



## Helping Seniors of Brevard –Why We Need Information

Dear Friends,

**In August, Helping Seniors will be five years old.** Thinking about saying “Rome was not build in a day” makes me even more cognizant of the progress we have made, the people we have helped, and some of the objectives we have set for the organization. Our mission is to educate, inform and connect seniors to available resources.

We know there are many excellent senior service organizations in Brevard County which help people. Most just need better publicity and oversight to ensure services that are funded through federal, state, and local dollars are given to those in need. For example, the Older American Services Act of 1965 provides funding for many senior care services which are managed by local organizations:

- The Brevard Alzheimer’s Foundation receives state funding for Project Relief, which provides free respite care, and the Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative, which provides about 20 days of adult day health care free-of-charge or on a sliding

fee scale. The Foundation also provides transportation services. Call (321) 254-4430.

- Aging Matters receives funding to provide services such as respite care, meals, grab bar installations, raised toilets, case management, transportation and in home cooking and cleaning services. Call (321) 639-8770.
- The Space Coast Center for Independent Living provides free transportation for those who qualify throughout Brevard County. Veterans can be transported at no cost anywhere in the county. The Center also has excellent free hearing device services. Call (321) 633-6011.

What is important to note is that almost every service described above is free to those who qualify and ask the right questions. There is an increasing need to know about these services, which is why Helping Seniors of Brevard was founded – to complete the care equation.

Helping Seniors of Brevard provides a unique service. For example, many know about our local VA clinic but are unaware of the Veteran’s Services office (321) 633-2012, which helps families process VA benefits. At Helping Seniors of Brevard, we receive many calls from elderly widows of WWII and Korea who have remained unmarried and are eligible for a veteran’s pension that is often double the size of their Social Security check. We have been able to direct these senior women to benefits otherwise unknown, so this alone underscores our mission.

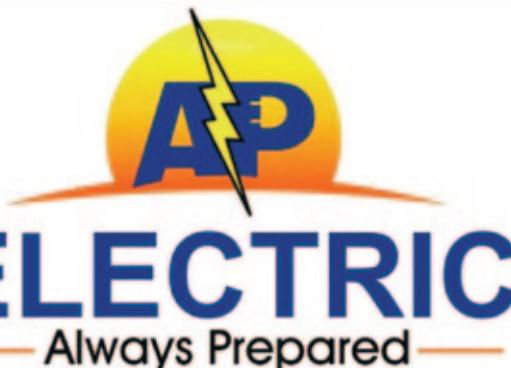
This is what we mean when we say that Helping Seniors of Brevard completes, rather than competes with others. We help you wind your way through a complicated care system. Please call our information specialist at (321) 473-7770 to learn more about available services and get connected to the right resource. You can also visit us at [www.helpingseniorsofbrevard.org](http://www.helpingseniorsofbrevard.org).



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*Joe Steckler is the President of Helping Seniors of Brevard, a non-profit organization designed to advocate, educate, and fundraise on behalf of Brevard’s senior citizens. Feel free to contact us at: [info@helpingseniorsofbrevard.org](mailto:info@helpingseniorsofbrevard.org) or calling: 321-473-7770 ~[www.helpingseniorsofbrevard.org](http://www.helpingseniorsofbrevard.org)*



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