



# The Pro Wire

Pro-Seniors Newsletter

Vol. 6 • Winter 2010

## Pro Seniors Obtains Significant Grant Funding for Legal Services in Ohio

We are pleased to report that Pro Seniors has been awarded a three-year grant of \$100,000 per year by the U.S. Administration on Aging. The award is among nearly \$1.1 million awarded to eleven states, including Ohio, to help at-risk older Americans better access legal services. The funds will help Pro Seniors coordinate an integrated service delivery system of accessible and targeted legal services for Ohio's seniors. Project partners include the Ohio Department of Aging, the Area Agencies on Aging, regional legal aid organizations and pro bono groups.

"Pro Seniors welcomes the opportunity to work with our statewide partners to improve the quality of life of Ohio seniors with the greatest social or economic need by increasing their access to legal services," said Rhonda Moore, Pro Seniors' Executive Director. "The comprehensive statewide assessment of the legal needs of Ohio seniors recently conducted by Pro Seniors and the AARP Ohio State Office concluded that many older adults

are unable to obtain the assistance of an attorney to help them resolve their legal problems."

This new federal grant funding will greatly enhance Pro Seniors' efforts to protect the independence, health, and financial security of older adults in Ohio. Many older individuals face critical threats to their quality of life, including the loss of their homes through foreclosure, the destruction of nest eggs through consumer scams and financial exploitation, the risk of elder abuse, and challenges in accessing important public benefits. Access to legal assistance is a critical component in helping seniors resolve these difficult issues.

With the grant funding, Pro Seniors will facilitate a statewide workgroup to develop strategies to improve access to legal services for seniors. We will also work to strengthen the capacity of Pro Seniors' Legal Hotline to provide legal assistance, improve the referral process between legal services providers, and develop innovative and sustainable low cost tools to assist legal advocates for seniors.

## SAVE THE DATE!



**Saturday, August 14, 2010**

7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

at Mayerson JCC • 8485 Ridge Rd.

*A fun, casual evening featuring "The Cincy Rockers" band, great food, music, dancing, and silent and live auctions including one-of-a-kind **rocking chairs** designed by great artists including Jim Borgman and C. F. Payne!*

Emcees: Chris O'Brien & Janeen Coyle  
of 103.5 WGRR-FM ("Oldies" radio)

**Invitations will be mailed in May 2010.  
Great sponsorship opportunities are still available.**

Visit [www.proseniors.org](http://www.proseniors.org) for more information



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*Helping older persons resolve legal and long-term care problems*

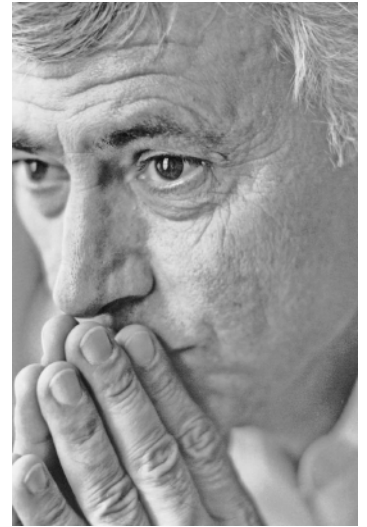
# PLANNED GIVING ~ The Basics

By Christine A. Buttress  
Graydon Head & Ritchey LLP

We all are familiar with current contributions of cash and other property to our favorite charities. How does a planned gift differ from an annual gift? Is it really possible to make an unplanned gift? Typically, a planned gift is deferred in some way. It may include both charitable and noncharitable beneficiaries. It may provide a current as well as a future benefit. The plan is put in place currently, but the benefit is received at some later time, or over a period of time. There are many varieties of planned gifts. Some are plain vanilla, simple and straightforward, both administratively and tax-wise. Others are more exotic and complex. The key is that the benefits to the donor and the charity outweigh the complexity.

The simplest example of a planned gift is a specific bequest in a will or trust, or a beneficiary designation. For example, you may choose to give a sum of \$1,000 to Pro Seniors, Inc. to be used as its governing body determines. Similarly, you may designate your favorite charity as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy, or an individual retirement account (IRA). From a planning standpoint, the goal is to maximize the dollars available to support the charity at the least cost to the donor.

Many of us regularly support our favorite charities. However, when it comes time to execute our estate plan (will, trust and beneficiary forms), we forget about our favorite charities. Make a planned gift to Pro Seniors a part of your legacy. For assistance in making such a planned gift, contact your attorney or financial planner or call the Pro Seniors' development office at (513) 458-5525.



*"I am so grateful for the help I am receiving from Pro Seniors. Without you I don't know where I would be. Pretty sure I would have lost my home - what I would do from there I have no idea. Thank you!"*

## Elder Law Seminar

(Continuing Legal Education)

Co-sponsored by the  
Cincinnati Bar Association  
and Pro Seniors

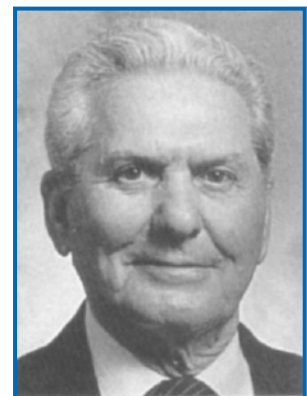
April 22, 2010

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
at the Cincinnati Bar Center

To register or for more  
information, visit  
[www.cincybar.org](http://www.cincybar.org)

## A Pro Seniors' Unsung Hero

Our agency's most recent recipient of the Unsung Hero Award was **Bill Hirsch**, a skilled attorney, dedicated family man, and decorated Navy veteran who volunteered on our Legal Hotline for several years. Bill passed away in August, 2009. Between 2003 and early 2009, Bill drew on his decades of legal experience to help over 100 of our Hotline clients per year. Last fall, the Pro Seniors' Board of Trustees presented the Unsung Hero award to his daughter, Miriam Sheline (one of Pro Seniors' staff attorneys), with whom Bill practiced law for 19 years. We miss Bill but treasure his volunteer service and example of devotion to his family, profession and country.



Bill Hirsch

# Donor Honor Roll

*Pro Seniors sincerely thanks all of our supporters for their generous gifts to our 2009-10 Annual Fund. The following contributions were received through January 15, 2010:*

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Lisa and Mike Debbeler	Jonathon Lippincott	Vince and Ann Stamp	
	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mahoney	Dianne Steelman	
		Carol and Joe Steger	

Special thanks to **The Greater Cincinnati Foundation, the Cincinnati Bar Foundation, and the Helen Steiner Rice Fund** for grant funding that will allow Pro Seniors to hire a specialized Staff Attorney to work with clients on Social Security and Medicaid issues.

*We apologize for any errors or omissions. Although every effort is made to ensure accuracy, mistakes may still occur. Please contact Diane Kleinfelter (dkleinfelter@proseniors.org) so we can correct inaccuracies.*

## Gifts in Honor of:

<b>Christine A. Buttress</b> Irving H. Rosen	<b>Dale and Dorothy Swedersky</b> Karen Swedersky
<b>The Foreman Family</b> Maria and Lothar Kreppel	<b>Joseph S. Voss</b> Kathleen and George Brinkman
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## Gifts in Memory of:

<b>Norman J. Ganson</b> Michael B. Ganson	<b>John W. Young</b> Janet Pecquet
<b>Elizabeth and Charles Katreeb</b> Sharon Strubbe	

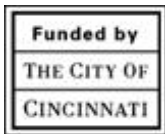
### A Lasting Way to Honor Your Loved One

A gift in honor or in memory of a family member or friend is a meaningful, personal way to pay tribute to them. Your gift to Pro Seniors will help improve the quality of life for Ohio's vulnerable seniors. Pro Seniors will send a letter to the person you designate acknowledging your gift and will recognize your gift in our next newsletter.



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Agency Partner

*from a satisfied Ombudsman Program client:*

*"... It is so heartening to know that Pro Seniors is in place to help those in our community who are often confused and bewildered. The information you provided was timely, effective and empowering in a process that is replete with powerlessness. Thanks so much."*

*~ Pro Seniors ~  
advocating for older adults  
for more than 35 years*

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Rhonda Y. Moore, J.D., Executive Director

**Pro Seniors**

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