



Cuyahoga County

DSAS 2023 Highlights and 2024 Initiatives

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2023 Service Highlights

- In 2023, the DSAS **Connection Center** handled *24,760 calls* (the most in any one year) DSAS **Adult Protective Services** served *2,506 clients*, the highest number ever in Cuyahoga County.
- DSAS **Home Support** and **Options for Independent Living** programs provided clients with more than *65,000 hours* of homemaking and personal care.
- DSAS provided *650,000 meals* coordinated through **Options for Independent Living** and DSAS-contracted **Community Social Service Providers (CSSP)**.
- DSAS **Information Services Unit** connected clients directly to more than *\$1 million in benefits* such as SNAP and HEAP.



2023 Highlights continued

- The **2023 NEO Aging & DisABILITY Summit**, presented by the Cuyahoga County Division of Senior and Adult Services (DSAS) in partnership with The MetroHealth System and Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging, was held at the Cleveland Marriot East on September 29, 2023.

Over 400 participants attended in-person and virtually, including social workers, nurses, senior center directors, gerontologists and other professionals who work on behalf of seniors and adults with disabilities.

JOIN US 9/27/2024

- We hosted a successful Elder Abuse Awareness Day forum that focused on caregiver needs and DEI and cultural implications when APS is involved.

JOIN US 6/12/2024 as we partner again with Benjamin Rose

SAVE THE DATE: *The next NEO Aging & DisABILITY Summit will be **Friday September 27, 2024!***



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Livable Cuyahoga Initiative

In **April 2022**, DSAS joined the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities and launched the **Livable Cuyahoga** initiative to help older adults stay in their homes longer.

Livable Cuyahoga's mission is to provide safe, walkable streets; age-friendly housing and transportation options; access to needed services; and opportunities for residents of all ages to participate in community life.

In **December 2022** the ***Livable Cuyahoga Needs Assessment Report*** was completed based on feedback from community focus groups and surveys sent to over 4000 residents.

By **March 2023**, DSAS began development on an action plan with the goal of making the county a more livable community for people of all ages and abilities with the assistance of an Advisory Council.

In **2024**, we will utilize the **Livable Cuyahoga Roadmap** and move into the next phase of the **Livable Cuyahoga**, addressing issues raised from the older adults and community partners in an effort to develop and improve community life in eight key domains.

The ***2023 Livable Cuyahoga Needs Assessment*** and more information is available online by visiting:
<https://hhs.cuyahogacounty.gov/departments/dsas/community-office-on-aging/livable-cuyahoga>



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In 2024, DSAS Will:

- Address the increasing needs of older adults seeking supports and resources through DSAS programs
- **Begin implementation of ideas from the Livable Cuyahoga Initiative Roadmap**
- **Develop Data Automation to improve case management processes**
- **Continue the expansion of the Behavioral Health Unit to provide mental health and cognitive assessments to DSAS clients who need assistance**



Client Feedback

“As the lone eviction bailiff for six cities, and with an area of six counties for civil services, I occasionally encounter seniors in need of quality, professional assistance due to physical or mental issues. This is the first time I received great help.”

“My case worker is a very caring and loving person. She gives 100% of what is required. There are not many of them around with such a fantastic heart.”

“I think the county does a great job with us seniors. The trips are fun and interesting. I like to be treated with respect but I also like to have fun and do cool stuff. Some of us still have a wicked sense of humor and there’s lots of wisdom between us, and much to offer anybody who will listen.”

“This program helps with my quality of life.”





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Together we collaborate to deliver quality services

In October 2023, DSAS Colleagues raised over \$3,000 for the Alzheimer's Association annual **Walk to End Alzheimer's** at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

