

Senior Programs

Helping Seniors Remain Independent

THE NEED

No one should have to choose between medicine and rent, or food and utilities, but this is the reality for half-a-million seniors in Ohio.

As people age, they need help. Even for those with family support and financial means, aging is challenging. The challenges are compounded for seniors living in or near poverty.



504,154 Ohioans age 65 or older were living below 200% of the federal poverty level in 2016.



8 million adults age 50 and older are affected by social isolation.



89% of Americans over age 50 wish to remain in their homes for as long as possible.

Seniors—especially low-income seniors—need help navigating the challenges of aging, like connecting to resources, using new technology, preventing senior abuse and senior-targeted scams, negotiating the complexities of the healthcare system, living on a fixed income, maintaining their mobility in the community, and counteracting social isolation. Because there is such a wide range of potential needs and some seniors have multiple challenges, senior support is not one-size-fits-all. Instead, it requires a holistic solution.

THE SOLUTION

CSS has been a mainstay in providing vital services to low-income seniors in Ohio for the past 40 years. Our senior clients say that our combination of holistic senior services helps them meet their goals for independence and connectedness.



98% of senior clients say we helped them meet their goals (i.e. housing or financial stability).



98% of Senior Companion clients say they feel less lonely.



1,000 low-income seniors remained independent at the Seton Properties.

As the population of seniors is expected to almost double by 2040, our services will be even more necessary than ever, especially considering that the upcoming senior population tends to have lower income, be in poorer health, and experience more social isolation than previous generations.

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OUR PROGRAMS

At Catholic Social Services, we devote significant time and resources to the vulnerable senior population to help them stay independent and connected in the community. We help seniors work through challenges common to their stage of life, such as connecting to resources, navigating new and rapidly-changing technology, senior abuse, senior-targeted scams, poverty on a fixed income, and loneliness.

Through a combination of complementary low-cost, high-impact interventions that provide the appropriate level of care, CSS helps seniors remain independent.

- **Foster Grandparent:** Through a training program, we connect low-income, active seniors as tutors for at-risk youth in area schools and Head Start programs.
- **Money Management:** Social workers help seniors manage their own finances by helping them prepare monthly budgets, pay their bills, deposit checks, make connections with financial and legal resources, and prepare for long-term needs.
- **Payee Services:** Bill pay to ensure essential living needs are met (for seniors and people with disabilities who have been deemed incapable of managing their own finances).
- **Senior Companion:** Connecting and engaging home-bound seniors and with active, low-income seniors.
- **Seton Service Coordination:** Connecting seniors who live in Seton affordable housing with help needed to overcome challenges such as medical or health issues, tax laws or benefits, and technological hurdles.
- **Transportation Services:** Our Transportation services allows seniors and qualified veterans to get to non-emergency medical appointments anywhere in the state of Ohio.
- **Supportive Services:** Our licensed social workers provide individualized care and case management to seniors and help them navigate their benefits, locate transportation, manage their finances, find appropriate housing, and more.