

CARIE

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The Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of the Elderly (CARIE) is a non-profit organization, based in Philadelphia, dedicated to improving the quality of life for vulnerable older people.

CARIE fulfills its core mission – to improve the well being, rights and autonomy of older persons through advocacy, education, and action – through a “case to cause” model of advocacy that serves to promote equal access to justice and address problems and issues on both the individual and the systemic levels. Because frail older adults often lack the ability to advocate on their own behalf without assistance, CARIE provides individual advocacy through direct service and systemic advocacy through education and public policy initiatives.

CARIE’s programs and services include community education, professional training, and individual counseling and problem solving. A leader in the field of aging for more than 30 years, CARIE is recognized as a vital resource for a wide range of audiences, including older adults, family members and other caregivers, aging and other social service providers, policy makers, and academicians. Its services are provided locally, throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and in some cases, nationally.

CARIE is committed to providing high quality programming and practicing sound management. Specific outcomes related to advocacy, education, and action, include:

- **Advocacy:** Each year, our CARIE LINE Advocates assist approximately 2,700 care recipients and resolve more than 3,000 problems. The CARIE LINE provides special services to elderly victims of crime and abuse, including court accompaniment and emergency repairs to re-secure victims’ homes. Through the Philadelphia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, CARIE handles complaints from 100+ residents and provides information and consultation to another 500+ persons annually. Ombudsman staff and volunteers also visit over 150 long-term care facilities and train staff, residents and the public about residents’ rights.
- **Education:** Each year more than 15,000 people are educated through hundreds of public outreach programs, staff presentations, and health fairs. In addition, the training department reaches social workers, nurses, administrators, and other professionals in long-term care with its Competence with Compassion™ curriculum.
- **Action:** CARIE advocates around issues that impact frail older adults like proposed federal and state budget cuts - particularly those related to Medicaid and Medicare, long term care services including Medicaid Aging Waiver services, regulations for long term care settings, and elder abuse.



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