

ADVOCATES for Senior Issues



YOU'RE INVITED

AFSI MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 16, 2024 10am – 12pm

AFSI monthly meeting presentation and program beginning at 10am

WHO: The Advocates for Senior Issues Members, Guests, and Sponsors

WHAT: An opportunity to advocate, learn, and grow together. There will be a continental breakfast so **be sure to arrive early and bring a guest!**

WHEN: February 16, 2024 10am-12pm

WHERE: Salvation Army Kroc Center
2500 Division Ave S.
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

Questions?

Please contact

AAAWM Advocacy & Planning Director

Sheri Harris

SheriH@aaawm.org | 616-222-7015

Legislative Speaker

Representative Carol Glanville

Program Presentation

Fred L Johnson III

The Peril of Promise:

Africans in Defense of America's Democracy

Although long an oppressed group in America, African Americans have repeatedly demonstrated selfless service in defense of the very same country that enslaved and then segregated them. In this presentation, Dr Johnson will focus on the history of African Americans fighting in America's wars, even during times when they were not allowed to vote in American elections

**SNOW
POLICY**

*When there is inclement weather predicted please look to **Grand Rapids Public School's** closure announcement on the radio, online, or on television to know if our meeting will be canceled. Sheri Harris will put out the notice of cancellation via email and on Facebook.*

ADVOCATES for Senior Issues

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WHEN

Friday, February 16, 2024 @ 10 am

WHERE

Salvation Army Kroc Center

2500 Division Ave S, Grand Rapids Michigan 49507

AGENDA

Call to Order and Announcements:

Lody Zwarensteijn, President

Legislative Presentation

Representative Carol Glanville

Carol Glanville is a born and raised West Michigander, a dedicated mother and a daughter of Union Workers. She has a lifelong passion for learning and extensive experience as a teacher, administrator, consultant and community leader. She served as a Walker City Commissioner and on advisory boards for several local advocacy groups and organizations.

Program Presentation

Fred L Johnson III

Hope College, Professor of History, Guy Vander Jagt '53
Endowed Chair

The Peril of Promise:

Africans in Defense of America's Democracy

Advocates for Senior Issues is a non-partisan organization, affiliated with the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan

www.aaawm.org/afsi

SPONSORS



Phil and Judy France

Thank you to our Sponsors

GOLD

Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (AAAWM)

AARP | Beacon Hill | HAP Health Alliance Plan

Giving Back Realty | Beth Swagman | Blue Cross Blue Shield

Elders' Helpers | Reliance Community Care Partners

SILVER

Life EMS | Pine Rest | Priority Health | Meijer Inc.

West Michigan Credit Union | Humana | Covenant Living

BRONZE

Community Care Givers | Grand Rapids Elderly Care

Lody and Joanne Zwarensteijn | Parents Empowering Network

Care Resources PACE | The Village of Heather Hills

Health Motion Physical Therapy | Ofield Funeral Home

Leslie Sanford | Faith Hospice | OLLI at Aquinas College | Mika Meyers, Attorneys

FRIEND

Bob Dunlap | Chris Becker Kent County Prosecutor

Beth Mans Greenridge Realty | Grand Rapids Savvy Senior Learning Series

Hulst Jepsen Physical Therapy | Safe Home Michigan | The Rapid

Joel Jason, CFP | Kelso Homes | Lacey Charboneau | Lois Carey

Phil and Judy France | Senior Neighbors | Tom Appel | Gauthier Family Home Care

Disability Advocates | Meals on Wheels Western Michigan | Holland Home

Renew Mobility | Sable Home Care



February 16, 2024

Questions for Representative Carol Glanville

1. What are you doing to ensure that Families, Children and Seniors have the affordable housing available that they need?
2. Michigan spends only 30% of Medicaid long term supports and services (LTSS) funds on Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS), far below the national average of HCBS spending of 55%. Rebalancing Michigan's long-term care system by increasing access to the MI Choice program supports individual choice. What are you doing to rebalance that funding discrepancy to support funding services that promote and allow for seniors to age in place?
3. As we pointed out before, seniors are concerned about the Direct Care Worker shortage. We have been advocating for an increase of \$4.00 an hour in their wages getting them to \$18.00. What will you do to increase their pay and increase their job satisfaction or professionalization to ease the Direct Care Worker crisis.
4. As we discussed last year, in the last couple years Spectrum Health / Cornwell have gone from being one of the most cost-effective systems in the state to being the most expensive in the state in a short period of time. They have reported record profits. What is the Health Policy Committee doing to provide oversight to assure that the community benefits required of tax exemption are honored?
5. Given that the legislature will be 50/50 for the next few months what are you hoping to accomplish in the interim?
6. Michigan is one of the few states without financial disclosure legislation. What is your stance on financial disclosure?
7. The Governor has called for funding for pre-k through community college. How do you think that this should be funded?

Coffee & Conversation

WITH STATE
REPRESENTATIVE
RACHEL HOOD



FRIDAY, FEB 23, 2024
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM



3215 Eaglecrest Drive NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Join us for a legislative coffee hour
where you can ask questions and
explore current senior issues in an
open conversation with
Representative Hood.