



NEWS RELEASE – Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.

Release Date: Thursday, March 6, 2025

Contact: Jenni Lewis, Community Outreach

1 Acy Avenue, Jackson, OH 45640

Phone: 1.800.582.7277, extension 224

E-Mail: jlewis@aaa7.org

Website: www.aaa7.org

Adult Day Services Community Educational Event
to be Held in Jackson

Community Feedback and Participation Encouraged

Through a partnership between the Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) and LeadingAge Ohio, Ohioans are now able learn more about adult day services through a new website AdultDayOhio.org – and will also be able to partake in a series of educational events throughout the state. Locally, the Area Agency on Aging District 7 (AAA7) will be hosting an event at its office site located at 1 Acy Avenue in Jackson, Ohio, on Tuesday, March 18th from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm.

Adult day services offer an affordable alternative to traditional long-term care placement and allow older adults who need support to remain in their homes longer.

AdultDayOhio.org includes information about the service – including frequently asked questions and guidance for caregivers, health care providers, and referral sources. AdultDayOhio.org also features a comprehensive directory of adult day centers across the state.

“At the Ohio Department of Aging, one of our goals is to help Ohioans age where they are most comfortable – in their communities,” said ODA Director Ursel J. McElroy. “With the new AdultDayOhio.org website and in-person events, we intend to make sure Ohioans know how adult day services can help them meet their needs, while also providing older adults treasured moments of social interaction.”

“Adult day services are not as widely known across Ohio. As one focus group participant put it, ‘They’re the best kept secret in health care.’ We want to change that,” said LeadingAge Ohio President and CEO Susan Wallace. “Adult day programs’ essential services are an important component of the continuum of care – providing person-centered activities and opportunities for life-enriching socialization outside of the home, while allowing the caregivers to continue employment and have time for respite.”

Beyond partnering on the new online resource, ODA and LeadingAge Ohio has been hosting a series of free educational events across the state to inform caregivers and health care providers

on the benefits of adult day services, while also connecting them to providers in the area. The Southern Ohio event will be held in Jackson on March 18th and is open to anyone in the community interested in attending – registration can take place at AdultDayOhio.org/events or you can call the Area Agency on Aging District 7 at 1-800-582-7277 and speak with Jenni Lewis, Director of Community Outreach at extension 22224 or email jlewis@aaa7.org.

The online and in-person educational resources mark the latest effort in Ohio's ongoing work to include adult day services among the growing number of quality care options available to older adults.

In January 2024, ODA made over \$6 million in ARPA grant funding available for providers to revitalize adult day services across the state. That funding, which was awarded in March 2024 to 22 projects in 16 different counties, was aimed at supporting existing providers in expanding their services, enhancing recruitment and retention of employees dedicated to adult day services, and encouraging new providers to join and previous providers to return to the adult day industry.

###

About ODA – The Ohio Department of Aging serves and advocates for the needs of Ohioans age 60 and older, as well as their families, caregivers, and communities. Programs include home and community based long-term supports and services, as well as initiatives to promote health and wellness throughout the lifespan. Visit aging.ohio.gov.

About LeadingAge Ohio – LeadingAge Ohio is a nonprofit trade association representing 400 long-term care, hospice, and healthcare and housing organizations serving older Ohioans in more than 150 Ohio towns and cities. The continuum of care reflected by the member organizations serve an estimated 400,000 older Ohioans annually and employ more than 35,000 persons statewide. Visit leadingageohio.org.

About the Area Agency on Aging District 7 - Your local Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. provides services on a non-discriminatory basis. These services are available to help older adults and those with disabilities live safely and independently in their residence of choice through services paid for by Medicare, Medicaid, other federal and state resources, as well as private pay. The AAA7's Resource Center is also available to anyone in the community looking for information or assistance with long-term care options. Available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm, the Resource Center is a valuable contact for learning more about options and what programs and services are available for assistance. Those interested in learning more can call toll-free at 1-800-582-7277 (TTY: 711). Here, individuals can speak directly with a specially-trained Resource Specialist who will assist them with information surrounding the programs and services that are available to best serve their needs. The Agency also offers an in-home assessment at no cost for those who are interested in learning more. Information is also available on www.aaa7.org, or the Agency can be contacted through e-mail at info@aaa7.org.