



Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio Launches Kindred Companions Program to Support Seniors

Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio is proud to announce the launch of **Kindred Companions**, a new parish-based initiative designed to support older adults through meaningful relationships and practical assistance. Rooted in Catholic social teaching, the program empowers volunteers to walk alongside seniors as they age in place—offering dignity, purpose, and connection.

Volunteers are matched with older adults who need companionship and light support, such as help with everyday tasks or shared activities. Through regular visits, Kindred Companions helps reduce isolation, promote independence, and build lasting bonds. The program is hosted by local parishes, with no stipends or service hour requirements—just a shared commitment to care. Parishes help recruit volunteers and connect them with older adults in their communities.

“Loneliness is so pervasive among older adults that it’s now considered a health issue,” said Aaron Glauber, Director of Senior & Caregiver Support Services. “Programs like these offer companionships and help people remain independent in their homes longer.”

AmeriCorps Seniors Funding Restored for Hamilton County Programs

Catholic Charities is also pleased to announce the restoration of **AmeriCorps Seniors** funding for its Foster Grandparents and Senior Companions programs in Hamilton County. These long-standing initiatives serve nearly 500 low-income seniors and at-risk school children annually through nearly 80,000 hours of volunteer service.

Earlier this year, the future of these cost-effective and impactful services was uncertain due to an unexpected impoundment of national AmeriCorps funds by the White House. Thanks to strong advocacy efforts, funding has now been released, allowing these programs to continue at least through June 2026.

AmeriCorps Foster Grandparents are low-income volunteers age 55 and older who mentor and tutor children with special needs in schools, early childhood centers, and other community settings. AmeriCorps Senior Companions—like Kindred Companions—provide non-medical assistance and emotional support to seniors, helping them remain independent in their homes. Volunteers offer companionship, assist with daily tasks, and provide transportation for essential errands and appointments.

These programs reflect Catholic Charities’ deep commitment to caring for older adults, veterans, individuals with disabilities, and students in need.