



FULTON COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR SERVICES

THE PULSE OF CHANGE

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Bird Exhibit at Zoo Atlanta Senior Day



DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Looking back on 2024 is refreshing. There were many moments of triumph and some sadness. Our good work in the Department of Senior Services (DSS) continues to shine as a beacon of light across Fulton County and beyond.

Our elders are consistent in their advocacy for change. They share their feedback, hopes and dreams for independence and safety.

Our staff persist in their daily efforts to deliver the best programs and services for seniors. Our partners pave the way for innovation and success.

We established new partnerships with Grady Health System and Zoo Atlanta. These innovative opportunities exposed our seniors to wellness initiatives, education and fun activities. Our facilities reopened their salons for a one-stop gateway to self-care. Senior Medicare Wellness Days offer a unique opportunity for Medicare Part B participants to receive their Annual Wellness Visits in our facilities.

The Adult Day Health program standardized the National Integrative Memory Enhancement Program as part of its curriculum. Serving as a venue for its national tour, the Benson Adult Day Health program was featured during the National Adult Day Services Association Conference, further highlighting Fulton County's investment in our seniors.

Our Senior Transportation programs and home delivered meals are in high demand, and our administration, finance and contracts teams continue to dial up the efficiency to keep the pulse of our services steady.

The Department's commitment to leading transformation and being responsive to the community's needs is exemplary. Our heartbeat is strong, and we thank you for your continued support!

LADISA ONYILIOGWU



Director, Department of Senior Services

PEOPLE

NEW HIRES

- *Tammy Bailey*, Nurse Tech, Benson Adult Day Health
- *Sandemara Bufford*, Multipurpose Center Worker, Bowden Adult Day Health
- *Yolanda Dawan*, Senior Services Instructor, Mills Senior Multipurpose Facility
- *Johnette Dorsey*, Life Enrichment Coordinator, Mills Senior Multipurpose Facility
- *Ryland Fuller*, Lifeguard, Darnell Senior Multipurpose Facility
- *Jessica Hundly*, Program Coordinator, Senior Transportation Program, Contracts
- *Sumaiya Islam*, Life Enrichment Coordinator, Bowden Senior Multipurpose Facility
- *Megan Kramer*, Cook, Mills Senior Multipurpose Facility
- *Amber Meadows-Dillard*, Social Services Coordinator, Mills Senior Multipurpose Facility
- *Sade Rowe*, Administrative Specialist, Senior Transportation Program, Contracts
- *Siunthia Simalton*, Cook, Darnelle Senior Multipurpose Facility
- *Jaquanda Surry*, Nurse Tech, Bowden Adult Day Health
- *Janet West*, LPN, Bowden Adult Day Health

PROMOTIONS

- *Sandemara Bufford*, promoted to Administrative Specialist for Transportation

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- *Reginald Fuller, Jr.*, Mills Lifeguard, Bachelor of Science in Journalism
- *Kweli Rashied-Henry*, Deputy Director, Doctorate in Public Health
- *Duane Tolson*, Administrative Manager, Certified Public Manager

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

FULTON COUNTY SERVICE AWARDS

<i>Karen Belton</i>	35 Years
<i>Meletta Clayton</i>	35 Years
<i>Kenyatta Eugene</i>	25 Years
<i>Andre Gregory</i>	25 Years
<i>Brenda Porter</i>	25 Years
<i>Ciara Simone</i>	20 Years
<i>Anthony Bailey</i>	15 Years
<i>Ureka Burnett</i>	15 Years
<i>Milrinette Nelson</i>	15 Years
<i>Tiffani Robinson</i>	15 Years
<i>Omoyeni Lawal</i>	15 Years
<i>Brandy Coffee</i>	10 Years
<i>Ginette Josaphat</i>	10 Years
<i>T'Quania Hammond-Allen</i>	10 Years
<i>Quentin Boswell</i>	10 Years
<i>Brenton Etuk</i>	10 Years
<i>Brenda Russell</i>	10 Years

IN MEMORY OF MS. BARBARA COOK

Ms. Barbara Cook (September 26, 1940 – February 2, 2024) served the Fulton County Department of Senior Services, Bowden Senior Multipurpose Facility for over 30 years. Through her compassion, leadership and tireless efforts countless lives have been positively impacted. Ms. Cook fostered a culture of support, care, and empowerment. Her enduring legacy of service exemplifies the true spirit of altruism and leaves an indelible mark on all those she has touched.



FACILITIES ROUNDUP

SENIOR MULTIPURPOSE PROGRAMMING

The facilities are in full swing. Benson, Bowden, Darnell and Mills are flagship Senior Multipurpose Facilities named in honor of the outstanding contributions of seniors in the community. Senior law presentations, cyber security classes, spam call workshops and CPR instruction happened across all four facilities. All four facilities also hosted several activities in honor of Older Americans Month, under the national theme, “Powered by Connection.”

ADULT DAY HEALTH PROGRAMS

The Integrated Memory Enhancement Program is a nationally recognized best practice in adult day health. The program has been shown to slow the progression of cognitive decline by introducing specific activities using a trusted curriculum. Fulton County Adult Day Health staff were trained in IMEP and adopted the program in 2024, which standardized activities across all four locations.





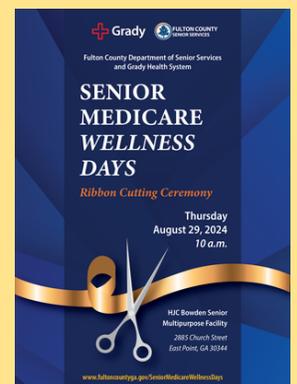
In late September and early October, over 200 seniors participated in Senior Days at Zoo Atlanta. Senior Services partnered with Zoo Atlanta to promote free admission to the zoo. Seniors were provided lunch and were able to ride the train and carousel for free. Animal ambassador interactions and a bird show were exciting special presentations designed for the senior patrons.

ZOO ATLANTA SENIOR DAYS



The Department of Senior Services in partnership with Grady Health System – Community Health Team is supporting Medicare Part B Annual Wellness Visits. The Annual Wellness Visit is a yearly appointment with a healthcare provider to update health records and ensure patients are receiving up-to-date preventive healthcare services (screening and vaccinations). The Grady team is also offering free health education workshops monthly over Zoom. Register here: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/JAHYqkEYQ7qdDroZS_SOqQ

SENIOR MEDICARE WELLNESS DAYS



FULTON COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES STATS



314,089 TRIPS
TAKEN BY SENIORS



25,340
VOLUNTEER HOURS
PROVIDED



3,969 MEALS
INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED
CONGREGATE AT THE
NEIGHBORHOOD
SENIOR CENTERS



27,505
PARTICIPANTS
IN MULTIPURPOSE
PROGRAMMING



146,704
HOME-DELIVERED
MEALS SERVED



168%
INCREASE
IN PARTICIPATION
IN ADULT DAY
HEALTH PROGRAMS



12,811 CALLS
RECEIVED THROUGH STARLINE



4,260 SENIORS
RECEIVED IN-HOME SERVICES



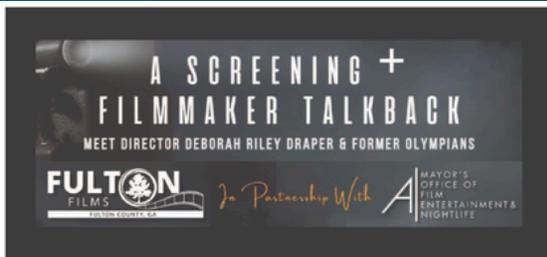
CONTRACT SERVICES

STARLINE

- Increased community engagement efforts and events
- Implementation of a new phone system to improve efficiency

IN-HOME SERVICES

- New client referral processes were implemented for Aging and In-Home Services to reduce wait times.
- The respite client wait list has been reduced exponentially. Reducing homemaker and personal care wait times is the priority for early 2025.



FULTON FILMS OFFICE PRESENTS SPECIAL SCREENING OF OLYMPIC PRIDE AMERICAN PREJUDICE

July 17, 2024



In July, **Ms. Shirley Meadows**, Darnell Senior Multipurpose Senior Services Instructor joined the screening and panel presentation of Olympic Pride. Ms. Meadows participated in the 1960 Olympics during the 1960 Olympics. She was the Top Hurdler for the USA, and ran with Wilma Rudolph and Martha Hudson in the 4x4 Relay. Ms. Meadows also previously ran with TSU's Tigerbelles. View her interview here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHnJCB8-YFc&list=PL0-TMSgrfrnJ3LnubbOZ_CiNKP-BXy-pK&index=4



Grandparents and other senior caregivers, who are raising children 18 years of age and under can experience great challenges. The DSS Senior Kinship Care program offers case management, education, and support to senior kinship caregivers.



KINSHIP FAMILIES

FREE!

BACK TO SCHOOL CELEBRATION

Sponsored by: **EachOne TeachOne Together**
The Power of Learning

Kinship Families bring your lawn chairs and families for a day filled with food, games, music, lots of fun, and giveaways!

Meet other Kinship Families and Kinship Navigators!!

OAK HILL CHILD, FAMILY, AND ADOLESCENCE CENTER
2805 Metropolitan Parkway SW, Atlanta, GA 30315

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2024
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Registration required for the bookbag giveaway!

Register at:
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/KINSHIPBACKTOSCHOOL](https://tinyurl.com/kinshipbacktoschool)

MUSIC BY **GEORGE FOX & BILLY CALLOWAY**

Georgia Department of Human Services | Atlanta Fulton Family Connection | Georgia WIC

SENIOR KINSHIP CAREGIVER PROGRAM

AmeriCorps Senior Companion Program provides eligible seniors ages 55-years-old and above with high-quality volunteer support. Volunteers serve as friends or companions to Fulton County senior residents to ensure they can live in their own homes for as long as possible.



AMERICORPS SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM

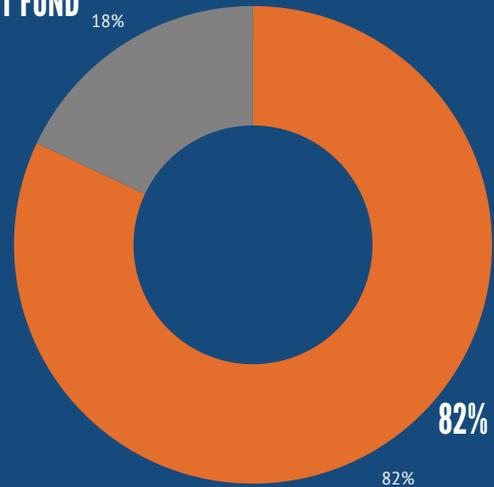


AmeriCorps

FINANCIALS

The Department of Senior Services 2024 Annual Budget as adopted by the Board of Commissioner was \$27M.

18% GRANT FUND



82% GENERAL FUND



2024 Fulton County Best Hand Walk-Run DSS Team

Thank You,
Mike

Benson Center Transportation Team,

Thank you for taking such great care of your riders. Mike Waters has really benefited from the Benson Center and that wouldn't be possible with out you.

You're doing important work and your community is grateful.

♡ Chelsea Clements



BECAUSE WE CARE, WE SERVE

COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS

This advisory board to the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, the Fulton County Department of Senior Services, and the Community addresses the needs of elder citizens across Fulton County. COEA assists the Department of Senior Services in the resolution of senior concerns and advocates to improve the concerns of elder adults by increasing community awareness. COEA meets virtually every month. For more information, please visit here: <https://zoom.us/j/7824554023?omn=94334440244>.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ATLANTA HOUSING AUTHORITY

ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

AMERICORPS

AARP

COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS

FULTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

FULTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY

DEVELOPMENT

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY

FULTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF

REAL ESTATE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

GRADY HEALTH SYSTEM

ZOO ATLANTA

For Frequently Asked Questions regarding Senior Services programming, visit fultoncountyga.gov/seniors, email us at seniorservices@fultoncountyga.gov or call the STARline at (404) 613-6000.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

Visit us online to register for upcoming virtual classes: <https://fultoncountyga.gov/services/senior-services/senior-virtual-classes>