



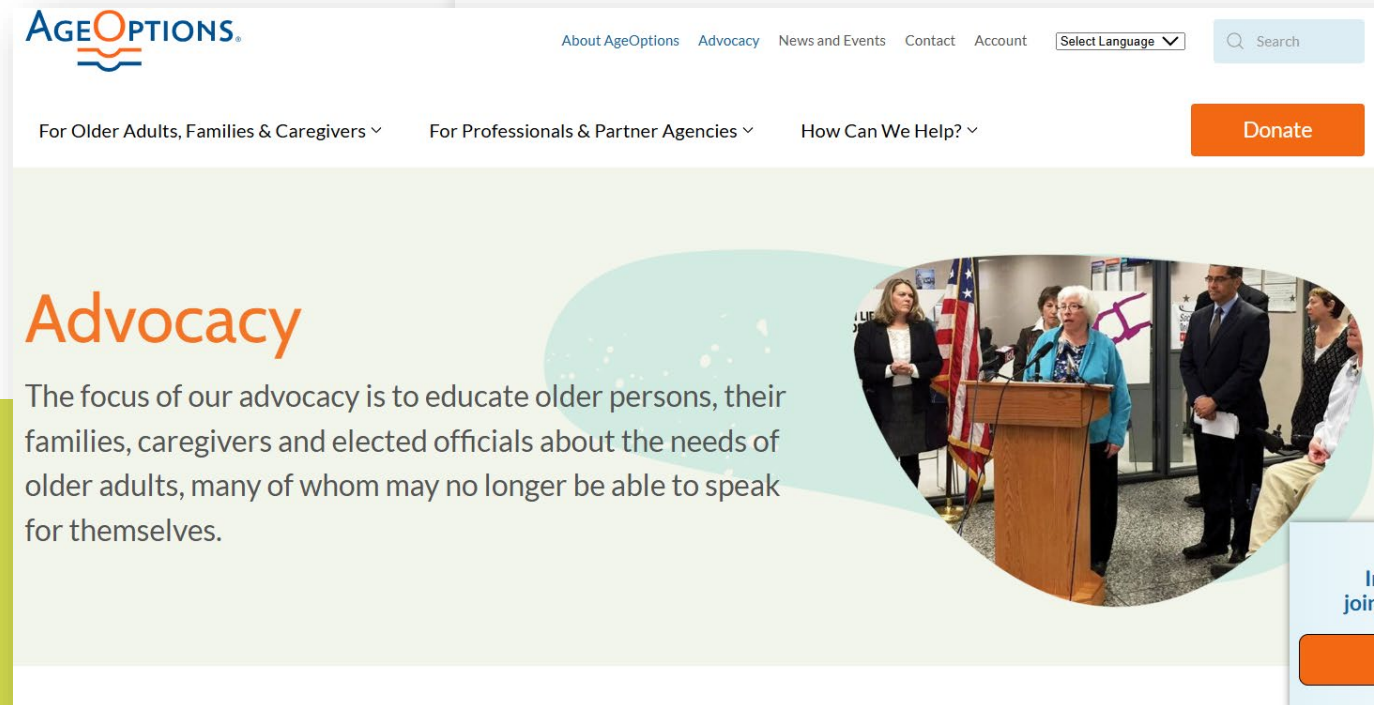
Library CARES  
Q2 FY 2025 Meeting  
March 18, 2025

## Objectives:

- **Welcome!**
- **Advocacy** – Peter Byer
- **FY25 Administrative**
  - Older Americans Month 2025
  - Dates to remember
  - Reporting Form
  - Aging Services Displays
  - Stories and Photo Submissions
- **Library Evaluation Survey FY25** –Results from January and February
- **Aging Services Agency Presentation Requirement**
  - Mauria Owens
  - Aging Services Share and Tell
- **Financial Literacy Month** – Jessica Mercer
- **Share and Tell**
- **Partner Webpage**
- **Q&A, Requests, Adjourn**

# How Can You Help?

## Peter Byer, Advocacy and Public Policy Specialist



<https://www.ageoptions.org/about-ageoptions/advocacy/advocacy-alerts/#/>  
[Peter.Beyer@Ageoptions.org](mailto:Peter.Beyer@Ageoptions.org)

Step 1 – At the AgeOptions home page, click “Advocacy” to get the dropdown options you see below, then click on “Advocacy Alerts”.



[About AgeOptions](#) [Advocacy](#) [News and Events](#) [Contact](#) [Account](#)

[Select Language](#) ▼

[Search](#)

[For Older Adults, Families & Caregivers](#) ▼

[For Professionals & Partner Agencies](#)

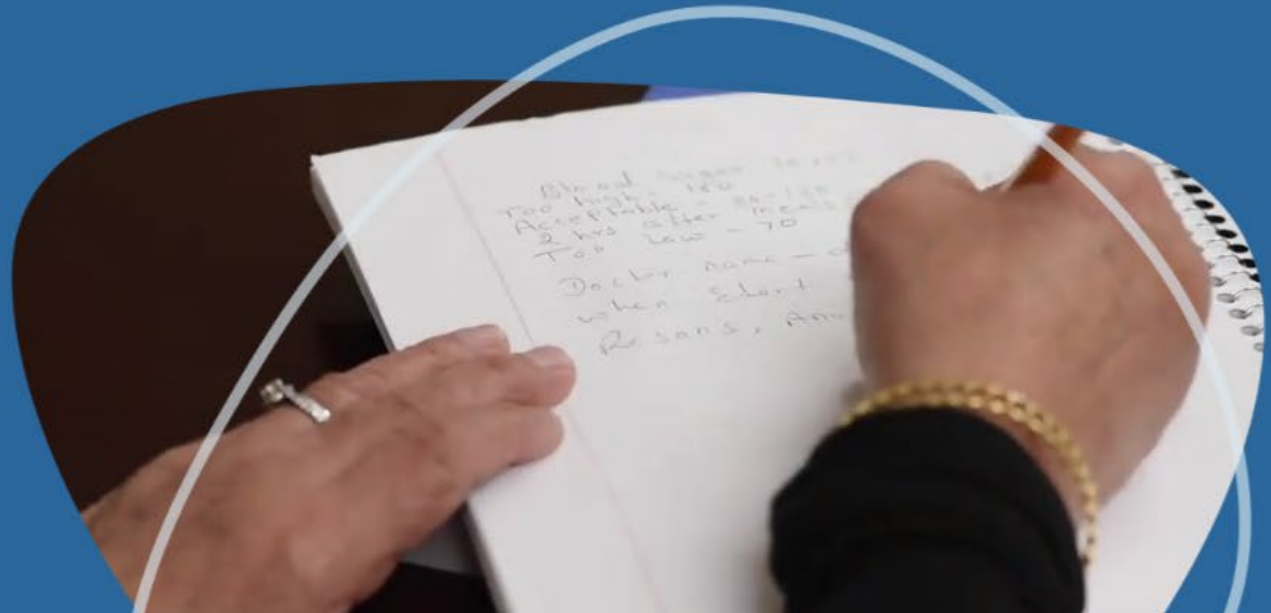
[Advocacy Overview](#)

[Advocacy Alerts](#)

[Need Help?](#) ▼

[Donate](#)

Helping  
People  
Thrive As



Step 2 – Scroll down. Under the “Our Issues” bar you will see potential actions to take. Find the correct issue and click “TAKE ACTION”.

[Home](#) [Directory](#) [Bills](#) [Votes](#) [Elections](#) [Media](#)

## Our Issues


### Release the Funds - Send a Letter Directly to President Trump

On Tuesday, January 28 the White House announced a funding freeze on all federal grants and loans.

**This announcement jeopardizes funding for countless organizations including AgeOptions that deliver needed services to older and disabled adults.**

**Action Needed:** Contact the President to **urge him to reverse** the federal funding freeze.

TAKE ACTION



Step 3 – Fill in your mailing address. This is so the program sends the letter to the correct legislators.

### Release the Funds - Send a Letter Directly to President Trump

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**This announcement jeopardizes funding for countless organizations including AgeOptions that deliver needed services to older and disabled adults.**

**Action Needed:** Contact the President to **urge him to reverse** the federal funding freeze.



#### Enter Your Address

#### Outreach Options

Your outreach options will appear here for your review after you enter your address.

Step 4 – Add your contact information.

In the body of the letter you can also choose to add a personal message.

If you would like, you can “Preview” the letter. When satisfied, click “Send”.

### Contact Information

Prefix (required) ▼

First Name (required)

Last Name (required)

Email (required)

Mobile or Home Phone (required)

1048 Lake St.  
Oak Park, IL 60301-1546

[I would like to change my address](#)

☒ Remember Me

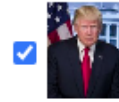
☒ I would like to receive email in the future.

SEND

PRINT AND MAIL

PREVIEW

### Message



President Donald Trump  
(R)

Subject: Please reverse the federal funding freeze immediately!

Dear [[Recipient's Title and Name]]:

I am writing to ask you to reverse the federal funding freeze. This freeze will have a devastating impact on essential programs and services that support older adults and their caregivers.

People will go hungry without this funding. AgeOptions, serving older adults in suburban Cook County, IL, serves an average of over 6,000 meals daily, with support from federal dollars.

(Please insert your own story of impact here)

Without swift action, many individuals will face significant hardships. These programs rely on stable funding to deliver crucial services such as caregiver support, transportation and meal delivery. Please stand up for those who rely on these services and help ensure that funding is restored.

We need your leadership now more than ever.

Sincerely,

[ Your Full Name ]

Step 5 – There are capabilities for sharing on social media. Click on the icons you see below and follow instructions for easy sharing. If you try to share and run into issues, the problem is the settings of your social media page.



**Thank you!**

Thank you for taking action on this important issue.



**What's Next?**

TELL A FRIEND

SHARE ON YOUR WEBSITE



Step 6 – You're done. Thank you for making your voice heard on this important issue!



## Thank you!

Thank you for taking action on this important issue.



## What's Next?

TELL A FRIEND

SHARE ON YOUR WEBSITE

# *How Can You Help?*

*Federal funding threats to the Institute of Museum and Library Services*

*Show Up for Our Libraries*



<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/outlook-on-threats-to-libraries/>  
**and** <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/show-up-for-our-libraries>

# Shout out to Daniela and the Maywood Public Library!

## New Library Director

Public December 19, 2024

On Wednesday, December 18, 2024, the Maywood Public Library District has officially announced, Daniela Martinez, as their new Executive Library Director.

Daniela graduated from Dominican University in 2021 with her Master of Library and Information Science, with a concentration in Youth Services.

She has been working at the Maywood Public Library District for over 10+ years. She started as a page on the Children's Floor and has worked in each library department, to then becoming the Head of Youth Services in 2021. She now states, "I am honored to be able to grow in this library alongside a hard-working group and thrilled to work with everyone in this new role as Library Director!".

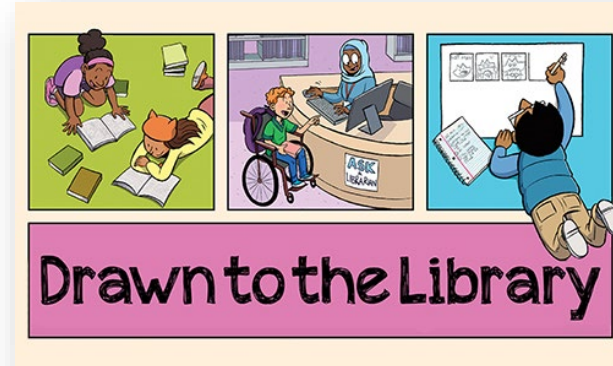
Let's give it up for Daniela!



<https://railslibraries.org/libraries/news/118688>

# National Library Week *Drawn to the Library*

*Whatever draws you in, the library has something for everyone.*



***Libraries work because we do!***



# Q1 FY25 Reporting

**Thank you!**

100% success  
rate for Q1 FY25  
report  
submittals!



**THANK  
YOU**

# FY25 Administrative Details

## Q2 FY25 Reporting Form by due by April 4, 2025

- Please use only the most recent version (As of **02.21.2025**)
- Can be found on the updated Partner Webpage/my emails
- Unique Participants and units as hours
- Please turn in as soon as possible (starting now)

## Aging Service Display Photos – thank you for submitting

## Please continue to submit

- Success Stories
- Photo Submissions



# FY25 Quarterly Mandatory Meeting Dates

At least one person must be in attendance from each partner library at *each quarterly meeting*:

- ~~Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024~~
- ~~Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025~~
- Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025



# FY25 Reporting Due Dates

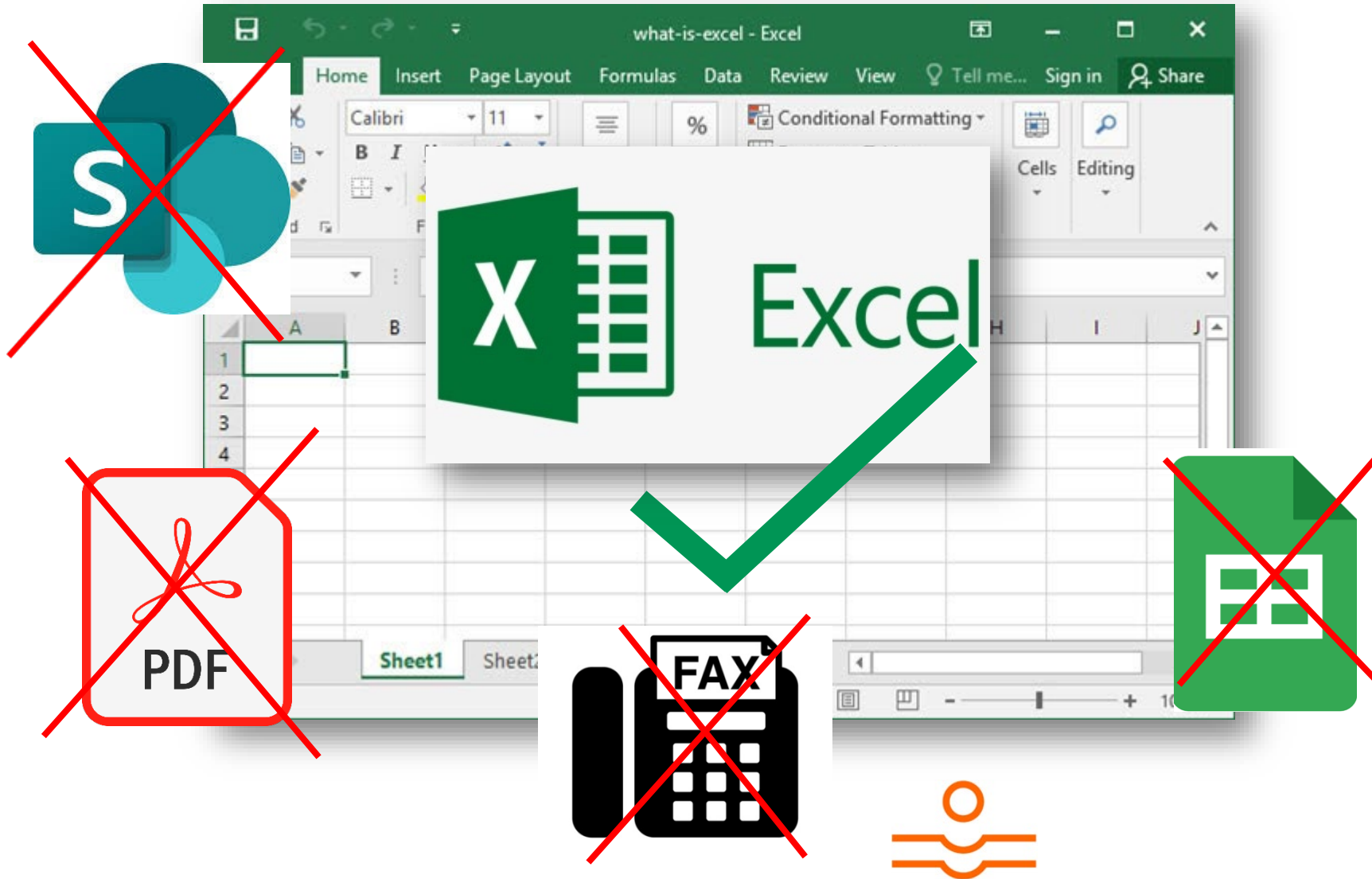
Quarterly Reports are due the Friday of the week following quarter-end by close of business:

- ~~Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025~~
- **Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025**
- Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025





# FY25 Reporting Form



# New Reporting Form As of February 21, 2025

AgeOptions FY2025					
Library CARES Program					
Quarterly Reporting Form. (Last Updated on: February 21, 2025)					
Library Name					
Reports are due the following:					
Due date		Reporting Period		Check-one below:	
Friday, January 3, 2025		October 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024			
Friday, April 4, 2025		January 1, 2025 - March 31, 2025			
Monday, July 7, 2025		April 1, 2025 - June 30, 2025			
Friday, October 3, 2025		July 1, 2025 - September 30, 2025			
PART 1 - Events/Programs Provide an overview of the Programs/Events hosted/facilitated this quarter					
(i.e., provide knowledge & skills through structured, group-oriented presentations, lectures or classes activities that foster health & social well-being of individuals through social interaction & constructive use of time.					
Title /Description of Activity/Program	*AgeOptions *Aging Services Network *Tech Literacy *Social	Duration (Hours)	Total number of people who participated	Total number of NEW* participants this Quarter	Total units
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
					0
Reporting Form		Instructions		+	



# Reporting Form

## Grant Requirement Drop-Down Box

Well-being of individuals th		
Program	*AgeOptions *Aging Services Network *Tech Literacy *Social isolation	Duration (Hours)



# Reporting Form

## Tab Two – Instructions

Quarterly Reporting Form. (Last Updated on: February 21, 2025)						
Library Name		[Your Public Library]				
Reports are due the following:						
Due date		Reporting Period				
Friday, January 3, 2025		October 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024				
Friday, April 4, 2025		January 1, 2025				
Monday, July 7, 2025		April 1, 2025				
Friday, October 3, 2025		July 1, 2025				
<div> <div> <p>Chair Yoga meets weekly for <b>twelve</b> sessions.</p> <p>You can merge "like" programs with the same duration.</p> </div> <div> <p>Enter the <u>single session</u> duration/hours.</p> <p>There were <b>twelve</b> 1.5 hour sessions of Chair Yoga this quarter.</p> </div> <div> <p>This is the combined total number of participants for the entire quarter.</p> <p><b>12</b> sessions x 10 participants/session = 120 total participants</p> </div> <div> <p>Each participant can be considered "new" <u>only once</u> between October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025 no matter how many other sessions or programs they attend.</p> <p>Chair Yoga was the first library program for 10 individuals this fiscal year.</p> </div> </div>						
Description of Activity/Program	*AgeOptions *Aging Services Network *Tech Literacy *Social Isolation	Duration (Hours)	Total number of people who participated	Total number of NEW* participants this Quarter	Total units	
Program 1 (x12) "Chair Yoga"	SI	1.5	120	10	180	
Program 2 (x3) "Genealogy"	OTHER	1	27	0	27	



# Reporting Form

## Tab Two – Instructions

Program	*Social isolation	Duration	participated	Quarter	Total units
Program 1 (x12) "Chair Yoga"	SI	1.5	120	10	180
Program 2 (x3) "Genealogy"	OTHER	1	27	0	27
Program 3 (x1) "Boat Tour"	SI	5	20	1	100
Program 4 (x1) "Movie Field Trip"	SI	2.5	9	0	22.5
TOTAL				11	329.5

Genealogy meets monthly for **three** sessions.

Even though there were three sessions, this is the **single session** duration (1 hour).

**3 sessions:**  
 Session 1: 10 participants  
 Session 2: 8 participants  
 Session 3: 9 participants  
 Total: 27 participants

All Genealogy participants had already attended other library programs this fiscal year.

Numbers in the the 'Total units' column are automatically calculated and do not need to be filled in.

There were two field trips this quarter. Please note that due to the difference in duration, these "like" programs cannot be combined.



# FY25 Reporting Form

Please submit your success stories and photos

## Morton Grove Public Library:

Social Seniors Trivia started in March 2024 and has quickly grown in popularity among a core group of senior patrons.

We have modeled our program after popular trivia nights by featuring a librarian host, themed questions, and game show music. There are multiple rounds of questions with varying difficulty, ending with a Jeopardy-style final question where participants can wager points and win fun, whimsical prizes.

Attendees often banter and joke while figuring out the answers. One participant remarked, "I'd never thought I'd learn so much playing trivia."



# FY25 Reporting Form

Please submit your success stories and photos

## Evanston Public Library:

Community partner [Rebuilding Exchange](#) attended this **monthly arts creation program for older adults** with many supplies and hot glue guns.

Participants were limited only by their imagination. It was fascinating watching participants gravitate toward certain materials. Others were stumped as to what to make.

**Patrons worked away** industriously like elves in Santa's workshop, **discussing if it was a gift or something they were made for themselves.**

Nearly every patron stayed the full 90 minutes and worked until the end.

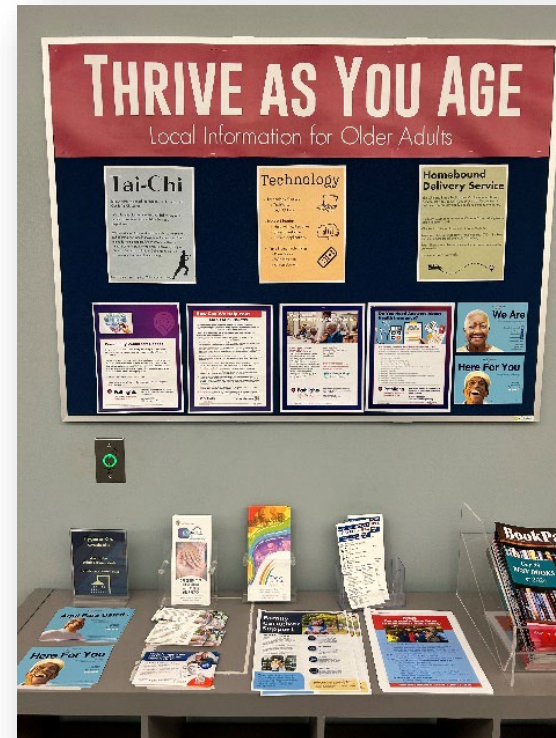




# FY25 Aging Services Display Your Displays!



Blue Island Public Library



Chicago Ridge Public Library

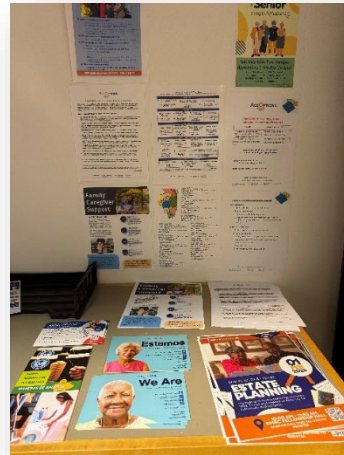




# FY25 Aging Services Display Your Displays!



Acorn Public Library



Maywood Public Library



Northlake Public Library

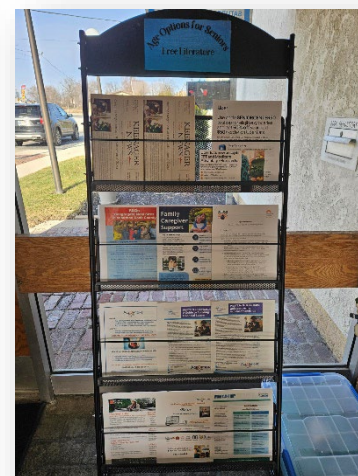


# Aging Services Display

## Your Displays!



Berkeley Public Library



Thornton Public Library



Fiscal Year 2025

# Library Program Evaluation Survey Online Version



AgeOptions FY25 Library Program's  
Evaluation Survey



# Fiscal Year 2025

## Library Program Evaluation Survey Paper Version



[Insert Library Logo HERE]

### AgeOptions FY25 Library Program Evaluation Survey

The library programming is made possible with funding from AgeOptions. Your responses to this anonymous survey help us understand the reach and impact of programs like this. Thank you for participating in your local library's programming and thank you for your response to the following questions.

1. As a result of participating in my library's programming for people 60 or older: *(Please select the single best answer for each statement).*

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I feel more connected to my community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel more connected to individuals who also attended	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I made new friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I use the library as my primary source of information about services for older adults	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



# Fiscal Year 2025 Library Program Evaluation Survey

## Preliminary Results January 1 – March 17

A special shout out to:

- Oak Lawn Public Library
- Lansing Public Library
- Berkeley Public Library
- Niles Maine Public Library

# 25

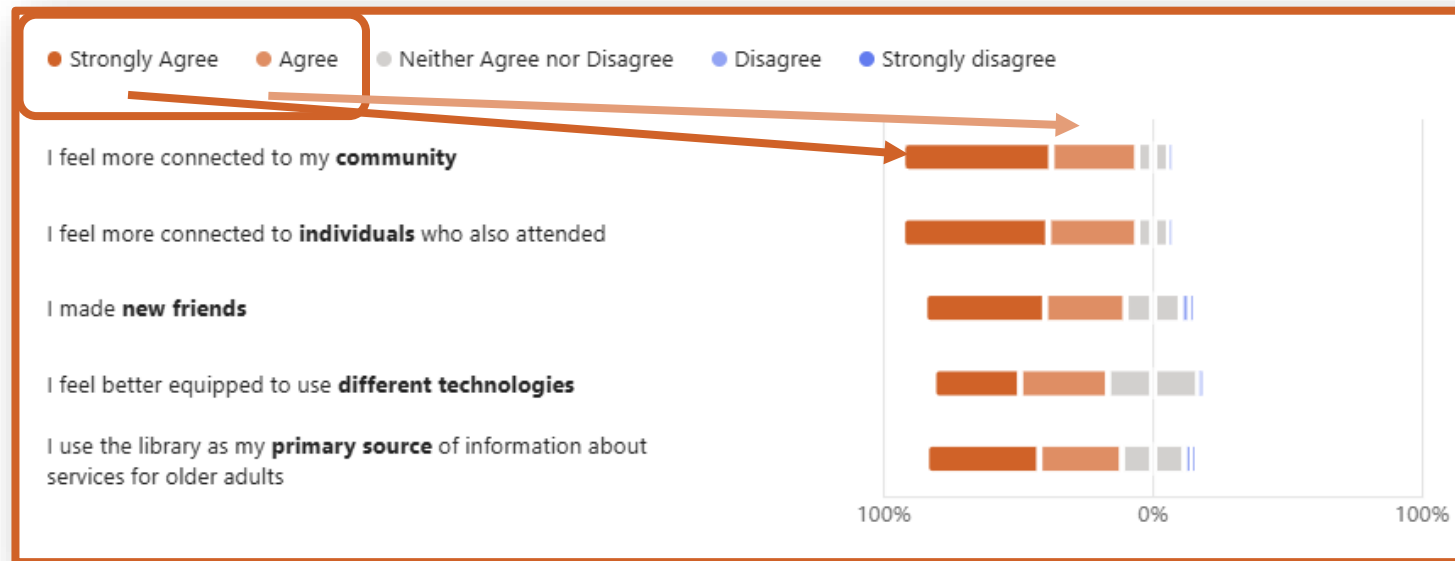
Or more surveys  
submitted to date!



# Fiscal Year 2025 Library Program Evaluation Survey

## Question #2

*As a result of participating in my library's programming for people 60 or older:*



# Fiscal Year 2025

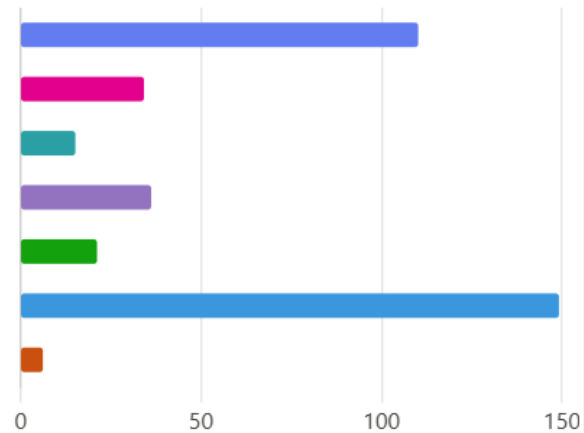
## Library Program Evaluation Survey

### Question #3

*Have you used and/or reached out to any of the following services for people 60 or older:*

3. Have you used and/or reached out to any of the following services for people 60 or older (select all that apply):

- Senior Center 110
- Senior Dining Site or Home Delivered Meals (aka Meals on Wheels) 34
- In-Home Services for an Older Adult 15
- Aging Service Provider or Agency 36
- Support Services for Family Caregivers 21
- None of the above 149
- Other 6



# Fiscal Year 2025

## Library Program Evaluation Survey

### Question #4

*Thinking about the services for people 60 or older listed in Question 3, did you do any of the following because of attending events at your library:*

162/294 stated: I first **learned** about these services at my library

- Senior Center
- Senior Dining Site or Home Delivered Meals (aka Meals on Wheels)
- In-Home Services for an Older Adult
- Aging Service Provider or Agency
- Support Services for Family Caregivers
- None of the above
- Other





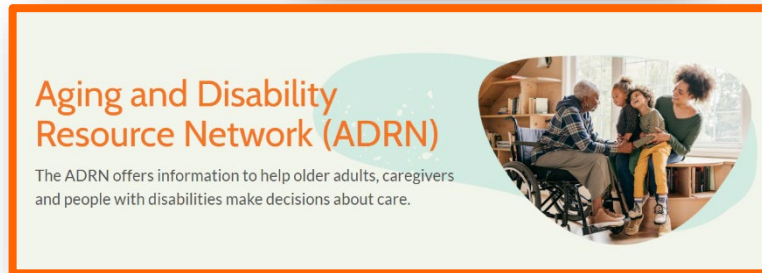
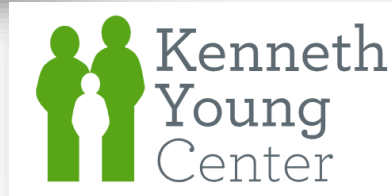
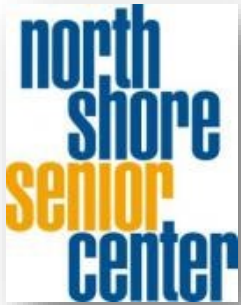
# Q1 Fiscal Year 2025

## Activities Enjoyed by our Library CARES Partners' Patrons



# Mauria Owens

## ADRN Training & Technical Assistance Specialist



# *Mauria Owens*

## *ADRN Training & Technical Assistance Specialist*

- **Aging and Disability Resource Networks**
- **SHIP Counselors**

### Aging and Disability Resource Network (ADRN)

The ADRN offers information to help older adults, caregivers and people with disabilities make decisions about care.



# FY25 Library CARES Program Core Requirements

Aging Services Agency Presentation



# FY25 Library CARES AgeOptions Presentation/Program Requirement

- Create and maintain a display with Aging Network materials
- Establish connections to the Aging Network
  - Promote and Host at least one AgeOptions presentation or event
  - **Promote and Host at least one local Aging Network presentation**
- Address social isolation among older adults through recreational events
- Host/Present at least one event on Technology



# ***Library Partner Program Share and Tell***

## **Aging Services Network Agency and Library Collaborations**

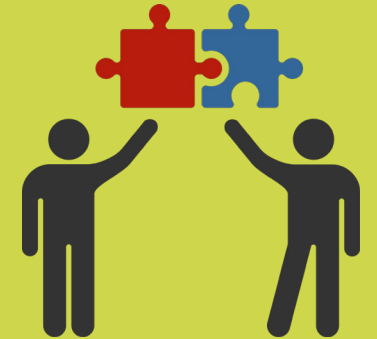


# FY25 Library CARES

Nathan Miller

## Morton Grove Public Library

## North Shore Senior Services





# FY25 Library CARES

Lori Lysik-Forney and Alicia Jackson  
Chicago Ridge Public Library  
Medicare with Pathlights



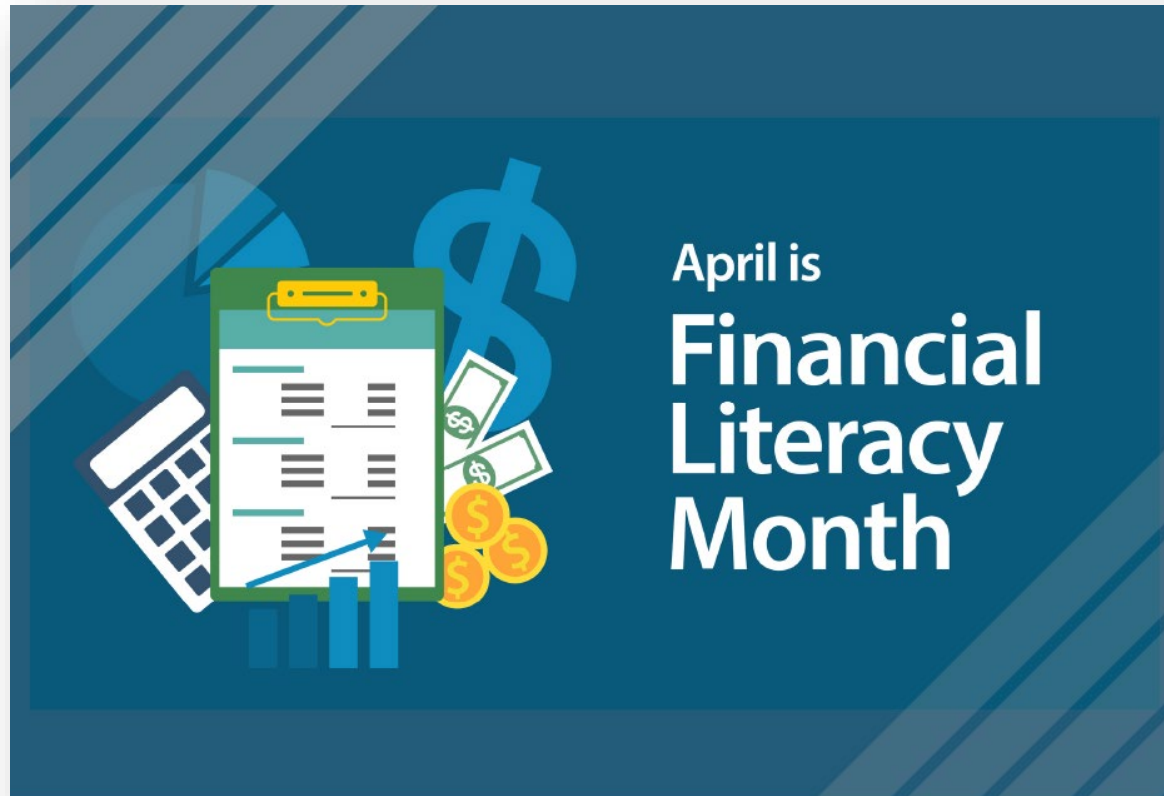


# ***Library Partner Program Share and Tell***

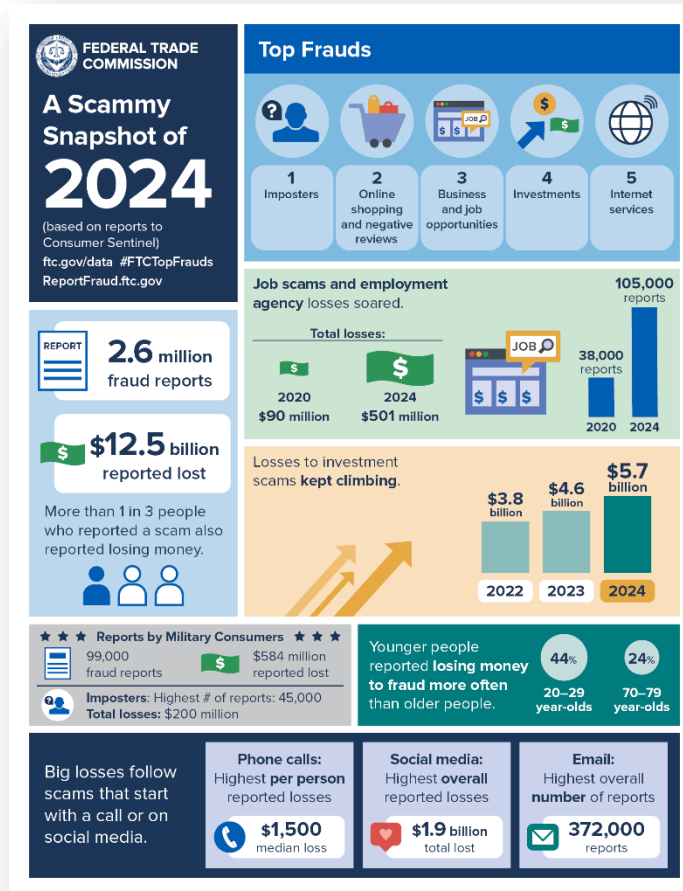
***Dennis Raleigh  
Forest Park Public Library  
Legal Aid Chicago***



# *Financial Literacy*



# Financial Literacy



<https://consumer.ftc.gov/consumer-alerts/2025/03/top-scams-2024>



*Jessica Mercer, MSW,  
Aging & Disability Rights Coordinator  
Financial Scams*

- **Common Types of Financial Scams**
- **Warning Signs of a Scam**
- **How to Protect Yourself**
- **Steps to take if you have been the victim of a scam**

Email: [Jessica.Mercer@ageoptions.org](mailto:Jessica.Mercer@ageoptions.org) for more information and to schedule a presentation.



# *Library Partner Program Share and Tell*



# Library CARES Partner Share and Tell

## Kate Jordan

### Evanston Public Library

### OAsis



EVANSTON  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



FY25 Library CARES  
Janet DiCastro  
Flossmoor Public Library  
Field Trip



FY25 Library CARES  
Rita Mayfield and Marsden Giolas  
Calumet City Public Library  
Lunch and Learn





# FY25 Library CARES

## Joanie Sebastian

### Des Plaines Public Library

### Wii Bowling



# FY25 Library CARES

## Joanie Sebastian

### Des Plaines Public Library

### Wii Bowling



# ***Library Partner Program Share and Tell***

***Britney Musial***

***North Riverside Public Library***

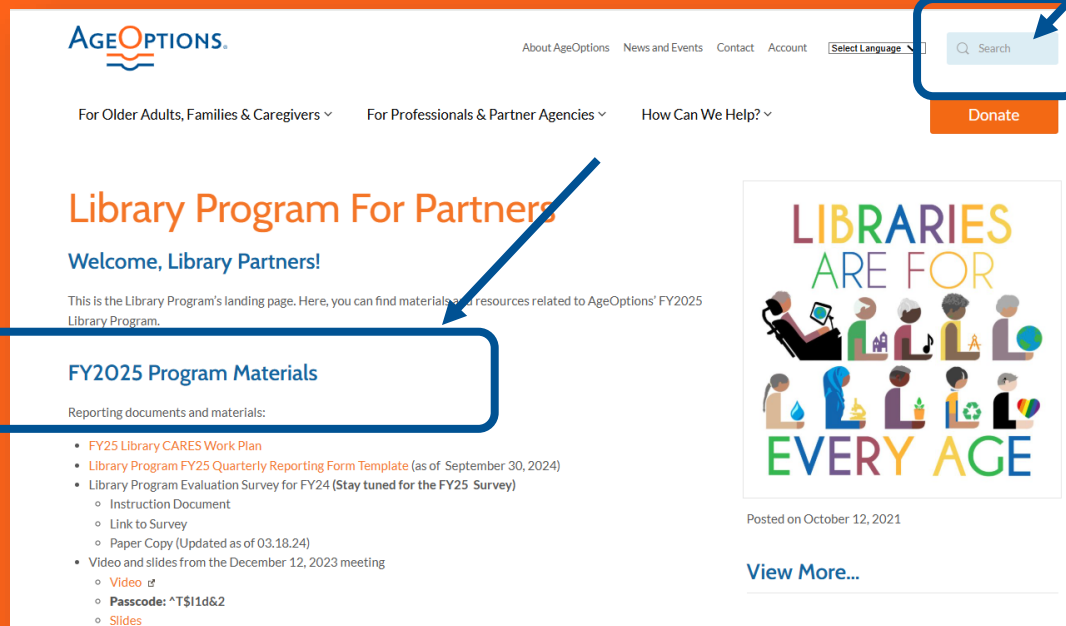
***Avoiding Scams***





# FY25 Library Partner Page

## Library Partner Page



**AGEOPTIONS.**

About AgeOptions News and Events Contact Account Select Language

For Older Adults, Families & Caregivers For Professionals & Partner Agencies How Can We Help? [Donate](#)

### Library Program For Partners

Welcome, Library Partners!

This is the Library Program's landing page. Here, you can find materials and resources related to AgeOptions' FY2025 Library Program.

**FY2025 Program Materials**

Reporting documents and materials:

- [FY25 Library CARES Work Plan](#)
- [Library Program FY25 Quarterly Reporting Form Template](#) (as of September 30, 2024)
- [Library Program Evaluation Survey for FY24 \(Stay tuned for the FY25 Survey\)](#)
  - [Instruction Document](#)
  - [Link to Survey](#)
  - [Paper Copy](#) (Updated as of 03.18.24)
- [Video and slides from the December 12, 2023 meeting](#)
  - [Video](#)
  - [Passcode:](#) ^T\$11d&2
  - [Slides](#)

**LIBRARIES ARE FOR EVERY AGE**

Posted on October 12, 2021

[View More...](#)



<https://www.ageoptions.org/uncategorized/library-program-for-partners/>



# FY25 Library Partner Page

## Library Partner Page

**Preview of our FY2025 Grant Year**

Click here to view quarterly calendars (Q1, Q2, Q3, or Q4) for mandatory partner meetings, a breakdown of the quarters in our grant year, and reporting due dates in FY2025.

**Helpful resources**

Aging

- [Reframing Aging Website](#) ↗
- [Reframing Aging Resources](#) ↗
- [Ageism Awareness Day 2024](#) ↗
- [American Society on Aging – A Few Facts about Ageism \(2022\)](#)
- [Age-Inclusive Language Checklist \(October 2023\)](#)
- [Mary O'Donnell: Joni Mitchell Proves Why We Should Look Beyond Stereotypes About Aging](#) ↗

Libraries are for Everyone

- [Little Bits of Library Kindness](#) ↗
- See the newest LAFE *printables* with Older Adults!
  - [Libraries Are for Every Age](#)
  - [Libraries Are for Everyone](#)

Tax Assistance

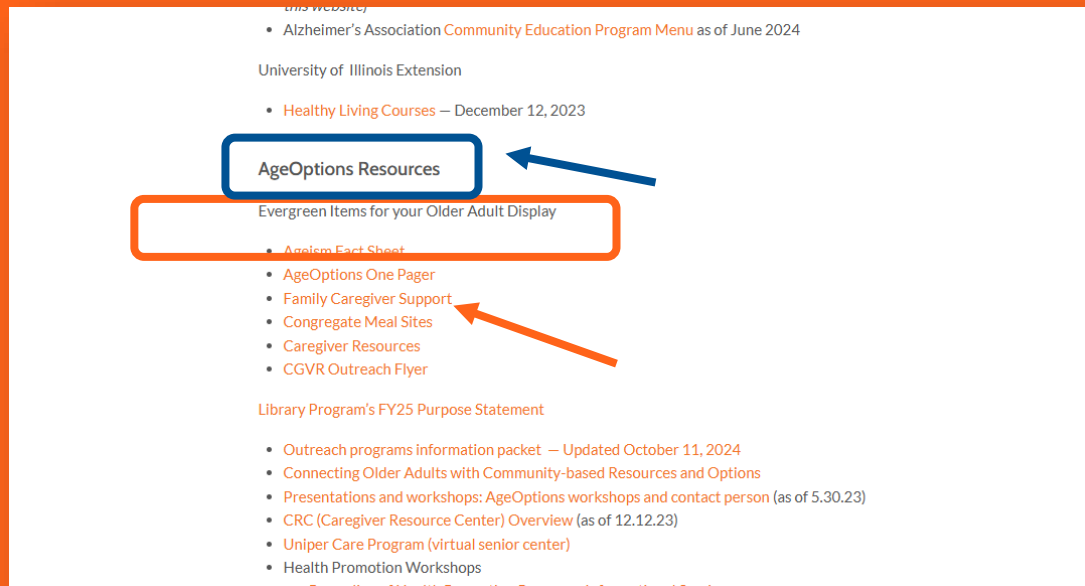


<https://www.ageoptions.org/uncategorized/library-program-for-partners/>



# FY25 Library Partner Page

## Library Partner Page

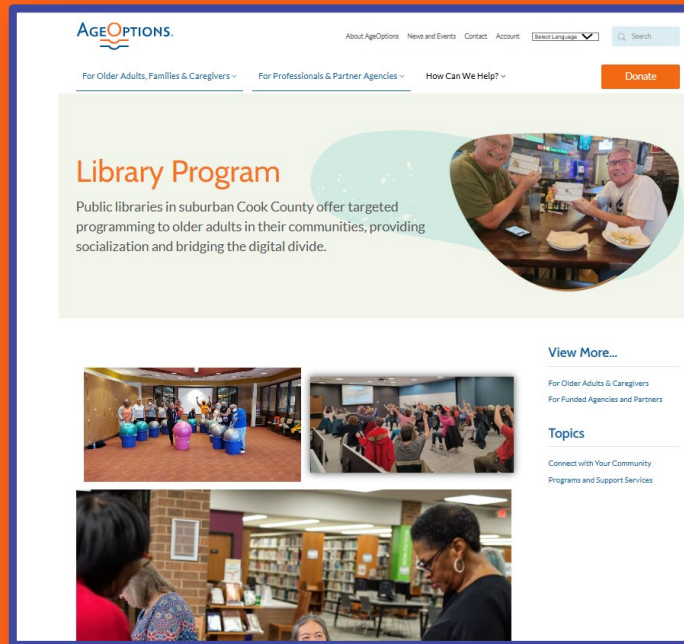


<https://www.ageoptions.org/uncategorized/library-program-for-partners/>



# FY25 Public Facing Library Page

## Library Program Page



<https://www.ageoptions.org/resources/library-program/>



# FY25 Public Facing Library Page

## Library Program Page

### Stories of the Library

#### Tinley Park Public Library

Our older adult patrons love coming to the library for our special daytime programs. Each month, we host at least one afternoon performance, a workshop, or an educational lecture. In October, actor Duffy Hudson brought Albert Einstein's life and explained the Theory of Relativity in a fun, exciting way. Many of our regulars have gotten to know each other as well as the programming staff, and they greet each other warmly. We often hear about how they appreciate the variety of programs the library offers that are free to everyone, and it gives them a reason to get out of the house.

#### Homewood Public Library

We had a low-vision senior check out a digital magnifier we purchased with the AgeOptions grant, and she told us how grateful she was for the device.

#### Evergreen Park Public Library

Our computer instructor always does a fantastic job with her [older adult] students, and they always let us know! As soon as they walk out of the Computer Lab, they're bustling with excitement about the skills they learned in that hour. These classes are in very high demand, and the excitement [of the older adults] is amplified when they learn they can schedule a one-on-one appointment to further their learning.

#### Forest Park Public Library

We used Wit's Workout for the first time this Quarter. Staff member Dennis facilitated this engaging program. We were a bit uncertain [about] how this new gambit would go over with our crowd. The Social Circle enjoyed it, to the point where you could see the neurons bopping around under the furrowed brows as people made new connections, tested their memories, laughed and joked and told stories. One patron who'd come for the first time (LVJ) loved the program and has become a regular in the weeks since, stating that the library is a "magnet" for him.

#### Markham Public Library

Some of my new seniors have met new friends here in the programs. These programs have really brought a lot of our seniors out of social isolation and help[ed] them work out and have a good time. They are constantly telling everyone about the great programs we are able to provide due to the AgeOptions [funding]. We were able to bring joy to one of our patrons who had become very lonely and now she lights up a room.



<https://www.ageoptions.org/resources/library-program/>





# FY25 Public Facing Library Page

## Library Program Page

### Current Library Partners FY25

#### North Region

- Des Plaines Public Library *et*
- Eisenhower Public Library *et*
- Evanston Public Library *et*
- Morton Grove Public Library *et*
- Niles-Maine District Library *et*

#### West Region

- Berkeley Public Library *et*
- Berwyn Public Library *et*
- Forest Park Public Library *et*
- LSF Brookfield Library *et*
- Northlake Public Library District *et*
- North Riverside Public Library *et*
- Schiller Park Public Library *et*

#### South Region

- Acorn Public Library *et*
- Alsip-Merrionette Public Library District *et*
- Blue Island Public Library *et*
- Calumet City Public Library *et*
- Calumet Park Public Library *et*
- Chicago Heights Public Library *et*
- Chicago Ridge Public Library *et*
- Dolton Public Library *et*
- Evergreen Public Library *et*



<https://www.ageoptions.org/resources/library-program/>



# Q1 FY25 Success Stories

Please continue to submit your success stories and photos

**Alsip Merrionette Public Library:**

**Partnering with Pathlights Part I**

Several patrons requested a Medicare program this fall due to the enrollment deadline and 2025 changes, so **we contacted our local aging agency, Pathlights**, to present.

Eight patrons attended Making Sense of Medicare, and 13 attended Are You Ready for Medicare Part D: 2025 Changes.

Christine Suddreth [of **Pathlights**] shared that **they also offer a program [where] an expert volunteer helps clients fill out their Medicare forms.**



# Q1 FY25 Success Stories

Please continue to submit  
your success stories and  
photos

**Alsip Merrionette Public  
Library:**

**Partnering with  
Pathlights Part II**

After discovering Pathlights' various services that aid both senior citizens and caregivers, we set up an overview program, ***Pathlights 101*** and ***Pizza***, [and another] Pathlights program, ***Avoid Telephone and Internet Scams***.

**Our program [allowed] Pathlights and Heritage Senior Apartments to renew their collaboration on programs. Our library staff are happy to be part of furthering community connections that aid our residents.**



# Q1 FY25 Success Stories

Please continue to submit  
your success stories and  
photos

**Niles-Maine Public  
Library: Virtual Chair  
Yoga**

I have had more stories about how much  
people appreciate us keeping our Chair Yoga  
programs virtual.

One woman, in particular, 68, who retired in  
2023, uses the programs to **stay active**, and give  
her something to **vary her day**.

**"That's how I see library programs. They offer  
ideas and learning experiences that allow me to  
keep my mind and body busy and engaged."**



# Q1 FY25 Success Stories

Please continue to submit your success stories and photos

**LSF Brookfield Public Library: Combatting Social Isolation**

Our library has been using grant funding to host senior fitness classes that have been wildly successful.

This week, one of our seniors had to cancel their registration for the upcoming Chair Zumba class, but said she would still stop by because she had to wish everyone happy holidays.

This story speaks volumes about how these **classes are working to combat social isolation within our community. Our seniors look forward to these classes to exercise, see their friends, and make new friends at the library. These classes bring together our seniors and keep them connected.**



# Q1 FY25 Success Stories

Please continue to submit your success stories and photos

**Northlake Public  
Library: Combatting  
Social Isolation**

The holidays are a tough time for many of our older patrons, who do not have family and feel extraordinarily isolated during this time of year. We do a lot of programming during that time to **combat that isolation**, and one of those programs is *Wrap and Sip*.

One patron commented that even though she doesn't have a family to share gifts with, she attends to help others wrap their gifts and make her feel not alone. She looks forward to all our programs, and even though this is a hard time of year, the **sense of community she feels when she attends our programming is something that helps her feel as though she belongs. She's created her own community and has become friends with other senior attendees.**



# Q1 FY25 Success Stories

Please continue to submit your success stories and photos

**North Riverside Public Library: Meeting with Others**

One of our patrons said she doesn't drive and has to walk everywhere.

However, the only time she wants to walk when it is snowy or cold is when we have a craft program at the library because she loves to **attend and meet up with her neighbors instead of being home alone.**



# Q1 FY25 Success Stories

Please continue to submit your success stories and photos

**Chicago Ridge Public  
Library: Crafts and  
Conversation**

Our patron *Joanne* says, "I love coming to your craft programs. I don't think of myself as an artistic or crafty person but your **classes give me the confidence to try my hand at something creative.**" In past years, the library only offered our monthly craft class at night, but with **Age Options** funding we were able to add a second craft class each month and opted to hold it in the morning to accommodate our older patrons, some of whom may not be comfortable driving at night.

We love this program because there are plenty of **opportunities for conversation** while completing projects.





Questions?



# Group Discussion!



1. Collaborative program opportunities
2. Any additional feedback/input?
3. What has worked well?
4. Any advice?
5. Questions about anything!





**Many thanks for your participation  
in the Library CARES grant program and  
for the work you do to reach out  
to the older adults in your community.  
I'm here for anything related to the library  
program – please reach out!**

**708.383.0258 (main number)  
708.322.1370 (direct number)  
Laona.Fleischer@AgeOptions.org**

