

Iona East Talking Points

1) Why is Iona opening a new adult day health center in Southeast DC?

Help for people with dementia, physical challenges and/or intellectual disabilities is needed in this medically under resourced area of the District—help such as access to adult day health care, the “hidden gem” in community based support. Research shows, that an adult day health center where participants are supported by nurses, activity specialists and others who provide them with a wonderful day of art, music, companionship and health care can reduce depression, increase quality of life for participants, and reduce hospital readmissions. Being part of this community during the day makes it much easier for the older adult to keep living at home and offers critical respite from care for family members. *Currently, there is no center like this in Ward 8.*

2) Where is the center located? And what are the hours of operation?

The new center will be located at 3303 Stanton Road SE Washington, DC in the neighborhood of Congress Heights.

Hours have not been determined yet but will be similar to our site in Tenleytown which is open 8:15 AM – 5:00 PM.

3) How many people will the Center serve?

It will serve up to 50 older adults per day (70 – 100 per week, because not every person will come every day.) In addition, we anticipate serving approximately 150 family caregivers.

4) When will the center open?

It is expected to open in the spring of 2020.

5) How can someone apply to work there?

Jobs are posted on our main website, iona.org/about/careers and ionaeast.org/updates.

6) How can someone learn more about how their loved one can attend the program?

For more information on how to schedule an appointment for a tour and/or trial visit at the current site, call Iona’s Information and Referral Line at 202-895-9448 or send an email to: info@iona.org.



7) Who is eligible to attend?

The program is designed for people age 60 or older who need support and companionship during the day. We specialize in programming for older adults who are living with cognitive challenges and other related dementias, physical challenges, and/or intellectual disabilities. In order to attend eligibility requirements must be met.

8) Will people have to pay to attend the adult day health center?

We hope that all participants will be eligible to be served through Medicaid, a grant from the *Department of Aging and Community Living* and/or Iona philanthropy.

9) Will transportation be available?

Iona will update closer to opening.

10) To open this new adult day health center will require Iona raising \$3 million; so far, we have raised close to \$2,700,000 from public and private philanthropy.

It breaks down as follows:

RENOVATION: \$1 MILLION covers the cost of the renovations.

START-UP, OUTREACH, AND PROGRAMMING: \$1 MILLION includes the cost of design, furnishing the space, outreach to the community, the purchase of vans to bring people to and from the center, as well as recruiting, hiring, and training staff and covering costs of increased program capacity.

ENDOWMENT: \$1 MILLION More than 40 years of experience has shown us the importance of building an endowment that will allow us to fund ongoing operating and maintenance costs, plan for future needs and ultimately ensure the center's future as a permanent addition to the community.

**If you are interested in donating, you can go directly to ionaeast.org,
or
contact Jennie Smith-Peers, Director of Development and Communications, at
jsmith-peers@iona.org or 202-895-9418.**