

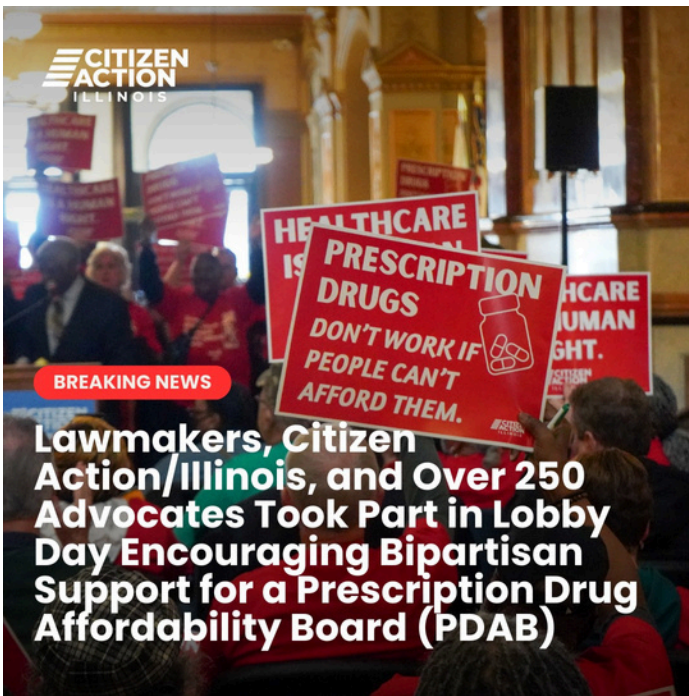
# MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER



President Don Todd  
Executive Vice President Miller T. Rodgers

## Lobby Day Recap: February 25th Rally at The Capitol for PDAB

Special thanks to AFSCME Chapter 31 and SEIU Healthcare for providing transportation and lunch to IARA members



**Our message on Lobby Day was clear:**

<b>28%</b> of Illinoisans either have not filled prescriptions or rationed their medication due to cost	<b>77%</b> of Illinoisans are "concerned" about being able to afford prescription drugs over the next few years	<b>86%</b> of Illinoisans are supportive of establishing a PDAB	<b>1/3</b> of premium costs are due to high-cost prescription drugs
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**Drugs don't work if people can't afford them.**



**A NOTE FROM OUR  
ACTING PRESIDENT  
MILLER T. RODGERS**

The Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans is sad to announce that our President, Don Todd, with AFSCME Subchapter 86 has stepped down as President of the Illinois Alliance.

We appreciate President Todd's commitment to our organization's work and mission; along with his lifetime work with the labor movement.

Don Todd guided the Illinois Alliance through the COVID 19 pandemic, transitions between multiple Executive Directors, and has made many contributions to our organization. His leadership and guidance will be missed.

Illinois Alliance Executive Vice President, Miller T. Rodgers has assumed the duties and responsibilities of board President and will continue the role until our September 13th, 2025 Biennial Convention at which time all five executive officers will be elected.

Events in 2025

The Illinois Alliance has several big events coming up this year.

Stay Tuned to Your Inbox for More Info About:

**Women's History Month Virtual  
Event**

Tuesday March 25th at Noon

**Older Americans Month  
Breakfast**

at IBEW 197, Bloomington Illinois  
Saturday May 17th at 8:30am

**2025 Senior Power Celebration  
Date TBD**

**2025 Biennial Convention**

Saturday, September 13th  
UAW Ottawa, Illinois

Executive Director Krystle Able will be in contact with affiliates regarding all of these events.

**Krystle can be reached at  
Kable@illinoisretiredamericans.org  
309-831-5284  
illinois.retiredamericans.org**

Call or email her to set up your 2025 annual affiliate visits!



**The Illinois Alliance has Two in-person actions you can join us at this month!**

**Tuesday, March 18th  
Home Care Lobby Day-SEIU Healthcare  
Springfield, State Capitol**

Join SEIU Healthcare and coalition partners to lobby for Home care at the IL State Capitol.

More info: [bit.ly/homecarelobbyday](http://bit.ly/homecarelobbyday)

**Saturday, March 22nd  
Townhall on Medicaid, Agriculture, Funding  
and more**

**Midwest Agriculture & Arts Complex  
225 Clay Avenue, Jacksonville, Illinois  
3pm - 4pm**

Representative Mary Miller has not responded to requests from constituents to discuss concerns in person at a town hall. Join Illinois Alliance and community groups from Rep Miller's District to talk with you about your concerns.



## **More Ways to Be Involved**

**Illinois Alliance Celebrates Women's  
History Month!  
VIRTUAL EVENT  
Tuesday, March 25th  
EQUAL PAY DAY  
12 pm - 1:30 pm**

Join the Illinois Alliance in celebrating Women's History Month by learning about women's history in the labor movement with Illinois Labor History Society Board Member Alma Washington followed by a panel of union women from 5 different unions who will talk about how far we have come and how unions can help bridge the gap.

Register in Advance: [bit.ly/IARAWHM](https://bit.ly/IARAWHM)

# JOIN US for our Home Care Lobby Day in Springfield!

SEIU HCII and Coalition Partners

## BIG LOBBY DAY TUES, MARCH 18

Illinois State Capitol, Springfield, IL



We're calling on our senior allies and retirees to help us fight back against threats to Medicaid!

USE YOUR PHONE TO SCAN THIS QR CODE or visit our website at [bit.ly/homecarelobbyday](https://bit.ly/homecarelobbyday) and we will follow up to arrange transportation.



SCAN ME!

866-933-SEIU (7348)

[www.seiuhcilin.org](http://www.seiuhcilin.org)

 /SEIUHCII

 @SEIUhcimk

 @SEIUhcii

 **SEIU HCII**  
Illinois • Indiana • Missouri • Kansas

# WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

VIRTUAL PRESENTATION & PANEL  
HOSTED BY ILLINOIS ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED  
AMERICANS



Join the Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans  
for a virtual event event on **Equal Pay Day** to  
celebrate Women's History Month

MARCH 25TH, 2025

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm VIRTUAL

## TOPIC DISCUSSIONS:

Presentation by Illinois Labor History Society on  
Women in Labor History

Panel with women in unions on workplace equity,  
equality and what we are still fighting for



SCAN ME

reserve your spot!



[bit.ly/IARAWHM](https://bit.ly/IARAWHM)



# IN DEFENSE OF MEDICAID, MEDICARE, SOCIAL SECURITY & SNAP

Monday, February 24th

Members of the Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans Joined Citizen Action Illinois and our Allies for a Press Conference and Rally to Protect Our Care in Normal, IL, where Congressman Darin LaHood has an office. Unfortunately, Congressman LaHood's office was empty, but our voices were heard nonetheless!



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**U.S. HOUSE PLANS FOR CUTS TO MEDICAID WOULD:  
CUT ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FOR 160,000+ PEOPLE IN IL-16  
INCLUDING 21,000 WHO ARE ENROLLED IN THE AFFORDABLE  
CARE ACT, 139,474 PEOPLE ON MEDICAID**



*Scan Me*  
**SHARE YOUR STORY & GET INVOLVED**

[bit.ly/IARAGetInvolved](https://bit.ly/IARAGetInvolved)



# JOIN THE MOVEMENT BECOME A MEMBER

## COMMUNITY ADVOCACY NETWORK (CAN)

The Community Advocacy Network (CAN) is the community and individual membership program of the Alliance for Retired Americans. CAN members, in partnership with sponsoring organizations of the Alliance, work to ensure that all seniors and retirees can live a life of dignity and retirement security.

The CAN program is the mechanism to bring non-union members and individual union members together into the advocacy programs of the Alliance. Our focus is to protect and expand Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and pensions, to provide retirement security on the Federal level; as well as affordable healthcare, aging in place, worker's rights, pensions, and more in Illinois.

**Membership Definition: A CAN member is an individual who pays their own dues to the Illinois Alliance and is not a member of a participating sponsoring organization**

CAN is designed to give a voice to the individual members of the Alliance, and provide a mechanism to reach out to other individuals and community based organizations. Through this outreach, new individual members and activists can become members of the Alliance.



**JOIN THE ILLINOIS  
ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED  
AMERICANS CAN NETWORK  
TODAY FOR A DONATION  
OF \$10 PER YEAR**

**TINYURL.COM/ILLINOISALLIANCE**

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