



2018

ANNUAL REPORT

WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear Friend of VANTAGE Aging,

My mother was a self-proclaimed “people watcher.” As a writer, she often sat in public spaces and used her observations to create stories about people. Many times this resulted in someone sitting down next to her and starting a conversation, including one woman she met at Kent State who became a family friend. After my mom passed away due to breast cancer, I lost track of her until the VANTAGE Aging Job Fair last September. This old family friend was there as a job seeker and she recognized me right away. It was such a good feeling to be able to help her in her job search all these years later after a chance meeting with my mom and a simple conversation.

It really amazes me when I think about what a simple conversation can change. As a community, we have seen that come to life with the Akron Community Foundation's On the Table event. Our clients participated and they were so engaged and empowered by the fact that their opinions mattered and could result in changes in our community.

Two years ago, conversations with regional Meals on Wheels program directors resulted in two mergers in order to better address the growing need for nutritional support of our older adult population. Mobile Meals merged with Family and Community Services and Meals on Wheels of Stark & Wayne Counties merged with VANTAGE earlier this year.

Simple conversations about what we can do together have resulted in improved economies of scale and stronger programs to support successful aging in place. We have collaborative relationships with a variety of other entities in our community, all of which started with a simple conversation. The Senior Independent Living Coalition (SILC) has sparked a lot of simple conversations which have resulted in a variety of collaborations like a beta project with Adult Protective Services and a community needs assessment led by Direction Home and funded through the Akron Community Foundation.

So, don't ever underestimate how a simple conversation can influence the impact we make on our community. If you have an idea, give me a call and we can have a simple conversation over a cup of coffee (or in my case a Diet Coke). Let's see what we can do together.

Respectfully,

Karen Hrdlicka
President & CEO





OUR MISSION

Promoting a positive
perspective on aging.

WHAT WE DO

VANTAGE Aging provides high-quality programs to empower the economic, social, physical, and mental well-being of adults as they age. These include initiatives to support older adults' ability to remain independent in their own homes and engaged in the community through employment, health and wellness, and volunteering.



"Aging is not lost youth but a new stage of opportunity and strength."

- Betty Friedan

OUR PROGRAMS



WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

Paid, on-the-job training for job seekers age 55 and older. Participants contribute to nonprofits and government agencies while retooling skills for today's workforce.



MEALS ON WHEELS

Home-delivered and congregate meals to promote the well-being of homebound seniors.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SOLUTIONS

Quality mental health services and treatment for alcohol and other drug use disorders for people 50 and older.



HOME WELLNESS SOLUTIONS

A holistic approach to care and wellness for aging at home with independence and dignity.



RSVP VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Support for nonprofits in Summit and Medina Counties by volunteers age 55 and older giving their time, talents, and experience.



ENCORE STAFFING NETWORK

Connecting experienced and talented people to the needs of employers as part of the Encore Career Movement for people at or near retirement.

2018 FINANCIALS



- **Fees & Grants** - \$10,941,374
- **Program Service Fees** - \$701,867
- **Contributions** - \$374,680
- **Other Public Support** - \$41,005
- **Other Revenue** - \$10,120
- **Investment Income** - \$2,006

- **Workforce Solutions** - \$8,330,529
- **Meals on Wheels** - \$1,634,481
- **Management & General** - \$1,289,638
- **Behavioral Health Solutions** - \$565,582
- **Home Wellness Solutions** - \$398,765
- **RSVP** - \$104,267
- **Fundraising** - \$39,281



COMMUNITY IMPACT

87

people started their
Encore Career

284,853

home-delivered
meals served



12,126

hours of job
training
completed



3,392

hours of
group therapy



13,626

hours of homemaker
and health aide
services combined

13,473

volunteer hours
from RSVP

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

VANTAGE Workforce Solutions oversees the Senior Community Service Employment Program, or SCSEP, in 38 Ohio counties. Funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and the Ohio Department of Aging, SCSEP provides paid, on-the-job training to job seekers 55 and older. By resolving barriers to employment and partnering with employers, SCSEP encourages older adults to reach financial independence by filling gaps in today's labor force.

MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS

The Goal: United Way of Summit County created 4 Bold Goals to reach by 2025. Goal 3 was to financially empower 11,000 people. It is the result of the number of individuals who earn an income between 100-200% of the federal poverty level and are often just one misfortune away from financial ruin.

✓ VANTAGE Workforce Solutions promotes financial empowerment by listening to the current needs of the workforce and providing individuals with access to the resources, skills, and opportunities they need to thrive.



BY THE NUMBERS

84

people found work as a result of the training they received in the SCSEP program.

643,469

hours of service were provided to various nonprofits and government agencies.

1,003

people were assigned to work training.

12,126

hours of work training were provided.

WORKFORCE SPOTLIGHT

U.S.S.A., INC., ADULT DAY CENTER

The United Scioto Senior Activities Center in Portsmouth, Ohio is a SCSEP host site. It facilitates a variety of daytime activities for older adults, helping individuals remain in their own homes and avoid nursing home stays.

Because the Day Center serves a vulnerable population and has fewer resources, finding the right people for its team can be challenging. As a SCSEP host site, the Center can provide hands-on training to participants without the financial burden of hiring the wrong person.

“It is a win/win situation,” said Adult Day Coordinator Jamie Williams. “Onboarding SCSEP participants made the transition from training to employee easy.”



WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER

Connect to grow skills for today's workforce



Partner with VANTAGE as a SCSEP Host Site.



Become an On-the-Job-Experience training site.



Volunteer to mentor a SCSEP participant during their journey to employment.



Provide professional training at a quarterly meeting.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels has been providing home-delivered meals and congregate dining in Summit County senior facilities for over twenty years. In addition, the program also facilitates the Senior Farmers' Market Program in Summit, Stark, and Wayne Counties.

MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS

The Goal: The Summit County Community Health Improvement Plan's fourth goal for the aging population is to improve access to healthy foods.

One in 6 older Americans faces the threat of hunger, which is 7.6% of the population. The Center for Community Solutions reports that there has been a 20% increase in the number of seniors turning to emergency food networks, and 264,000 seniors in Ohio are eligible for, but not receiving, SNAP benefits.

✓ VANTAGE's Meals on Wheels program combats senior hunger and isolation by providing home-delivered and congregate meals, Ohio Senior Farmer's Market Vouchers, and educational programming on senior SNAP benefits.



BY THE NUMBERS



Delivered 284,853 meals to 650 homebound clients.



In our 4 congregate dining facilities, 30,976 meals were served in 2018.



Provided 1,773 hours of training to students of Akron Public Schools.

MEALS ON WHEELS

SUMMIT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is an underutilized resource available to many seniors in Summit County, with only 2 out of 5 eligible seniors currently enrolled in SNAP. In 2018, VANTAGE partnered with Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro's Department of Job and Family Services to increase SNAP awareness and enrollments.

From September 2018 through April 2020, the two organizations are hosting informational lunches across Summit County to teach older residents about SNAP benefits. Attendees hear from the experts at Job and Family Services about how to enroll, how to best utilize their benefits, and what other services are available.

The goal of this initiative is to break the stigma of SNAP benefits and ensure that the nutritional needs of seniors are met.



WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER

Work Together to Provide More Than Just Meals



Partner with complimentary programs and services.



Volunteer to deliver meals in Stark or Wayne County.



Adopt-a-Route in Stark or Wayne County for your employees or congregation to deliver meals.



Sponsor a meal, delivery route, or the Put Hunger in Park Food Fest (Sept. 12).

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SOLUTIONS



Behavioral Health Solutions provides quality mental health services and treatment for alcohol and other drug use disorders for people 50 and older in Summit County.

MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS

The Goal: Summit County Public Health Department wants to reduce overdose deaths. More than 20% of overdoses in Summit County between August 31 and September 6 of 2018 were 50-64 years old.

- ✓ Behavioral Health Solutions specializes in treating older adults with alcohol and other drug addictions, providing outpatient AOD treatment and mental health counseling.

The Goal: The Summit County Community Health Assessment has a goal to reduce fall-related emergency room visits among senior citizens. Since 2011, fall-related ER visits among seniors have increased by 11.5%.

- ✓ Behavioral Health partners with Direction Home to operate the Matter of Balance Fall Prevention Program. The program teaches seniors how to prevent and manage falls while gaining confidence and balance.



BY THE NUMBERS

3,392

hours of group therapy provided.

760

hours of individual counseling provided.

153

people received Brown Bag medication reviews.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SPOTLIGHT

SUMMIT COUNTY ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

In 2018, Behavioral Health Solutions partnered with Summit County Executive Ilene Shapio's Adult Protective Services to create a wraparound service referral system that ensures older adults receive all of the assistance they need to remain healthy and independent.

VANTAGE's liaison works directly with the Adult Protective Services staff and investigators to discuss cases and referrals. On the other hand, Adult Protective Services investigators discuss cases that may be appropriate for VANTAGE services.

The purpose of this coordination and follow-up is to secure appropriate and well-rounded services for the vulnerable clients involved in Adult Protective Services. The hope is to link clients with community resources and services to better their situations and highlight emotional and physical needs.



Department of Job and Family Services

WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER

Partner to Cultivate Larger Community Impact



Join forces with complimentary programs and services.



Refer older adults to Behavioral Health Solutions.



Schedule a prevention program at your senior living facility or church.



Sponsor medication reviews to increase your marketing reach.

HOME WELLNESS SOLUTIONS

Home Wellness Solutions offers multiple options designed to help older adults and people living with disabilities live comfortably at home. We provide non-medical homecare and wellness support with activities associated with daily living.

MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS

The Goal: To keep people in their homes, where they want to be. The Akron Community Foundation's 2018 Summit County Older Adults Needs Assessment found that the desire to remain at home for as long as possible was constant among all older adult populations surveyed. Among all groups, 94-100% said it is very important or somewhat important to remain in their homes.

✓ In 2018, VANTAGE Home Wellness Solutions provided over 3,000 hours of homemaker services (light housekeeping, errands, laundry, meal preparation) and over 9,000 hours of health aide services (bathing, dressing, grooming, toileting, eating assistance, and mobility).



BY THE NUMBERS

3,824 Hours of homemaker services were provided to 38 clients.

9,802 Hours of home health aide services were provided to 28 clients.

1,747 Hours of deep cleaning provided.

203 Hours of case management provided.

258 People are on a waiting list to received services. This program needs help with funding in order to reach these seniors in need.

HOME WELLNESS SPOTLIGHT

FUNDERS

In 2018, Home Wellness saw support from funders who recognize the value of senior services. We thank you for supporting the importance of senior resources in our community.

Grantors include:

- CareSource
- The Mary S. and David C. Corbin Foundation
- Sisler McFawn Foundation
- Akron Community Foundation

The Fairmount Mineral Foundation contributed \$5,000 to Home Wellness' GIVE65 campaign.



WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER

Collaborate to Support Our Most Vulnerable Neighbors



Sponsor a senior to ensure our aging neighbors are healthy at home.



Use our deep cleaning chore services, Cleaners for a Cause, at your home or business.



Advocate for home wellness (average cost of our services is \$2,000 per year, compared to long-term care facilities at over \$90,000 per year).

RSVP

VANTAGE RSVP helps to link volunteers age 55 and older with nonprofit agencies where their time, interest, talents, knowledge, and experience are most effectively utilized to meet important needs in Summit and Medina Counties.

MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS

The Goal: The Summit County Community Health Improvement Plan's goal is to reduce the incidence of elder abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and financial exploitation in our aging population.

✓ Adult Protective Services reports the largest portion of caseload relates to financial exploitation or self-neglect. In Medina County, 67% of referrals to APS were reports of senior self-neglect. A collaboration with our RSVP Telecare, Summit County Adult Protective Services, and VANTAGE Behavioral Health Solutions addresses social isolation, self-neglect, and financial exploitation.

The Goal: CHIP's Goal 4 for the aging population is to improve access to healthy foods.

✓ RSVP's focus is healthy futures. The program provides outcome-based activities in nutrition and food support, companionship, opioid/drug intervention, and education and training.



BY THE NUMBERS



115 people volunteered
in Summit and Medina
Counties in 2018



13,473 hours of community
service were provided to
nonprofits

RSVP SPOTLIGHT

GREEN GOOD NEIGHBORS

Green Good Neighbors has partnered with VANTAGE RSVP since 2004. It is a nonprofit serving southern Summit County that helps families and individuals in times of crisis and need with clothing, emergency food, and support.

Currently, Green Good Neighbors has over 50 RSVP volunteers assigned to them monthly. The numbers are still increasing, helping make a larger impact on senior food insecurity.



WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER

Join Forces for Healthy Futures



Host RSVP volunteers at your organization.



Sponsor the RSVP Recognition Luncheon and join us in celebrating over 100 volunteers.



Donate an in-kind donation for a tax deduction in 2019.



Gather your friends who are 55 and older to become RSVP volunteers.

ENCORE STAFFING NETWORK

Encore Staffing Network is our social venture that specializes in placing experienced workers in jobs for the greater good. Supported by the Cleveland Foundation, Encore empowers Greater Clevelanders with the tools and resources they need to succeed and work.

MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS

The Goal: The Cleveland Foundation works to strengthen Cleveland's economy with an emphasis on the core city. Through the foundation's programs and initiatives, it helps nurture and support entrepreneurs and small businesses to grow and collaborate, with a focus on technology, innovation, and diversity.

The 2016 Age-Friendly Cleveland Assessment surveyed Cleveland residents age 60 and older. According to the report, 49% of older adults plan to continue working for financial reasons, while 27% plan to continue working for professional reasons and a desire to work as long as possible.

✓ Encore Staffing Network is part of a national movement to leverage the energy and experience of Americans who seek to fill community needs upon retirement or near the end of their primary careers. As a member of Encore Cleveland, Encore Staffing Network helps expand, strengthen, and diversify Cleveland's economy.



BY THE NUMBERS

87 people started their Encore career in 2018.

10,132 hours of work to community-based organizations.

ENCORE SPOTLIGHT

THE MAY DUGAN CENTER

The May Dugan Center is a multi-service agency serving residents of Cleveland's near west side neighborhoods and Greater Cleveland. The Center is committed to a comprehensive and caring approach to helping people overcome socio-economic disadvantages.

May Dugan has used Encore Staffing Network as its choice recruitment agency for several years. The organization has hired talent in diverse career paths, including development and fundraising, education and mentoring, and program administration.

"We are able to fulfill our mission with quality staff members," said Executive Director Rick Kemm.



WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER

Create Meaningful Opportunities that Grow Social Impact



Full payroll and HR consulting services are available.



Choose from a roster of experienced professionals who want to make a mark at your company.



Reasonable fees are reinvested into VANTAGE's mission.

LEADERSHIP

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Karen Hrdlicka - CEO

Ted Watko - COO

Ann Manby - Chief Financial Officer

Gizelle Jones - Director of Behavioral Health Solutions

Erica Banks - Director of RSVP

Jay Varnes - Director of Meals on Wheels

Kate Harkin - Director of SCSEP

Jennifer Kanney-Beebe - Director of Intake

Sue Henige - Senior Director of Human Resources

Dawn Moeglin - Senior Director of Community Engagement

Sarfraz Mohammad - Director of Information Technology

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Team

Leann Schaeffer, MA, RD, LD, LNHA - **Chair**

Chris Parrish - **Vice Chair**

David Ionno - **Treasurer**

Alex J. McCallion - **Secretary**

Directors

Melinda Smith Yeargin

Amy Marsteller

Alexis M. Winter

Cynthia P. Bayer, Esq.

Gary Davis

Harvey L. Sterns, Ph.D.

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LaToya Wells

Lee S. Walko, Esq.

Lisa King

Mary Brackle

Nicole Walker

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Lisa Warburton-Gregory

Dennis Thomas

Darla Brown

Richard Hawkins

Lisa S. Codispoti

Chad Isler

Bruce Inzetta

Nathan Ritter

Justin Smith

OUR SPONSORS

AJAX Commercial Cleaning
Akron Children's Hospital
Akron Community Foundation
Akron METRO
Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Akron Public Schools
Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs, LLC
CareSource Foundation
ClearCaptions
Cleveland Clinic Akron General
Community Support Services
Danbury Senior Living
Direction Home Akron Canton Area Agency on Aging and Disabilities
Executive Ilene Shapiro's Summit County Department of Job and Family Services
HCR ManorCare
Independence of Portage County
Liberty HealthShare
OGS Industries
Ohio State Waterproofing
Panera Bread
PSI Solutions
R.C. Musson Rubber Co.
Simply EZ Home Delivered Meals
Structure Personnel Inc.
SummaCare
Summit County ADM Board
Summit County Children Services
Summit County Probate Court
Synchrony Financial
The Village of St. Edward
The YMCA
Universal Screen Arts, Inc.

OUR FUNDERS AND DONORS

Akron Community Foundation
Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank
City of Akron
City of Cuyahoga Falls
Cleveland Foundation
Corporation for National and Community Service
Cuyahoga County Department of Workforce Development
Department of Labor
Direction Home Akron Canton Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities
Fairmount Foundation
GAR Foundation
Mary S. & David C. Corbin Foundation
Meals on Wheels of America
Northern Ohio Golf Charities
Ohio Department of Aging
Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services
Summit County ADM Board
Summit County Department of Job Family Services
The Home Instead Foundation
United Way of Summit County

GIVE65 FUNDRAISING EVENT



Everyday, 10,000 people in the United States celebrate their 65th birthday. Many of these seniors across the country are in need of social service programs to enhance their quality of life. However, despite the increased need for support, only 2% of funding from the nation's largest grant makers is specifically focused on seniors.

That's why VANTAGE is partnering with GIVE65 to help local seniors. GIVE65, a program of the Home Instead Senior Care Foundation, is the nation's first and only crowd-fundraising platform focused exclusively on helping nonprofit organizations raise funds for programs and services benefiting seniors.

Support VANTAGE's mission by donating to our GIVE65 page (www.give65.org/homewellnesscampaign). Funds raised are directly used to provide services for seniors who want to stay in their homes.

GIVE65 is July 9 to 11, but you can preschedule your donation today! All donations are 100% tax deductible in the United States.





WE ARE

Dedicated to providing compassionate and empathetic support to promote the dignity of people and serving the holistic needs of older adults.

OUR MISSION

Promoting a positive perspective on aging.

OUR PURPOSE

All people should be able to age with the greatest degree of dignity, independence, and health possible.

Follow Us!

Facebook.com/vantageaging

Twitter: @VantageAging

LinkedIn: @VantageAging

Blog: vantageaging.org/news/blog

