



COALITION OF GERIATRIC SERVICES INC.

Professionals Working Together
To Improve The Lives
Of Older Adults

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MAKING HOWARD COUNTY A BETTER PLACE FOR OLDER ADULTS



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HONORARY MEMBERS

Kathy Chrystal,

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Phyllis Madachy presenting COGS check to Howard County Office on Aging.

Accepting check is Sue Vaeth, Administrator, Kim Henry, Senior Connection Editor, and Barbara Harris, Public Education Mgr.

Casino Night Wrap Up

On Saturday, October 25th, COGS hosted its third annual Casino Night at the Bain Center in Columbia. This successful event focused on raising funds for programs that benefit senior citizens in Howard County. This year's recipients were the Vivian Reid Community Fund and Neighbor Ride.

Attendees enjoyed an evening of casino style games for prizes, a full buffet dinner, beer, wine, a cash bar, poker tournament, DJ, dancing, silent auction, raffles and a lot of fun!

Casino Night raised \$12,846. A special thanks goes out to the entire Casino Night committee members including Lisa Hasch, Linda Cromwell, Debbi Herman, Kim Henry, D'Alan Baugh, Charlie Fiore, Larry Blosser, Matt Maurano, Donald Cheek, Barbara Harris, Nancy McCord, Judy Pittman and Karen Saul. And many thanks to the COGS members who donated time and items to our successful silent auction.

On December 10th at the monthly meeting of COGS, Phyllis Madachy, representing County Executive Ken Ulman, presented checks to each organization in the amount of \$6,423. Sue Vaeth, Barbara Harris, and Kim Henry of the Howard County Office on Aging accepted the check for the Vivian Reid Community Fund. Laurie Reuben and Brad Closs accepted the check for Neighbor Ride.



Phyllis Madachy presenting COGS check to Laurie Reuben and Brad Closs of Neighbor Ride.

Both organizations were thankful to COGS for selecting them as recipients again this year and expressed how much the donations meant for the seniors who used their services.

Neighbor Ride is a local human service organization that provides transportation for any Howard County resident age 60 or older through the services of volunteer drivers who use their personal vehicles to transport passengers. Neighbor Ride is focused on assisting older adults maintain independence and a reasonable quality of life by providing regional trips to healthcare appointments, social activities, religious services, personal appointments and shopping.

The Vivian Reid fund was named in honor of the first director of the Howard County Office on Aging. The fund provides much needed assistance to seniors with emergency needs that they are unable to cover financially. These emergency situations are frequently not covered by other government resources.

2009 Casino Night is being planned for the fall. Be sure to keep an eye out for more information on the Fourth Annual Coalition of Geriatric Services Annual Gala fundraiser. And remember, that as a sponsor, you get free tickets to this event, so please consider joining COGS as a sponsor in 2009.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Meeting Dates: 4th Wed of every month
EXCEPT for Nov. & Dec.

Meeting Time: 8:30 - 10:00 am

Cost: Free to members. \$10 for guests **EXCEPT** for Sept. meeting which is \$35 for everybody.

Bring: Your literature and a non-perishable food item.

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

8:30 - 10:00 am

COGS Monthly Membership Meeting

Location: Copper Ridge

710 Obrecht Road Sykesville, MD 21784

Speaker/Topic: D'Alan Baugh, The Fall Prevention Program

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

8:30 - 10:00 am

COGS Monthly Membership Meeting

Location: Winter Growth's Ruth Keeton House

5466 Ruth Keeton Way Columbia, MD 21042

Speaker/Topic: Tom Balles, L. Ac., M.Ac., Dipl.Ac., Acupuncturist, Personal Coaching, and Creating Healing Environments

ALL COGS Memberships Expire on 12/31/08!

All members will receive an invoice on 1/1/09, so please look for it in the mail. Along with the invoice is a form with your organization's contact information. Please update this form for our database and for the directory and mail back with your check.

We hope that you will continue to support COGS in 2009.

Have a wonderful
Holiday Season
and a
Happy New Year

