

Neighbors Care Alliance

Neighbors Helping Neighbors



- **The Neighbors Care (NC) Program** was created to assist neighborhoods and faith communities in creating or strengthening volunteer caregiver programs (VCPs). The goal is to help seniors remain independent and in their homes as long as possible through the support of their “neighbors”. The program also provides additional resources and support for family caregivers. Neighbors Care assists communities in developing programs that provide volunteer services to seniors such as rides to and from medical appointments and shopping, friendly visits, help with errands, grocery shopping, telephone reassurance, help with house or yard, light housekeeping, meal preparation, caregiver relief, etc. Each is an independent program setting its own services and policies with support from the Neighbors Care Outreach Coordinators.
- The **Neighbors Care Alliance (NCA)** is the association of all the Neighbors Care Programs.
- This **award winning program** (National Council on Aging and n4a) is the only program that we know of that provides support on an on-going basis to neighborhoods and faith communities throughout a county.
- In addition to the tremendous number of direct services provided to seniors, **other benefits** of the programs are that they:
 - Are cost effective to the community,
 - Have opened the door for cross generational activities
 - Provide the opportunities for partnerships with neighboring communities.
 - Provide opportunities for civic engagement for some boomers and seniors to take leadership positions in organizing programs and for others to provide needed direct services to seniors and administrative support to the program.
 - Can be a catalyst to bring together on-going educational seminars, information sharing and support to meet the challenges facing our aging society and their caregivers.
 - Provide resources for linkages to other community services.
 - Can provide a vehicle to improve the sense of “community” within neighborhoods that may be a starting point for such other activities as asset mapping and intergenerational program activities.
 - Can be a tremendous resource to the Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

Thousands of homebound adults across Pima County will also benefit as a result of the recent Regional Transportation Authority funding which is hoped to provides **incentives to volunteers**. Volunteer drivers will receive mileage reimbursement and insurance coverage for **transporting vulnerable homebound adults** to crucial medical appointments and basic shopping for household supplies and other needs.

Over the past four years, over **100 neighborhoods and faith communities** have been brought together to form or have been added to 24 Volunteer Caregiver Programs throughout Pima County.

The Neighbors Care Program and Alliance are administered through Pima Council on Aging.

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