

August 2017

## Jonathan Lavin Receives n4a Excellence in Leadership Award



*Jonathan Lavin with Kathy Boles, n4a Board president*

The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) presented its Excellence in Leadership Award to Jonathan Lavin, AgeOptions president and CEO. Kathy Boles, n4a Board president, presented the award at the organization's 42nd annual conference in Savannah, Georgia, August 1.

The n4a Excellence in Leadership Awards are given to directors and other representatives of Area Agencies on Aging who have demonstrated exceptional leadership capabilities at the local, state or national level in advancing the mission of the Older Americans Act and preparing communities for the nation's rapidly aging population. Recipients are nominated and then selected by a panel of their peers.

Following are some of Kathy Boles' remarks in presenting the award to Jon:

"Jon's solid, compassionate and unending drive to make the lives of older adults the best they can be has translated into a revered position for his organization, AgeOptions, within The (Aging) Network and beyond. He has been at the forefront of building new partnerships, creating new programs and steering his organization and his team through difficult times. He is a champion, an advocate and a humanitarian with a huge heart and the brains to match.

"He has served in leadership roles with too many groups to list, but just a few of them include president of the Illinois Coalition on Aging, President of the Illinois Association of Area Agencies on Aging, board member for the National Council on Aging, co-chair of the program committee for the American Society on Aging annual conference and, of course, a former board member for n4a."

Jon joined AgeOptions, the Area Agency on Aging of suburban Cook County, in 1978 as CEO. A national leader in the field of aging, he served on the n4a Board from 2008 to 2017, and from 1989 to 1991.

In 1992 he received the n4a distinguished Area Agency on Aging Director Award at the national conference in Salt Lake City.