

YOUR IMPACT in the

IONA COMMUNITY

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Celebrating 50 Years of Impact

Dear friends,

Lean into the uncertainty. This has been a mantra for many of us in the Iona community as we have deeply felt the effects of the rapid and tumultuous changes occurring in the nation and at home in the District. While our federal and local funding combined allows us to serve over 2,300 people per day through innovative programs designed to combat isolation, address food insecurity, and care for those impacted by dementia, we are actively leaning into one of the most difficult seasons in Iona's 50-year history as our grant funding and Medicaid-funded programs are under the threat of cuts. The weight of these challenges can often feel overwhelming, but the outreach and compassion of our supporters, along with the solidarity of Iona's team of 95 individuals, all with colorful and unique backgrounds that make America so great, gives us an anchoring hope.

We also reflect on what it means to reach fifty years of service to older adults, caregivers, and families in our community. It's more than an achievement—it's a testament to the power of community. From dedicated volunteers and supporters to program participants and partners, each person who has walked through Iona's doors contributed to the building of a stronger, more compassionate place for older adults to thrive.

As we honor this milestone, we are also mindful of the growing needs in our



The Asian and Pacific Islander Senior Center rang in the Lunar New Year with a joyful celebration filled with tradition, community, and cultural performances.

region. Today across Washington, DC, 3 in 4 older adults are living alone, 1 in 3 are experiencing hunger, and 1 in 6 older adults are aging with a form of dementia. With more than 11,000 people turning 65 every day, the demand for services that support aging with dignity is greater than ever. That's why Iona continues to evolve—expanding programs for people living with memory loss, increasing caregiver support, and developing innovative models to combat social isolation and food insecurity.

Throughout the year, we will commemorate this special anniversary with events, storytelling, and opportunities to engage in conversations about aging with dignity. We invite you to join us—whether by attending a celebration, sharing your connection to Iona, or making a special donation

in support of Iona's mission to ensure that all older adults receive the care and respect they deserve.

We hope you'll join us. To learn more about our programs and upcoming anniversary events, visit www.iona.org. If you'd like to connect over coffee and conversation, please email me at jbang@iona.org.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Here's to 50 years of impact—and to the next 50.

With gratitude,



Joon Bang

Joon Bang

CEO,
Iona Senior Services

Share Your Story for Iona's 50th Anniversary



As we celebrate Iona's golden anniversary, we want to highlight the moments and memories that make our community special.

Were you or a loved one touched by Iona's services?

Do you have a story about the impact Iona has had on your life?

Be part of our "50 Stories for 50 Years" campaign by sharing your experience! Your story could be featured in our anniversary celebrations.

To submit your story, please visit www.iona.org/50stories. We can't wait to hear from you!

IONA 50 stories for fifty years

You're Invited! Join us at Heart of Caring

You are invited to Iona's signature annual fundraising event, Heart of Caring! A special gathering each spring, this luncheon features a seated lunch, informative program, dynamic keynote speaker and networking opportunities. Proceeds from the event directly address the urgent needs of older adults and family caregivers who depend on Iona's wide range of services.

Join us in making a difference by purchasing a ticket and supporting this meaningful luncheon. Sponsorship opportunities are also available! Visit www.iona.org/hoc25 for details.



Heart of Caring Luncheon



You're Invited!

Thursday, April 24, 2025 | 12:00- 1:30 PM
Washington Hebrew Congregation

Limited Tickets available!
www.iona.org/hoc25



Leaving a Lasting Legacy

Daniel Stevenel, a friend and supporter of Iona, passed away at the remarkable age of 101 on October 4, 2023. Daniel was a member of Iona's Legacy Circle and named Iona Senior Services as the main beneficiary of his estate. Daniel's remarkable life story is one of dedication, generosity, and deep appreciation for knowledge and service and caring about others. A gifted translator and passionate teacher, Daniel left an indelible mark on those around him, whether through his many years of work with the Organization of American States or his time teaching Spanish at George Washington University. His humility, intelligence, and kindness were qualities cherished by his friends, neighbors and colleagues.



A proud and active U.S. citizen with a love for history, particularly that of World War II and his native Mexico, Daniel never stopped learning. Even into his 100s, he continued to expand his mind, taking up French through an online course. His attention to self-care and holistic health kept him strong throughout his life, and his musical talents as a pianist were a testament to his creativity and discipline and enjoyed by his neighbors and friends.

To honor Daniel's memory and his desire to help older adults, especially in the healthcare field, the nurse's office at Iona's Washington Home Center in Congress Heights will be named the Daniel Stevenel Room—a fitting tribute to a man who not only lived with purpose but also gave back in a way that will help older adults for years to come.

You can join Iona's Legacy Circle, just as Daniel did, and ensure that your impact continues to support older adults for generations to come. By designating a fixed amount or percentage through your will, a beneficiary designation of a life insurance policy or retirement account, or making a gift through a charitable trust, you are supporting Iona's work and ensure our vital programs and services remain available for generations.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Iona's Legacy Circle, please contact Stephanie Hubbard, Chief Development Officer, at (202) 895-9441 or shubbard@iona.org to discuss or record your gift intentions.

Caregiving Resources Available For You

Iona is known throughout the Washington, DC area not only for our support of older adults, but for the services we provide to caregivers. From respite programs like our adult day health centers in Tenleytown and Congress Heights and our Age Well/Live Well volunteer program, to caregiver support groups and personalized care navigation from Aging and Caregiving Support, the team at Iona is here to support caregivers in our community.

The motto of Aging and Caregiving Support is "help for today and planning for tomorrow." Iona's professional services tap into our expertise in aging and deep knowledge of local resources to craft a plan that ensures the best care for you or an older adult in your life.

Our licensed social worker and nurse care manager have the expertise to help put a plan into action. We research, coordinate, arrange, and oversee services so that you can feel confident and secure knowing your family member is receiving the best care possible. Learn more at: <https://iona.org/programs/aging-and-caregiving-support/> or call Iona's Helpline at 202-895-9448 to schedule your 15-minute complementary phone call.

IONA IS HERE TO HELP

Aging and Caregiving Support care managers specialize in working with older adults and family caregivers to navigate and problem-solve the challenges of aging. We save you and your family time and energy, and provide peace of mind.

We can support you with:

- Aging in place
- Making a move
- Hospital/rehab to home
- Dementia care
- Family support
- End of life

Call Iona's Helpline at (202) 895-9448 to schedule a 15-minute complimentary phone call with an Aging and Caregiving Support care manager.



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Supported by the D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living.

Caregiving Documentary Screening **Join us!**

Join us on Monday, May 19 from 7:00–9:00 PM at American University's Abramson Family Recital Hall for a screening of *Caregiving* documentary, in partnership with WETA and *Stroll Magazine Cleveland Park*. Executive produced by Bradley Cooper, this film is a production of Lea Pictures and WETA Washington, D.C., in association with Ark media. *Caregiving* is a documentary and digital engagement campaign that will reveal the vital impact of the caregiver's role on the family, in the workplace, and the country's economy.

Before the screening, join us for a reception featuring drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$40 for one and \$70 for two. After the screening, we invite you to participate in a community conversation through a panel discussion with national leaders in aging. The film screening is free, but seating is limited, and tickets are required. Visit www.iona.org/specialevents to register and www.wellbeings.org for information on the project.



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www.iona.org/enews



**Join Us for an Exclusive
Film Screening!**

**Monday, May 19 at
American University**

5:30: Reception (\$40 tickets)

*7:00: Caregiving screening,
panel discussion and Q&A
(free, tickets required)*

Free garage parking on-site

*Tickets are limited!
Get yours today!*

