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Parkside Pioneers Provides Fun-Filled Day for Older Adults



July 27, 2011—Taylor, MI -- Next year will be a big celebration for Alice and James Williams. They will have been married 60 years and they're still going strong!

The Williams have many activities together and enjoy attending Parkside Pioneers, a support for older adults based in Taylor. The goal of Parkside Pioneers is to support families and older adults to stay together in their homes in the community and provide a safe and fun environment for them.

This program is for the most part funded by The Senior Alliance (TSA), Area Agency on Aging (AAA 1-C), The Information Center (TIC) and United Way of Southeast Michigan. These organizations fund opportunities for older adults who live in western and southern Wayne County. The people that attend are only asked for a donation towards their cost of care, the donation is voluntary and based on what people can afford.

“The Williams’ daughter actually found out about the program 8 months ago because she was providing care to her parents every day and she needed to find a safe place for her parents where they could enjoy their day together with other seniors and also engage in fun activities, while she worked outside the home” said program manager Helene Slaven.

“We really like coming here, we’re here every day,” said Alice Williams. “My husband and I have been working on a quilt for our twin grandsons. I like to sew and he helps ‘cheer me on’.

The couple lives in Taylor so it’s very convenient for them to visit every day. “It gives us something to do and we have fun here,” said husband James, 88. “We have met some new friends and we enjoy the activities they have here like shopping, bowling and arts and crafts.

Community Living Services and vocational provider NOVA partnered on this project several years ago. The funding through TSA and TIC comes primarily from the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging and the Michigan Department of Community Health. Parkside Pioneers is located on 24730 Eureka Road in Taylor, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information please call 734-947-9219.