

## Alliance News

Winter 2016 Issue

### North Carolina Senior Center Alliance (NCSCA): What's It All About?

NCSCA exists to provide a statewide organization for senior center professionals to advocate for senior centers, network and collaborate on common issues, share information, co-market initiatives, and provide for additional staff training and development. The Alliance was established to work in collaboration with senior center staff from the NC Division of Aging & Adult Services, the NCAOA and to promote awareness of the National Institute of Senior Centers.

In a nutshell....we're here to help you!



### 2015 NC Senior Center Leadership Symposium



(below from left to right) Rebecca Freeman, NCDAAS, Thessia Everhart-Roberts, Chair; Senior Center Alliance



**Advocacy Panel:** (above from left to right) Calvin Vaughn, Chuck Youse, Mary Bethel, Suzanne Merrill, Dennis Streets

The NC Senior Center Leadership Symposium is for graduates of the Ann Johnson Institute (AJI)

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#### Senior Center Directors and Managers told us what they liked best about the Ann Johnson Institute...

I loved the Program Explosion and Roundtables because we are hearing from other centers on what they are doing that can help me improve my center.

I really liked the variety of presenters.

more about AJI  
on p. 2

I had really been looking forward to this module. The one thing I have not fully understood was SCOPE. It now completely makes sense.

#### Alliance Newsletter

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Davidson County Senior Services

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NC Division of Aging and Adult Services

**Senior Center Alliance Chairman:**  
Thessia Everhart-Roberts


## The Ann Johnson Institute

Today the evaluation results arrived, marking the completion of 14 years of the Ann Johnson Institute for Senior Center Management (AJI), a 6 module statewide training program for senior center staff. The first module was held November 14-16, 2001 in Caswell Beach, NC- less than 20 miles from the location of the most recent module. Over 200 people have graduated from AJI since it first began. Attendance is at an all-time high, indicating the success of this extraordinary specialized training program for senior center staff.

How did it get started?

Steve Freedman, chief of the service operations sections at the Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS), recalls the story of how AJI came to be. Shortly after DAAS implemented the senior center certification program, Steve enjoyed a visit with the late Ann Johnson. He was proudly reflecting on DAAS' recent achievement, when Ann chimed in and told him their work was incomplete! The state needed a senior center training program to compliment the certification program and to give senior center staff the tools they needed to create Centers of Excellence. Steve knew Ann was right and so DAAS quickly began working toward creating the training program. Ideas sprung from surveys, focus groups, meetings with senior center managers, and an advisory group comprised mostly of senior center directors. The format and content of AJI still reflects these early contributions. Training topics also mirror the certification requirements, thus adding a final piece to the puzzle and establishing the unique and successful senior center system we have in North Carolina. The institute was named after Ann Johnson, who passed away last year. She once said this was her greatest honor.

*By Rebecca Freeman  
Senior Center Program Specialist  
NC Division of Aging and Adult Services*



I truly enjoy all the AJI training's! I have attended many trainings & these have been the best!



The First Graduating Class of the Ann Johnson Institute



AJI Module V: Students of Institute learn and have fun too!



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## 2015 NC Senior Center Leadership Symposium

The 2015 Leadership Symposium was held August 25 & 26 at the Sheraton Hotel in Chapel Hill, NC. Graduates of the AJI Management Training were able to reconnect, share ideas, challenges and great food. Participants learned about Leadership, Advocacy, Decision Making, Performance Measures and more. There was a special advocacy panel and participants were able to ask questions relevant to their centers. The Symposium was sponsored by the NC Senior Center Alliance, NC Association on Aging and the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services.

### LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SENIOR CENTERS AROUND THE STATE



Participants of the Lexington Senior Center enjoy a cooking class led by Melissa Darr, Chef of the Life Center of Davidson County in September. Participants learned to plan health conscious meals to help manage diabetes.

Wednesday morning advanced bridge group at the Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem celebrates with bridge participant, Ms. Ava Gray, on the occasion of her 101 birthday.



Clayton Center for Active Aging: We are so proud of our amazing YARNS group. The ongoing REX Baby Hat Volunteer Program is a huge success.



Ruffy-Holmes Senior Center Outdoor Adventure Club at Tanglewood Park for horseback riding and hiking.

### ***ALLIANCE MEMBERS:***

Brunswick Senior Resources, Inc.  
Chatham County Council on Aging, Inc.  
Council on Aging of Cleveland County, Inc  
County of Hyde  
Craven County Senior Center  
Davie County Senior Services  
King Senior Center  
Centralina Area Agency on Aging  
Orange County Department on Aging

**Alliance members are not required to join the NCAOA to become a member.**

The fee structure is: \$10 for NCAOA members and \$30 for non-members. As with MOWANC, the membership fee is per agency/individual.

Person County Senior Center  
Resources for Seniors, Inc.  
Ruffy-Holmes Senior Center  
Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem  
Southwestern Commission AAA  
Troy/Montgomery Senior Center  
Walnut Cover Senior Center  
...and more centers joining every day

Two Great Organizations for Aging Professionals

*Join both...Join one...Join Today!*

**Membership Application**

NCAOA represents a diverse membership of agencies and professionals in the field of aging and provides members with opportunities to influence policy in government and academic settings. Known across North Carolina as an association with an emphasis on service provision at the local level. NCAOA members serve on regional and statewide committees that help shape the future of services for North Carolina's older population. For more information on NCAOA please see our website at [www.ncaoa.org](http://www.ncaoa.org).

NCSCA - A section of the North Carolina Association on Aging (NCAOA), the North Carolina Senior Center Alliance exists to provide a statewide organization for senior center professionals to advocate for senior centers, network and collaborate on common issues, share information, co-market initiatives, and provide for additional staff training and development. For more information on NCSCA please see our webpage at [www.ncaoa.org/alliance.org](http://www.ncaoa.org/alliance.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Main E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\*List additional email addresses on back of form (up to 25 per agency or organization)

Agency website \_\_\_\_\_ Is Your Agency \_\_\_Public \_\_\_Not-for-Profit \_\_\_For-Profit

**NCAOA Membership categories (please check only one):**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Agency/Organization/Individual Member, \$120 per year**

For agencies, organizations, or individuals that are involved in providing services or administration in the field of aging or closely allied field. Membership includes all employees of an agency or organization. Only one mailing address will be used, but organizations may have up to twenty-five emails addresses included for the receipt of newsletters and bulletins. Voting privileges are limited to one designated employee. Any one employee of said agency or organization may hold office.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Friends of NCAOA, \$75 per year**

For individuals who are not directly involved, but interested in aging and the mission of NCAOA, **who are not part of an agency organization that qualifies above.** Friends are not eligible to vote or hold office.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Student/Senior Member, \$35 per year**

For individuals currently enrolled in a Degree Program, or a senior age 60+, who are not part of an agency or organization that qualifies above. Students/Senior Members are not eligible to vote or hold office.

**NCSCA Membership categories (please check only one):**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$10 per year** - For Agency/Organization/Individual Members of the NCAOA \_\_\_\_\_ **\$30 per year** - For Agency/Organization/Individual Non NCAOA Members

Name of Senior Center(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name and email of agency/organization members joining/renewing membership: \_\_\_\_\_

\*List additional names and email addresses on back of form (up to 25 per agency organization)

Enclosed is my check or money order for membership with the North Carolina Association on Aging and/or North Carolina Senior Center Alliance. Membership is renewable July 1 of each year.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: NCAOA and mail to: NCAOA • PO Box 10341 • Raleigh, NC 27605-0341

To complete the registration form and pay online go to [www.ncaoa.org](http://www.ncaoa.org) and click the online membership form

For more information or if you have questions, please contact us at [ncaoaconferencecord@gmail.com](mailto:ncaoaconferencecord@gmail.com)