

Keep Area Agencies on Aging Strong.

# Older Missourians are just

from hospitalization, nursing home placement, and the loss of lifetime resources.

Did you know Area Agencies on Aging provide options? Support the Senior Services Growth and Development Bill.

# **ONE INCIDENT AWAY** ...

## Area Agencies on Aging Offer Unique Programs that Help

Brenda came to her local Area Agency on Aging office in early December for a scheduled appointment with Stephanie, a Family Services Division specialist. During the meeting, Brenda had asked some questions regarding Medicare so she was referred to Care Coordinator Rachel for further assistance. Together, they were able to enroll Brenda in a Medicare plan.

During their visit, Rachel discovered that Brenda was in jeopardy of becoming homeless. She had recently lost her job and her income had decreased from \$1600 a month to just a little more than \$600 a month. She had very little, if any, food at her apartment, and only had a few days until her rent was due.

Brenda owned a modest vehicle for transportation and indicated that she "had lived out of her car in the past and could do it again if it came to that." Not once did she ask Rachel for any assistance or handouts other than Medicare. Rachel politely excused herself to retrieve paperwork from the printer.

It came as a complete surprise when Rachel reentered the room with a Christmas basket overflowing with donated groceries, personal care items, and a few basic cleaning supplies. She was ecstatic and in complete shock, but even more thrilled to learn that her name was being submitted for the annual Santa's Little Helper program and that she would be receiving even more "goodies" in the coming month from her Secret Santa.

In addition to receiving Family Support information, Medicare assistance, and much needed food and supplies, Brenda was presented a check for \$500 to pay her December rent. She would not have to live out of her car during the cold month ahead, and even had a little extra to contribute to the following month's expenses. Brenda indicated that she hasn't been able to "breathe" in such a long time, and that we were her "angel" that lifted so much burden from her shoulders.

Because of the assistance received from the Area Agency on Aging, Brenda was able to weather the storm until she was able to successfully find another job.

## Your Area Agency on Aging in Missouri has expert help.

"We want to be here when you need us."



#### Core Services:

Supportive Services Caregiver Encouragement Nutrition Health and Wellness Advocacy

#### Additional Support:

Care Coordination Medicare Enrollment Tax Assistance Transportation Respite



Care Connection Central Missouri Mid-America Mid-East Northeast Missouri Northwest Missouri Region X Southeast Missouri SeniorAge St. Louis