

February 2019

Elected Officials Discuss Issues Essential to Older Adults at Annual Legislative Breakfasts



The February 8 Legislative Breakfast at Kenneth Young Center

Elected officials and representatives of area senior service agencies came together again this year for the annual Legislative Breakfasts.

Each January and February, AgeOptions and our community partners sponsor the breakfasts as a way for federal, state, county and local elected officials and their representatives to discuss issues facing older adults and services for them, and to hear

how they and those who serve older adults and caregivers can support each other.

The February 2019 breakfasts took place at North Shore Senior Center, Northfield; Kenneth Young Center, Elk Grove Village; Aging Care Connections, La Grange; and Louis S. Viverito Senior Center, Burbank. The Village of Hazel Crest Senior Center breakfast will be on March 8. Approximately 270 people participated in the first four breakfasts.

Visit the [webpage](#) to learn more about the 2019 Legislative Breakfasts.

(Continued on next page)

At this year's breakfasts, legislators and attendees from senior service agencies discussed key federal, state and local issues pertaining to the older adult population and those who care for them. Participants talked about the growth of the older adult population nationally and in Illinois, and the effect on society of this growing demographic. They also explored legislative efforts needed to support this shift in the nation's age distribution.

The agenda included:

- *Coming of Age in Aging America* video on the challenges and opportunities of an aging population
- 2019 issues facing older adults
- Agency and client stories on how older adults benefit from Aging Network services
- Elected officials discussion on how they and the Aging Network can best support each other



State Representative Robyn Gabel (pictured at left) speaks at the North Shore Senior Center Legislative Breakfast while Diane Slezak, AgeOptions president and CEO, listens. State Senator Laura Fine (right) speaks at NSSC.