

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging Celebrates Community Impact and Honors “16 Over 60” at 2026 State of Aging Event**

COLUMBUS, OH— The Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA) will host its annual *State of Aging* event on May 21, bringing together community leaders, advocates, providers, and residents. The evening will highlight COAAA’s work across its eight-county service area — Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway, and Union counties — through the release of the [2025 Impact Report](#).

The centerpiece of the event is the recognition of the 2026 “16 Over 60” honorees, a group of older adults whose volunteer efforts, leadership, advocacy, and service strengthen communities across Central Ohio. Honoree pictures and biographies are highlighted in the [2026 State of Aging Program](#).

This year’s honorees are:

Alice Frazier, Delaware County  
Becki Williams, Delaware County  
Pat Wallace, Fairfield County  
Wanda Stevens, Fayette County  
Allen Simmons, Franklin County  
Bob Roehm, Franklin County  
Darlene Newsome, Franklin County  
Gayle Wanamaker, Franklin County

Jackie Stevens, Franklin County  
Karen Heiser, Franklin County  
Michael Comber, Franklin County  
Rosie N. Doughty, PhD., Franklin County  
Callie Rucker, Licking County  
Janet Bickle, Licking County  
David Dhume, Madison County  
Shirley Good, Pickaway County

“This event highlights the mission and regional impact of the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging, and celebrates the ways older adults strengthen our communities,” said Katie White, COAAA Executive Director. “The ‘16 Over 60’ honorees redefine what aging looks like through their leadership, service, resilience, and compassion. They are proof that people of all ages and abilities have the power to create meaningful change and lasting impact.”

Funds raised through sponsorships and event support will benefit the Aging Solutions Foundation, to assist older adults experiencing housing and utility emergencies that may not otherwise be covered through traditional funding sources.

To learn more about COAAA and its programs and services, visit [COAAA](#).

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**Media Contact:** Malika Bryant, Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging, Media Relations Specialist,  
[mbryant@coaaa.org](mailto:mbryant@coaaa.org), 614-645-9916, [www.coaaa.org](http://www.coaaa.org).