, MSSW Hospice Care Consultant Heartland Hospice



MAKIA KAPLAN Clinical Liaison Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA)



ALLISON K.
STEARNS
Chief Executive
Officer
CaringMatters

# **Courageous Conversations**

Catch up on the latest in senior care brought to us by GROWS at the upcoming 'Courageous Conversations' panel discussion focused on 'Understanding Hospice Care for Senior Service Professionals.'

Scheduled for April 4, 2024, from 8:30 to 10:30 AM at the Montgomery Village Health Care Center, this event promises enlightening insights from esteemed panelists Ilene Gruber, MSSW from Heartland Hospice, Maria Kaplan from Jewish Social Service Agency, and Allison K. Stearns of CaringMatters.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with industry experts and enhance your knowledge. Join us for a morning of impactful learning and networking!

Click to register



# Thursday, April 11, 12:00-1:00 pm, on Zoom We Turn the Mic on Steve Gurney

Join us for an unscripted dialogue with Steve Gurney, the trailblazer of the Positive Aging Community. On April 11th at 12 PM, engage with Steve in a spontaneous conversation that promises to be as enlightening as it is unpredictable. No scripts, just authentic interaction—your chance to ask the questions that matter to you.

Secure your spot, share with peers, and prepare for an event that's all about meeting the man who brought the Positive Aging Sourcebook community together.

Click to register

Our Latest Blog: Innovative Solutions for Combating Loneliness in the Elderly



Loneliness among elderly people is an increasingly recognized social and health issue affecting millions of older adults around the world. While it's a common part of the aging process for some, it doesn't have to be inevitable. [Read More]

Continue reading

# Ask the Expert with Marielba Rivera-Velazquez

In this enlightening session, Erika Chavez from SmithLife Homecare sits down with the esteemed Estate Planning and Elder Law Attorney, Marielba Rivera-Velazquez, founder of MRV Attorneys and Counselors at Law.

Dive into the crucial conversation about what Marielba affectionately terms "The Super Powers" - the vital ancillary documents that serve as the backbone of an effective estate plan.

Discover the Super Powers: Learn about the ancillary documents you didn't know you needed.

**Expert Guidance**: Gain insights from Marielba Rivera-Velazquez, a seasoned expert in Estate Planning and Elder Law.

**Plan with Confidence**: Understand why these documents are indispensable for a robust estate plan.

This session is a must-watch for anyone looking to safeguard their future and ensure their wishes are honored. Whether you're just starting your estate planning journey or looking to refine your existing plan, Marielba's expertise will guide you through the essentials of an ironclad estate strategy.



Click to watch

#### Let's Give Back

Join us in a movement to nourish the lives of Montgomery County's seniors. By donating to the Senior Nutrition Program, you're providing more than just meals—you're offering community, comfort, and care to those facing food insecurity. Every \$7.99 helps us serve a warm, nutritious meal and a side of companionship.

Act now—your donation is their lifeline. Scan the QR code to contribute today, because together, we can ensure that no senior goes hungry. Your support means everything to them. <u>Click here</u> or on the flyer to support!



10% of Maryland seniors (over 1 million) are food insecure.

The <u>Montgomery County Senior Nutrition Program</u> fights that by providing congregate meals at community centers, senior centers, and low-income senior housing. Eating together reduces feelings of isolation and depression among seniors.

Each meal we serve at one of these locations costs \$7.99.

You can help ensure seniors don't go hungry by donating even a small amount.

Please help your friends and neighbors to enjoy nutritious and delicious meals by donating today.



We've made donating easier than ever!

Just scan the QR code to make a cashless donation!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

For more information about our program please visit: www.montgomerycountymd.gov

#### Mark Your Calendars



#### April is:

- Parkinson's Awareness Month
- Occupational Therapy Month
- Stress Awareness Month

#### Weeks

April 7-13 - Public Health Week

**April 7-13** - Integrated Respiratory Care Week

#### **Dates**

**April 7** - World Health Day

April 15 - Tax Day

**April 16** - Healthcare Decisions Day

**April 18** - Exercise Day

April 22-30 - Passover

April 22 - Earth Day

#### **SmithLife Celebrates**

- Happy birthday to our Scheduling Coordinator, Hupert Hoff!
- Happy birthday to our Registered Nurse, Joseph Siakam!
- Happy birthday to our Scheduling Coordinator, Pearl Mensah!

# Trusted Resources

We understand the importance of having access to reliable and informative resources for caregivers, patients, and their families. That's why we've curated an extensive list of resources, designed to support you through every step of your caregiving journey. Click below to learn more about our suggested resources.

Click for resources

#### **Current Promotion for You**

**This is the last month!** Don't miss out – this exclusive promotion is ending soon! Initiate your service or introduce a new client to SmithLife Homecare now, and receive 4 hours of exceptional care at no cost, a generous saving worth over \$100!

Act swiftly to take advantage of this limited-time offer and enhance your home care experience with SmithLife Homecare.

To qualify for this offer, the service must meet a daily minimum of 8 hours. For more details, please refer to the coupon. Remember to mention the coupon code '100BILL' to redeem this offer.







SmithLife Homecare offers in-home care at home, or wherever you call home. Call us today to learn more about our personal care & health support, lifestyle care, respite care, dementia care and array of other home care services.

Did you know we are one of the area's premier choices for facility staffing? Call today for more information!

> Maryland: (301) 816-5020 Washington, D.C.: (202) 221-7503

smithlifehomecare.com info@smithlifehomecare.com

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SmithLife Homecare is a joint venture of Charles E. Smith Life Communities and Augustine Home Health Care. SmithLife Homecare combines the services and capabilities of these two respected providers.

Licensed as a residential service agency by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Office of Health Care Quality and Washington DC Department of Health as a Home Support Agency.

MD #RSA-01265 | DC #HSA-0014

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