

# OUT AND ABOUT

At Home In Darien P.O. Box 1242 Darien, CT 06820 203.655.2227 Gina@AtHomeInDarien.org www.AtHomeInDarien.org

#### **SPECIAL EDITION**



Dear Friends,

Darien is a special place to call home. It is a beautiful town with a great small-town feel and sense of community. The vast majority of Seniors who have raised their families here want to stay "at home in Darien". They want to remain living in their own homes, surrounded by memories, friends and community.

**At Home In Darien** provides important services — transportation, help around the house, and information — that help many Seniors stay in town with dignity, quality of life and independence. We also help families who need guidance and assistance as they support aging parents and grandparents.

This Annual Report highlights our second full year of operation and how your involvement has allowed us to make a difference in so many lives by providing much needed services. We are appreciative of our supporters —

generous donors and volunteers — and encourage more of you to join your neighbors in supporting **At Home In Darien** in order to help seniors stay at home in Darien.

Volunteer, donate, call us for assistance, or refer someone you care about.



Gina Z. Blum

Executive Director of At Home In Darien

## **OUR NAME**

You knew us as Aging in Place+Gallivant, but in 2013 we became At Home In Darien to better reflect our focus of helping Darien seniors live independent lives in their own homes, right here in Darien.

"At Home In Darien is particularly helpful to me. I have been volunteering at the hospital for years and I couldn't **OUT MISSION:** "Helping Darien seniors live independently, comfortably and with dignity in their own homes and the community as long as possible."

## SPOTLIGHTING...



Kaye Barker, LCSW, 42 year Darien resident, and former At Home In Darien Board President

Kaye is proud to see the success **At Home In Darien** has made. "We're part of the national 'aging in place' movement to help Seniors stay in their own homes as long as possible. As a Social Worker, I know how important it is for seniors to stay involved in their community." By offering transportation and other services, **At Home In Darien** helps seniors stay connected and retain their

independence. Kaye also appreciates that we distinguish ourselves from

similar organizations in our neighboring towns because we are not a membership organization. "We are here for all Darien residents, and since the community has embraced our efforts and generously supported **At Home In Darien**, we are able to offer services with no membership fees — something every Darien resident should take advantage of and can appreciate."

get there and back without you!" – Dan J.

	2013-201	2013-2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
	Barbara Adams	Charlie England	John Schmidt	
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2014

## SENIOR POPULATION TRENDS

## Connecticut is graying faster than almost every other state in the nation.

Almost 90% of Connecticut Residents desire and expect to remain in their own homes and communities as they grow older.

This percentage is expected to reach 20% by the next decade.

20,732 residents of Darien

3,277

(15.8%)

of them are age 60 & over

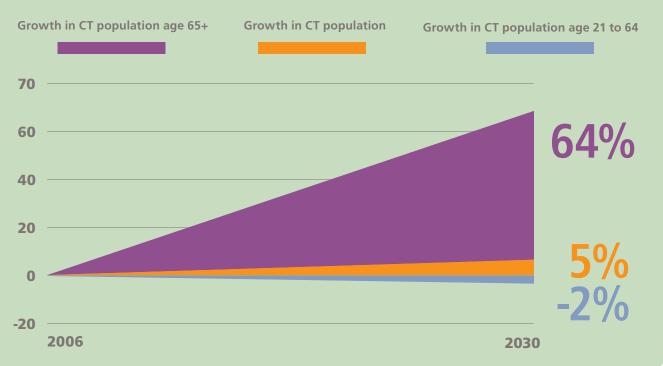
Life expectancy in the US in 2011 was **78**, **7**, **y**ears and it's on the rise.

The first of the baby boomers hit 65 in 2011, and Connecticut's 65+ population is expected to grow by more than 64% by the time the last boomer turns 65 in 2029.

#### Connecticut's Older Adult Population Projected Growth Over Next 20 Years

The senior population is on the rise across America. During the last decade, Connecticut's 65+ population grew faster than the general population. This trend is expected to continue for more than another decade.

At Home In Darien is looking ahead and building services to meet the increasing needs of our senior population.



## SPOTLIGHTING...



#### Ben Smith, 60 year Darien resident

At Home In Darien Volunteer Driver Ben enjoys volunteering.
When he gets a request to drive a senior in his car to a medical appointment in Greenwich or Westport (beyond At Home In Darien's service area), or early in the morning or late in the afternoon (outside the professional drivers' hours), Ben is happy to help. He says "Helping seniors get around – what could be more rewarding?"

"I'm not able to get out and do grocery shopping so having Lois volunteer each week to be my shopper is a blessing."
Marsha J.

## **OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS**



## **KEY SERVICES**

#### **Transportation**

- Door-to-door transportation for Darien Seniors and the disabled.
- Service within Darien, Stamford, New Canaan and Norwalk.
- Operating every weekday between 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Reliable Professional drivers.
- Transportation to and from medical appointments, shopping, or to social events anywhere Seniors want to go!

#### Volunteers

Our trustworthy volunteers assist Seniors as follows:

- Friendly Drivers provide transportation to and from towns we don't service, at hours we don't operate, or when someone needs to be accompanied to an appointment.
- Friendly Visitors make home visits.
- Friendly Shoppers run errands and grocery shop.
- Friendly Helpers take care of small tasks around the home.

#### **Vetted Service Provider Referrals**

- Referrals to reliable and affordable tradespeople.
- Ongoing updates and expansion of database.
- Discounted rates for Seniors.
- Provides peace of mind.

#### **Senior News**

- Information about events and resources.
- *Out and About* Newsletter is delivered to every Darien mailbox three times per year.
- Monthly e-mail communications highlight local events and services.

#### **Senior Activities and Programs**

Social, cultural, educational and wellness programs in partnership with local organizations.

#### **Advice and Resources for Seniors**

Assist Seniors and their families to get the answers and resources they need.

## SPOTLIGHTING...



#### Betty Lotz, 60 year Darien resident

Betty calls **At Home In Darien** when something needs fixing at her home. Sometimes the help comes in the form of a Friendly Volunteer, and sometimes it's a referral to a vetted service provider. It gives her peace of mind to know that **At Home In Darien** has screened volunteers as well as plumbers, electricians, carpenters and all sorts of tradespeople. "It's wonderful to know who to call when I need some help around the house. Everyone is courteous and does a good job, and the prices are reasonable too. **At Home In Darien** is a great help to me."

## COLLABORATION

We collaborate with a wide array of community organizations including Darien Senior Activities Center, Darien Community Association, the Darien Library, and the Town of Darien, to deliver a broad range of community resources to Darien Seniors. "Being a Volunteer Visitor has made such a difference in my life, and Mary's life. We both look forward to our weekly Scrabble games." – Melanie L.

#### SPOTLIGHTING...



Pearl Falcioni, 73 year Darien resident Pearl has family in town, but appreciates that At Home In Darien is there to also help. She prides herself on all she does on her own, and says, "I want to live independently as long as I can", but she asks for help when she needs it. Sometimes it's a ride to a dental appointment, other times she stops by the office with a question. Whatever the need, she's glad to know At Home In Darien is there for her and other Seniors.

### STAFF Gina Z. Blum,

#### **DRIVERS** Satya Akula

**Rick Tymon** 

Lillie Williams

Executive Director Sandi Kornblum, Office Coordinator

## VOLUNTEERS

Barbara Adams Lois Berry Reva Corrigan Dakota DiMattio Charlie England Nancy Kevorkian Melanie Lynch Bob Miller Nina Miller Sarah Packer Carol Reed Ron Safran Ben Smith Maureen Tyrrell Maureen Bresnan Ward Robin Woods

Darien High School Blue Wave Senior Fan Club

Darien High School Shoveling for Seniors students

Leaf Rakers including:

Adventure Guides and Princesses, Darien YMCA

Boy Scout Troop 35 Church of Latter Day Saints Volunteers

Darien Youth Hockey Travel Squirt A

St. Thomas Moore Church Youth Volunteers

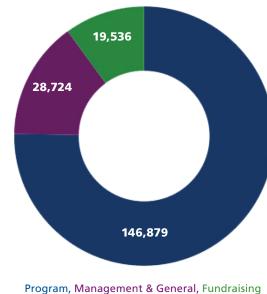
## A LOOK AT OUR FINANCES

At Home In Darien's financial condition remains healthy and stable. The majority of our funding comes from private donations generously contributed by members of the Darien community. We thoughtfully and responsibly spend funds to provide free services and assistance to benefit Darien seniors so that they can remain living independently.

#### 2013 REVENUE

Contributions	\$217,778
Transportation Contributions	\$5,692
Grant Income	\$2,000
Business Contributions	\$2,505
In-kind Contributions	\$12,000
Interest Income	\$2,016
Total	\$241,991

## **2013 EXPENSES** (total \$195,139) Allocation of functional expenses



"I am glad to support At Home In Darien and to also use their services. I can afford to hire a cab to get me where I want to go, but I prefer to call the friendly At Home In Darien office staff who know me and arrange a ride. The service is convenient and reliable. I'm glad to contribute to **At Home In Darien** so that services can continue to grow." - Ray E.

## DONORS

#### We thank you, our donors, for making us an incredibly vital organization that provides important services to Darien Seniors, their neighbors, friends and loved ones.

Anonymous Barbara Adams Irene Adsuar Nancy and Ricardo Albu Sally and Michael Algiere Jeanette Algiere Margaret and Bill Anderson Kathy Hammell and Steven Anderson Billie and Peter Anker Anne and Peter Ardery Karen and Jim Armour Anne and Michael Armstrong Janice and Douglas Arrol Pat Atkin Joseph Augustus Georgia and Roger Bacon Cornelia Bailey Jean and Robert Baker Dorothy Baker Mary and William Ball Sally and Bill Banks April and James Barker Kaye and James Barker Joan and Edgar Barksdale John Barston Diane and Michael Barston Liliana and John Barston Sally and John Bassler Nancy and Bill Battey Lois and Bob Baylis Amy and Tom Bell Audrey and Nils Benson Lois and Richard Berry Susan and Suresh Bhirud Julie Bishop Kathleen and John Blackman Debbie and Mark Blackman Gina and David Blum Donna and Joseph Bonfiglio Ann Bowling Dulcy and Spencer Brainard Jane and John Branigan Janice Brissette Rose Buch Elise and Macdonald Budd Anne Burleigh Genevieve Burlingame Ronald Buttendorf Juliet Cain Barbara Callaghan Mollie and John Callagy Allie and Byron Callan Mimi Griffith and Jim Cameron Susan Cameron Nancy and George Cammann Sandra and Doug Campbell David Campbell Nancy Cannon Jenny and Jack Capocci Edward Carabillo Jennifer Carter

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Griswold Home Care Foundation Aesthetic & Maxillofacial Surgery Center of Darien, P.C. Automotive Restorations, Inc. Felix F. Callari, Inc. Gtechniq Na LLC G&W Railroad Services Pitney Bowes Matching Gift Program St. John R.C. Church

## SPOTLIGHTING...

At Home In Darien's handicap accessible minibus, "Gallivant", played an imperative role in improving Paul and Judy Rodriguez's life after Paul suffered a stroke in November of 2012 that left him wheelchair bound. "Due to the reliable transportation, Paul was able to get to his medical appointments and out to enjoy doing things that he did prior to his stroke," says Judy. "His favorite rides were those to the Tokeneke Club for lunch and to the Garden Club of Darien's Flower show at the DCA. These rides, where Paul was able to see friends and familiar places, made him so happy and truly improved his quality of life." The Rodriguez family considered buying their own wheelchair accessible vehicle, but realized that it was easier to use At Home In Darien's services. Several months after Paul's death in November of 2013, Judy and her daughters generously donated the funding, in Paul's honor, to purchase a new handicap accessible vehicle for At Home In Darien. The new **Paul Rodriguez** Toyota Sienna minivan provides a much more comfortable and stylish ride. 1929-2013



Anne Rodriguez McGuire and Judy Rodriguez with the new minivan.



### JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS

The majority of our support comes from members of the Darien community. We depend on your donations to continue to serve Darien's seniors. Please send a generous gift to At Home In Darien, P.O. Box 1242, Darien, CT 06820.

Contact us for information about making a donation of securities. At Home In Darien is a private, exempt, non-profit 501(c)3 organization, and contributions are tax-deductible.