



Board of Commissioners

PRESS RELEASE

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Second Annual Lake County Caregiver Forum Scheduled

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, August 21, 2023 – The Board of Lake County Commissioners Senior Services is hosting their second annual Caregiver Forum on Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The forum is sponsored by University Hospitals, Laketran, and the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and will be held at University Hospitals TriPoint Medical Center, located at 7950 Auburn Rd., Concord.

“We are thrilled to bring back the Caregiver Forum,” said Commissioner John Hamercheck, President of the Board of Lake County Commissioners. “This event was very well received last year and we’ve decided that this is something we’d like to continue to grow annually.”

This year’s forum will include a keynote address, titled “Human First, Helper Second,” by trauma-informed care subject matter expert, Katie Kurtz, MSW LISW-S, along with lunch and learn sessions by Legal Aid and the Alzheimer’s Association. This a free event but registration is required. Caregivers of older adults who are interested in attending may register by visiting www.lakecountyohio.gov/senior-services/lake-county-caregiver-forum.

In Ohio, in 2021, 1.46 million family caregivers provide unpaid care valued at \$21 billion. This is a \$4.2 million increase in unpaid contributions since 2019, according to AARP. This highlights the growing scope and complexity of family caregiving. “We recognize the tremendous value of unpaid caregivers and the vital role they play in Ohio’s health care system,” said Commissioner John Plecnik. “It’s important that caregivers are aware of and able to access the services and support they need.”

Local agencies will be on hand at the forum to provide information on a variety of services and answer questions. “We want to continue to explore and address the needs of caregivers in Lake County,” said Commissioner Richard Regovich. “We hope you will attend this important event and share your needs and experiences.”

For more information on the Lake County Caregiver Forum, contact Alyea Barajas, Senior Services Manager, at (440) 350-2748.

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