



Illinois Association of Area Agencies on Aging

## Illinois Aging Network Alert

February 14, 2020

### I4A Members

**Grant Nyhammer**  
Northwestern Illinois AAA – PSA 01  
Rockford

**Marla Fronczak**  
AgeGuide Northeastern IL AAA – PSA 02  
Lombard

**Barbara Eskildsen**  
Western Illinois AAA – PSA 03  
Rock Island

**Keith Rider**  
Central Illinois AAA – PSA 04  
Peoria

**Susan Real**  
East Central Illinois AAA – PSA 05  
Bloomington

**Mike Drew**  
West Central Illinois AAA – PSA 06  
Quincy

**Carolyn Austin**  
AAA for Lincolnland – PSA 07  
Springfield

**Joy Paeth**  
AgeSmart Community Resources – PSA  
08  
O'Fallon

**Tracy Barczewski**  
Midland AAA – PSA 09  
Centralia

**Shana Holmes**  
Southeastern Illinois AAA – PSA 10  
Mt. Carmel

**Becky Salazar**  
Egyptian AAA – PSA 11  
Carterville

**Joyce Gallagher**  
City of Chicago – PSA 12  
Chicago

## **ISSUE: SUPPORT ILLINOIS FAMILY CAREGIVERS BY FUNDING THE ILLINOIS FAMILY CAREGIVER ACT!**

**The Illinois Family Caregiver Act (2004)** is a caregiver support program to assist unpaid (informal) family caregivers through:

- Short-term support services or living arrangements that provide relief to caregivers
- Personalized interventions to reduce caregiver stress
- Training and education on essential caregiving skills, which can delay the need for older adults to receive care in an institutional setting

**Caregiving** is a role friends and family members **willingly and lovingly take on**; however, it is a very **stressful role**. Most often the caregiver is a spouse or an adult child.

For the spouse the challenges include the **ability and knowledge** to provide the care needed. For adult children the challenges include **balancing their own family needs, jobs, and providing the care needed** which in many cases poses a role reversal for the Caregiver.

**1.5 million** Family Caregivers in Illinois provide **1.4 billion** hours of **unpaid** care. However, state funds have never been allocated to support Illinois family caregivers.

**Want to Learn More? Please join us during our first Illinois Family Caregiver Act Listening Session in Springfield:**

**When:** Tuesday, April 27, 2020 from 2:00 – 3:30  
**Where:** Memorial Center for Learning and Innovation  
2A Curtis Theatre Classroom  
228 W. Miller Street Springfield, IL 62702

**Let's get Illinois family caregivers the help and support they deserve!**