

## WHAT WE DO

The Via Center provides forty health, fitness and enrichment programs designed to prevent social isolation and improve physical and mental health. These programs are targeted to active, older adults and include fitness classes; group sports, such as pickleball and billiards; a computer lab and library; arts classes; card games, puzzles, and weekly bingo; social activities, such as parties and holiday events; and other education and enrichment programs. These programs keep seniors physically fit and connected to their peers.

### **The Problem**

Nearly a third of all seniors live alone, leaving them vulnerable to social isolation and loneliness. According to the CDC, there is strong evidence that many older adults are socially isolated or lonely in ways that put their health at risk. Studies have found that social isolation increases a person's risk of premature death from all causes, a risk that may rival those of smoking, obesity, and lack of physical activity.

The Via Center is a place retirees and other older adults can go for exercise, social activities and companionship with their peers to combat social isolation and loneliness.



## **OUR MISSION**

Via Health, Fitness and Enrichment Center promotes a healthy active, independent lifestyle among older adults. For more than fifty years, Via has been a place where older adults come for fitness, enrichment and recreational activities with their peers. We are more than a fitness center; we are a community.

### Fitness

- Fitness Center
- Pickleball
- Billiards
- Walking Gym

Fitness Classes: Senior Fit Stretch and Flex Tai Chi Body Sculpting Line Dancing Yoga Stability Ball Training

### Enrichment & Recreation

- Educational Seminars
- Computer Lab
- Card Games
- Arts & Ceramics
- Bingo
- Group Trips & Tours
- Puzzles
- Member Events
- Health & Wellness
  Activities
- Support Groups

## **RESULT** Studies show that increase

Studies show that increased physical activity in older adults protects against cardiovascular disease, stroke, diabetes and some forms of cancer. It also promotes mental health, delays the onset of dementia, and improves quality of life and social well-being.



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





Each year as I look back over the work we do at Via, I am proud of all we have accomplished together and grateful for the support of our members, donors, staff, and board of directors. It truly takes a village to keep growing our programs and services to meet the needs of older adults in our community, and I am thankful to be part of this work.

Last year funding from ADECA allowed us to replace lighting in the gymnasium and throughout the building and upgrade HVAC units in the gym. Donations from Bedsole Foundation, Hearin-Chandler Foundation, and Crampton Trust replaced our gym roof, and contributions from members allowed us to renovate the gym flooring. These upgrades transformed our gym and will make Via run more efficiently, saving us money in the future.

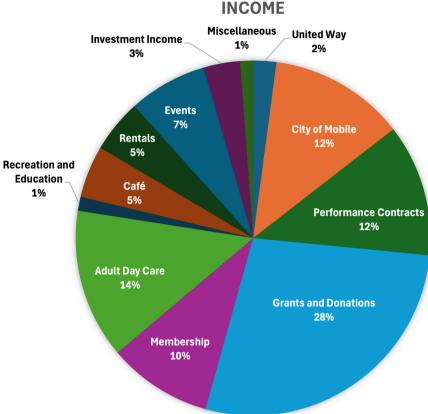
While you may notice the changes in our building, you may not see the impact of our work outside of these walls. Other grants and funding allowed us to take wellness programs, food, and cleaning supplies to seniors in income-based housing throughout Mobile County, provide Volunteer Guardians to meet the needs of some of the most vulnerable members of our community, and provide vaccinations for flu, Covid-19, RSV and pneumonia for older adults at risk of serious complications from these viruses.

This year we will continue to work on upgrades. We most recently upgraded our WIFI throughout the building. We are installing fans in the gymnasium ceiling to cool the room more efficiently. A grant from the Center of Dementia Respite Institute benefiting our adult day program will allow us to better meet the needs of older adults living with dementia and Alzheimer's.

None of this could happen without our donors and members. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure make this possible. Thank you for being a partner in this work.

With gratitude, Deanna Murphy

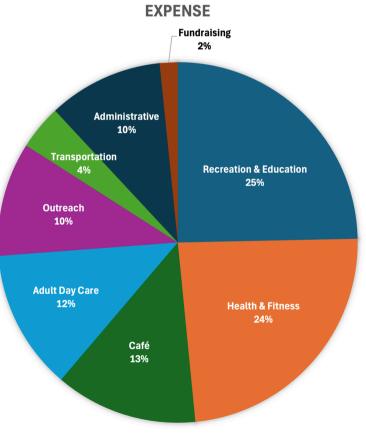
# **VIA BY THE NUMBERS**



Our team works hard to ensure every donation you make goes directly to support seniors. We invest almost 90% of all funding back into programs. The bulk of our funding goes into our fitness, recreation and enrichment programs at Via.

Member fees, grants and donations also support our adult day program, cafe, transportation to and from the center, and our community outreach programs to provide food, health, and wellness programs that support older adults throughout Mobile County. The Via Health, Fitness and Enrichment Center receives funding from grants, performance contracts, special event income, fees for services (membership, café, rentals, adult daycare) and donations from area businesses and individuals. These funds are invested into programs and services to benefit older adults in our community.

To the left you can view the full breakdown of Via Center income for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. A special thanks to all of our donors, members, and volunteers who make this work possible.



## **PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

## **HEALTH AND FITNESS**

- 2,179 members
- 19,666 hours of fitness classes
- 14,899 hours in the fitness room
- 11,397 hours in the gym
- 2 Pickleball Tournaments
- 10,964 hours of recreation













# **PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**



## **COMMUNITY NEEDS OUTREACH**

- 5,805 Meals Provided Food Distribution Drives
- 3,584 Health/Education Screenings provided
- 1,998 Adult Day Program Visits
- 179 clients served Volunteer Guardian Program
- 1,022 calls through Neighbor to Neighbor
- 23,153 calls through Information and Referrals
- 68,433 hours of Outreach and Education
- 12,287 meals served Dauphin Street Café
- 325 Vaccines Provided for Flu and Covid-19







THE VIA CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT 2023- 2024

#### **GRANTS FROM FOUNDATIONS**

AHEPA ALABAMA LAW FOUNDATION A.S. MITCHELL FOUNDATION BEDSOLE FOUNDATION BIG LOTS FOUNDATION CRAMPTON TRUST DANIEL FOUNDATION OF ALABAMA HEARIN CHANDLER FOUNDATION MARY J LARKINS FOUNDATION MAYER AND ARLENE MITCHELL FOUNDATION MAYNARD COOPER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION MOBILE BAR FOUNDATION MOBILE INFIRMARY FOUNDATION MODILE INFIRMARY FOUNDATION MONTE L MOORER FOUNDATION NATIONAL COUNCIL ON AGING

#### PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS AND OTHER FUNDERS

CITY OF MOBILE MOBILE COUNTY COMMISSION SOUTH ALABAMA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION UNITED WAY OF SOUTHWEST ALABAMA

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

AARP MOBILE BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF ALABAMA CARILLON OAKS FIRSTLIGHT HOME CARE HEALTHCARE RESOURCE CENTER HOME RN CONSCIERGE CAREGIVERS SERVICE REFINE PT & PERFORMANCE RENEW PT & WELLNESS VASCULAR ASSOCIATES OF SOUTH ALABAMA, LLC VIPCARE UNITED HEALTHCARE

#### **INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

MARY ALLEN ELLEN ALVES OLA ANISE JOHN AND JUDY ARCHER **GIGI ARMBRECHT** LUCILLE BETHEA DOUG BILBREY ROBERT BLANCHETTE ANNA BONHAM HOLLE BRISKMAN JEAN BROACH CHANDRA BROWN CHARLIE BROWN PETE BURNS TOMASA CADE THELMA CAIN HEATHER CALLAWAY CLINTON CARSTARPHEN JANET CONTE ROSETTA DANIELS DANDI DOLBEAR DOROTHY DORTON ANN DRUHAN DONATELLA DRIUSSI JAMES DUFFY TONI DUPLANTIS RANDY FAUSAK **TED FERGUSON** MARY ANN FESENMEIER **CECILE FIBBE** HARRY FISHER DOROTHY FLOYD-JONES

EDWARD GENEST MAX AND AUDREY GOLDBERG WAYMAN GRANT WILLIAM GRAVES SHELIA GREEN JOY GRODNICK **IRVIN GRODSKY** ROSEMARY HALL **RILLA HANCOCK** RONNIE AND JANI HANDWERGER **ROMA HANKS** CANDACE HARSANY KATHY HAYES FLOYD HENDRICKS, JR. JAMES HENSON LOUISE HOLMAN MARY JO HRABE JEAN HUDDLESTON NANCY HUGHES LAWRENCE HYLAND JOAN INGE **BILL ISHEE** MICHAEL JAMES MICHELLE JONES DEE JORDAN **KATHLEEN KAISER** KURT KENNEDY **BILLIE KOHEN** DEBRA AND LARRY KRAUS JEAN LANG-MOORE MICHEALE LEE

IAN GASTON

JESSE LIPSON CAROL MACKEY CHARLES MARSTON SHEILA MATHEWS MARION MATHISON DEBORAH MCAULEY GAIL MCCAIN TERRY AND SAM MCCORD HARRIET MCNEELY **GLORIA MEINS BEN MEISLER** ESSIE MITCHELL **OSBORNE MITCHELL** GRACE MURRAY JUDITH MICHEL TAMMY MONISTERE EARNESTINE MOORE DEANNA AND PAUL MURPHY TRUE NICOLSON HARRIS OSWALT ARLENE OWENS BECKY PALMER **GLENDA PARKER** JOHN PARKER SARA PATRIDGE ANN PATTERSON SHARON PILGRIM SHARON POGGI **OLIVIA POPE** NATHANIEL RANDELSON GREY REDDITT PATRICIA ROLAND

JEANNE SANDERFORD RALPH SANDLER LARRY SANSBURY **BRY SHIELDS** SHARON SINGLETON CLAUDIA AND JEFF SMITH DOROTHY SMITH JIM SPANGLER ROBERT STANLEY MICHAEL STRINGER SUZANNE STUARDI **BRITTANY STUBER** DOT TATOM CONSTANCE TAYLOR CHARLES THOMAS SHARON TODD PAUL AND BERYL TRAWICK DANIEL TURNER SARAH TURNIPSEED ELIZABETH WALMSLEY **RICHARD WEAVIL** DONALD WEISS RONALD WEISS SHARON WESTRY PERRY WHIDDEN ALFRED WILLIAMS ELISE WILLIAMS JOHN WILLIAMS LANCE WILLIAMS WILLIE WILLIAMS RONALD WILSON DON AND ANITA WINN

## **Celebrating 52 Years of Serving Seniors**



## Thank you to our Sponsors

## **Title Sponsor** James and Janice Spangler Trust Fund

## **Platinum Sponsors**

AARP Mobile Max and Audrey Goldberg Mary Jo Hrabe Ben and Laura Meisler Poarch Band of Creek Indians SARPC/Area Agency on Aging United Healthcare

### **Gold Sponsors**

### **Silver Sponsors**

Arlene Mitchell BlueCross BlueShields of Alabama HUB International - Bry Shields

Century Bank Councilman Ben Reynolds Family of Terri Grodsky Mobile County Commissioner Connie Hudson Mobile County Commissioner Merceria Ludgood

## **Bronze Sponsors**

Alabama Power Azalea City Credit Union Councilman William Carroll FirstLight Home Care Franklin Primary Health Center Ronnie and Jani Handwerger Keesler Federal Credit Union KNobles Trucking, Inc. Tammy Monistere & Allen Perkins Paul and Deanna Murphy Rogers and Willard, Inc. Small's Mortuary & Cremation Services Robert Stanley VIPCare Mobile County Probate Judge Don Davis

## **OUR TEAM**



### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MR. CHARLIE BROWN, PRESIDENT MRS. DOROTHY DORTON. VICE PRESIDENT MR. LANCE WILLIAMS, TREASURER MRS. ELLEN ALVES, SECRETARY MEMBERS: MR. OLA ANISE MS. MARGARET CHILDERS MRS. AUDREY GOLDBERG MR. IRVIN GRODSKY MR. DANIEL HAAS MRS. JANI HANDWERGER DR. ROMA HANKS MR. BEN MEISLER MRS. FAYE OLENSKY MR. F. GREY REDDITT. JR. MRS. BETH THOMAS MR. BRY SHIELDS

## STAFF

Deanna Murphy, Executive Director Tiffany Cauthen, Director of Finance & Operations Lynn Hudson, Director of Programs Tammy Monistere, Director of Resource Development Marilyn Taylor, Membership Coordinator & Volunteer Guardian Program Recruiter Sarah Greene, Membership Specialist Theresa McClure, Membership Specialist, Evenings Kay Jenkins, Community Outreach Stephen Foots, Chef Jalia Johns, Cafe and Housekeeping Daelon Smith, Cafe and Rental Attendant Jana Blakely, Housekeeping Christy Harvison, GrandFriends Program Coordinator JoAnna Pizulo, GrandFriends Program Assistant Ashley Polk, GrandFriends CNA Vernesser Blevens, GrandFriends CNA Wyschanda Porter, GrandFriends CNA Earnestine Moore, GrandFriends PRN Irene Callaway, Fitness Instructor Gerry Lowe, Fitness Instructor Elena Boykin, Fitness Instructor Lynne Weeks, Art Instructor Tyrone (TC) Crandall, Transportation Services Sean Connolly, Transportation Services





THE VIA CENTER IS A UNITED WAY AGENCY

United Way of Southwest Alabama