

The Grapevine

VOLUME 4, FALL 2025

**Providing
Services to
Seniors in
St. Lucie County
since 1973!**

Mission

The mission of the Council on Aging of St. Lucie, Inc. is to seek, develop, coordinate and administer community-based programs and in-home services for senior persons of St. Lucie County and adjoining areas.

COASL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Stay connected with us
on social media



Give the Gift of Independence

Sponsor A Senior

ADULT DAY CARE



TRANSPORTATION



HOME DELIVERED MEALS



IN HOME SERVICE



Together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of seniors. Your contribution helps ensure that aging adults have access to the vital programs and services they need to thrive.

More Information
www.coasl.com

More Information
772-336-8608

DANCING THRU THE DECADES

On Saturday, September 13, the Council on Aging of St. Lucie, Inc. hosted its 2nd annual Fall Fundraiser, Dancing Thru the Decades, an unforgettable evening filled with dining, dancing, and celebration. Guests came dressed in fun, nostalgic costumes representing their favorite Decade, bringing incredible energy to the dance floor.

The event wasn't just about great music and memories; it was about making a difference. Thanks to the generosity of attendees, sponsors, and community partners, funds raised will directly support vital Council on Aging programs, including Adult Day Care, Meals on Wheels, in-home support, and transportation services. These services ensure that older adults in our community with immediate needs continue to receive the essential care and support they deserve.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our sponsors, volunteers, and everyone who made this evening possible. Together, we celebrated the past while building a stronger future for our seniors

A special thank you for donations from Elder Home Care Services, ATSA Health, United Healthcare, Tender Touch Homecare, Tonya Dawson, Charlie Moses & Treasure Coast Pottery Club, Nelson Benefits Group, Dr. Tred Slim Body Laser Spa, Debra Terrio, and Sabre Mochachino.



Council on Aging Committee, left photo, left to right: Antoinette Rolle, Andriana Jallouk Raynor, Lacinda Mouton, Yvette Cruz, Jennifer Ross, Roje Gonzalez, Robert Driscoll, Darrell Drummond.





DANCING THRU THE DECADES

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Your support makes independence possible!

Hometown News
Media Group

Butterfield's
COMPOUNDING
PHARMACY MEDICAL
SUPPLIES

Palm Garden
HEALTH AND REHABILITATION

FPL®

The Wawa®
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© EQUAL HOUSING LENDER | MEMBER FDIC

Better
Life
Homecare for a healthy life!

ROY & MARY
LANTZ

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COMMUNITY PROUD

THE
ESTATE,
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LAW FIRM, P.L.

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Council on Aging
of St. Lucie, Inc.



Holiday Angels GIFT DRIVE

Benefiting the Council on Aging of St. Lucie Clients

Accepting Donations Through

Wednesday, December 03, 2025



**Drop-Off
Locations**

Council on Aging of St. Lucie
2501 SW Bayshore Blvd, PSL 34984
1505 Orange Ave, Ft. Pierce 34950



Gift ideas: Cozy Blankets, Personal Care items (Lotions, shampoo, Conditioner, Powder, Toiletry Sets, etc.) Towel Sets, Radios/Music Players, Digital Picture Frames, Page Magnifiers, Art & Craft Sets, Puzzles, Grocery Gift Cards (Walmart, Publix, Aldi, Winn-Dixie, Fresh Market or Sprouts. No Used Items Please!

**Gifts must be new and in original packaging. Perishable gifts no longer accepted.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL BETTER LIFE HOMECARE

772-465-5220



Better Life
Homecare for a Healthy Life!

Recurring Activities



Port St. Lucie Campus

Bridge Club - Love a good strategy game? Meet fellow seniors and enjoy an engaging game of bridge.

Tuesdays | 12 PM – 3 PM



Bingo & Fun - Our most popular event! Come play bingo, win prizes, and enjoy pizza, snacks, and drinks available for purchase. Bingo just costs \$11 for 16 games and \$21 for unlimited games. And you win cash prizes!

Wednesdays | 12 PM – 3 PM



Free Computer Class - Want to sharpen your tech skills? Join our free weekly class and gain confidence using your devices.

Thursdays | 9 AM – 11 AM



Ceramics & Art Classes - Tap into your creativity! All experience levels are welcome.

Ceramics: Thursdays | 12:30 PM – 3 PM
(\$5/class plus the cost of the art piece)

Acrylic Art: Fridays | 10 AM – 1 PM
(\$2/class plus the cost of the art piece)



Fort Pierce Campus

Bingo Fridays - End your week with some friendly competition and prizes. A great way to connect and have fun.

Fridays | 12 PM – 1 PM



Art with Dr. Pinkie Hendley - A unique monthly session full of creativity and good company.
Second Tuesday of Each Month



Both Campuses

Live Music with Ricki & Dave - Sing along to beloved hits from the past and present. A guaranteed good time!
Once a month at each location.

Your Trusted Resource for Senior Care

The Council on Aging of St. Lucie, Inc.'s Outreach and Consumer Services Department is dedicated to strengthening its presence in the community. We actively participate in local events, provide sensitivity trainings to ensure older adults are treated with compassion and respect, and host speaking engagements to raise awareness about vital programs and services available to seniors age 60 and older. In addition, we support caregivers by offering resources and services to help families manage the challenges of caring for their loved ones.

Our team works closely with community groups, civic organizations, and local residents to ensure older adults and their families understand the wide range of support available, including:

Meals on Wheels – Nutritious meals delivered to homebound seniors.

Congregate Dining & Socialization – Group meals with opportunities for social connection
(transportation included)

Transportation Services – 772-464-7433

Adult Day Care – A safe, engaging daytime environment for seniors
(transportation included for full-day participants).

Daily Activities for Seniors – Exercise classes, arts and crafts, games, social gatherings, and more.

In-Home Services – Support that promotes independence and dignity at home.

Caregiver Support – Guidance, resources, and respite care for families caring for loved ones.

We encourage St. Lucie County residents to connect with us, schedule a tour of our facility, join an activity, follow us on social media, visit our website, or call us directly at 772-336-8608.

For more information on our programs, services, or to request a speaker, please contact:

Yvette Cruz, Outreach and Consumer Services Manager Email: YCruz@coasl.com

Thank You to the City of Port St. Lucie for Supporting COASL's Beautification Project

Staff Recognition of City Staff:

- Kevin Matyjaszek
- Timothy Richards
- Danny Segui
- Mike Jolly
- Eric Perez
- Carl Akey
- Karen Love
- Mike Kendrick
- Christina Flores
- Carmen Capezzuto
- Bolivar Gomez

Special thanks to Eric Perez for providing the extensive on-site labor!



Before :



After:



Years of Dedication



Laurie - Administrative Manager

Laurie has been with COASL since 2000, inspired by the care she wanted for her own grandmother. Though she works behind the scenes, she loves connecting with clients and volunteers. Over the years, she's seen COASL and the community grow, but her commitment to helping seniors live with dignity has never changed. She credits CEO Darrell Drummond for his support and mentorship throughout her career.

Jim - MIS

Jim joined COASL after being invited by the CEO while working in IT at a local computer store. He enjoys helping seniors with technology and keeping COASL running smoothly. From just a few computers to a full tech setup, he's seen big changes over the years. Jim values the daily interactions with clients and says working with a positive leader like Mr. Drummond has made all the difference.

At the Council on Aging of St. Lucie, we take great pride in recognizing the outstanding individuals who dedicate their time and talents to enriching the lives of others. Laurie and Jim, your 25 years of service, compassion, and commitment reflect the very heart of our mission. Thank you for the countless lives you have touched and the legacy you continue to build. Your contributions have made a lasting impact in our community.

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Holiday Angels Gift Drive – Bringing Joy to Seniors

Coordinated by Better Life Homecare

Antoinette Rolle, Administrator

The holiday season is a time for giving, connection, and compassion, and thanks to our community, seniors across the Council on Aging of St. Lucie, Inc. programs are reminded they are not forgotten. Each year, Better Life Homecare, Inc. proudly coordinates the Holiday Angels Gift Drive, a community-wide effort to bring holiday cheer to Meals on Wheels clients, Adult Day Care participants, and Senior Center members.

This initiative is made possible through the generosity of local businesses, healthcare providers, churches, schools, social clubs, and caring individuals. Together, these partners show our seniors that their community values and remembers them.

Meals on Wheels clients receive a special holiday delivery with their meal the third week of December. The most vulnerable clients receive a grocery gift card, ensuring they can enjoy a holiday meal. Seniors at the Adult Day Care and Senior Centers celebrate with gifts at the annual holiday party.

The Holiday Angels Gift Drive is more than just gifts—it is kindness in action. It is the warm smile on a senior's face, the comfort of knowing they are cared for, and the reassurance that their community remembers and cherishes them.

We invite you to be part of this tradition. Whether you become a Holiday Angel yourself or encourage your business to sponsor, your support will help make this season brighter for our eldest and most vulnerable neighbors.

To join in, contact me at ajosue@betterlifehomecarefl.com or 772-345-8248, or simply visit the event fundraising page: <https://givebutter.com/2025blhc>.

Together, we can keep the spirit of the holidays alive for those who once gave so much to us.

Support the Council on Aging of St. Lucie, Inc.

Your generosity helps seniors live with dignity, independence, and joy!

Ways to Donate:

- By Check: Please make your check payable to the Council on Aging of St. Lucie, Inc.
- By Card: Simply scan the QR code to access our secure donation page.

Every Donation Makes a Difference!

Your contribution directly supports programs and services that empower local seniors to live independently, stay healthy, and enjoy their golden years! Whether it's a small or large gift, your kindness truly changes lives.

Thank you for your donation!



Editors: *Laurie Hoy Orlik
Susie Bowen
Andriana Jallouk Raynor*

