



PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Kimberly Parker (312) 814.1577

Kimberly.Parker@Illinois.gov

State Recognizes Adult Day Service Providers During Awareness Week from September 15th to 21st

*Observance highlights commitment to providing services that offer support
and independent living to seniors*

SPRINGFIELD - In observance of Adult Day Services week Illinois Department on Aging (IDoA) Director John K. Holton, Ph.D., is praising providers who offer support services at Adult Day Centers. Adult Day Service (ADS) is designed for older adults who want to remain in the community but face limitations if left home alone during the day due to physical, social and/or mental impairment. In addition to recreational and therapeutic activities to help clients maintain/develop physical and mental status, ADS provides health and medication supervision, personal care, and meal service for clients. ADS providers also offer respite for family caregivers, especially those who are employed outside the home.

"Adult Day Services benefit the older adult as well as their family and caregiver. Providers help clients maintain their health, independence and socialization, while also providing families peace of mind when they are away from their loved ones," said Director Holton. "This type of support speaks to our mission at the Department on Aging which is to serve and advocate for older adults by administering programs that promote independence, dignity and quality of life."

Director Holton's comments echo the words of a proclamation from Governor Quinn celebrating Adult Day Service providers. (The proclamation follows the press release).

IDoA only provides certification to Adult Day Centers that offer services through the Community Care Program. Along with case management, in-home service and emergency home response service, ADS is a core service under the Community Care Program. The program does not maintain a waiting list, so all clients who meet the eligibility criteria (i.e., age 60+, have non-exempt assets of \$17,500, US citizen, resident of Illinois, and obtained a minimum Determination of Need (DON) score of 29 or greater for Long Term Care services) are given service and may select an approved provider of their choice within the service area.

Adult Day Services Week, sponsored by the National Adult Day Services Association, is scheduled the third complete week of September, to raise awareness of the availability and accessibility of adult day programs nationwide. The theme of this year's weeklong observance is *Pushing Boundaries to Reach New Heights*.

Illinois Adult Day Service Association (IADSA) provides coordination among ADS providers throughout the state. IADSA President Kathy Wyatt said, "I know that our programs are helpful for the health and mental wellness of our participants as well as their caregivers and families. We appreciate the Governor's support for the Proclamation and the well being of the frail senior population that we serve in the great state of Illinois."

For information about programs to assist older adults in Illinois and their caregivers, including how to locate an Adult Day Service Provider, log on to the website at www.state.il.us/aging/ or call the Department on Aging Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 or for TTY (hearing impaired use, only) call 1-888-206-1327.

*Editor's Note: *ADS oversight overlaps between the IL Depts: on Aging, of Human Services (DHS) and Public Health (DPH):*

- *IDoA certifies only ADS seeking to participate in the Community Care Program*
- *DHS certifies ADS (called Developmental Training sites) and funds ADS under DD Adult Waiver*
- *DPH regulates adult day care programs housed within in existing long-term care facilities*

Proclamation by Governor Quinn:

WHEREAS, adult day centers are structured, comprehensive programs that offer a variety of support services for the purpose of providing personal attention and promoting social, physical and emotional well-being in a supportive setting; and

WHEREAS, adult day services centers in Illinois provide these services with professional and compassionate care; and

WHEREAS, through this service, functionally and cognitively impaired adults to receive needed care and services in a community environment; and

WHEREAS, adult day centers offer participants an opportunity for enriching educational, therapeutic and social experiences outside the home, and

WHEREAS, these centers provide much-needed assistance and counseling to caregivers including anyone involved and dedicated to this noble service; and

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois proudly joins the Illinois Adult Day Service Association in designating September 15-21, 2013, as Adult Day Services Week,

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 15-21, 2013 as **ADULT DAY SERVICES WEEK** in Illinois, and encourage all citizens to honor and celebrate these noble caregivers and the communities they enrich.