

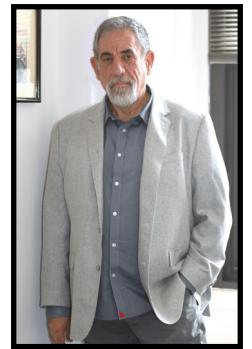


GPNYC ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS **2021**



[DONATE](#)

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friend,

Selecting issues is critical to the long-term success of the Gray Panthers NYC. Of the key advocacy areas that concern us, in 2021 we focused on working as an agent of change in the area of improvement of Long-Term Care.

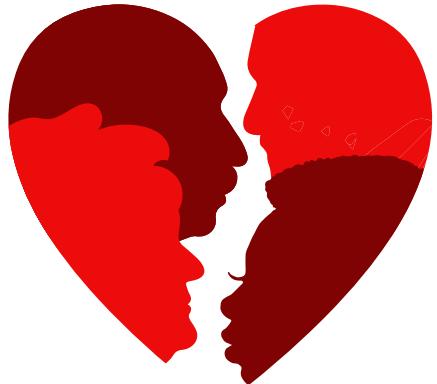
Given the staggering COVID 19 death tolls in Nursing Homes and Long-Term Care residential facilities, the GP NYC team organized and produced a Day of Remembrance to honor the 200,000 nursing home residents that succumbed to COVID 19. This one-hour documentary, which aired on May 20, 2021, has been viewed by over 1,000 people and can be viewed on [YouTube](#). In addition, it served as a model for the Canadian Palliative Care Network, which produced its own program.

Thanks to the support of our partners, The Riverside Church of New York and Ronald Fatoullah & Associates, we achieved our goal to offer Americans the opportunity to cry and to grieve for our horrendous loss due to the pandemic. Subsequently, the conversation has continued with our successful Transformation Tuesday programs, which focus on important aspects of advocacy for nursing home reform. They are recorded and available on our YouTube channel. Our documentary has received the Award of Recognition from the Impact Docs Award Film Festival as well as additional accolades.

During this year, we have been the spark for change through partnerships to establish advocacy coalitions to improve long term care, serving as inspiration for similar documentaries, highlighting the need for intergenerational advocacy.

As an accredited institution with the United Nations, Gray Panthers continues to speak up on behalf of Older Persons. This year we were active in advocacy efforts at this year's High Level Political Forum on the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals. Hosted an important session on why protection of the Human Rights of Older Persons is essential.

New alliances have been forged in 2021 with Gray Panther chapters across the nation, as well as with organizations such as Age Wave under the leadership of long-term Gray Panther Ken Dychtwald. We are grateful to our interns for their efforts in keeping the GPNYC flame alive. As a grass roots volunteer organization, they are the lifeblood that moves the needle. Let us look forward to a 2022 with further progress in conquering the pandemic and working together to improve quality of life for those in Long-Term Care.



HONORING NURSING HOME **LIVES** | THE COVID TRAGEDY

**DAY OF REMEMBRANCE:
HONORING NURSING HOME LIVES LOST
MAY 20, 2021**



In partnership with The Riverside Church, New York City, and Ronald A. Fatoullah & Associates, elder law attorneys, Gray Panthers NYC produced and hosted the premiere of its first ever documentary Day of Remembrance: Honoring Nursing Home Lives Lost on May 20, 2021.

This moving tribute, which features testimonials from Senator Gillibrand (NY/ Democrat) and Assembly Member Ron Kim (Queens) among many others, offers the public the opportunity to process and grieve for the 200,000 nursing home deaths from Covid-19.

The one-hour documentary garnered national media attention and earned a Certificate of Recognition from the Impact Docs Awards.

To view the entire program, [click here](#). To view a brief excerpt, [click here](#).



**HONORING
NURSING HOME
LIVES** | THE COVID
TRAGEDY

AGE AND YOUTH IN ACTION

GRAY PANTHERS
Committed to combating sexism and achieving social justice through intergenerational cooperation

TRANSFORMATION TUESDAYS

An Educational Webinar Series sponsored by Gray Panthers NYC

As a follow up to The Day of Remembrance, Gray Panthers NYC introduced monthly Transformation Tuesdays to address key issues related to Nursing Home reform. All are welcome to attend and participate.

Organized and hosted by GPNYC, this series (listed below) takes place on Zoom on the second Tuesday of each month. Each panel is comprised of industry leaders and advocates with the goal to improve oversight of nursing home institutions. We thank all the panelists who generously donated their time and expertise.

- **July: Why Nursing Home Transformation Is Important Now**
- **August: Advocating for Social Justice in Nursing Homes**
- **September: Diversity and Inclusion in Nursing Homes**
- **October: Spirituality in Nursing Homes**
- **November: Nursing Home Policy Reform**
- **December: Reflections on the Impact of Covid on Nursing Homes**

To view any of these webinars, please visit the GPNYC YouTube channel-- [click here](#) / or YouTube.

GLOBAL PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY AT THE UNITED NATIONS

On September 22 Gray Panthers NYC, as an accredited entity at the UN, hosted a program entitled Age and Youth - Together for a Change; Dignity and Rights in the time of Covid, an important discussion concerning the human rights of older persons as part of the Global People's Assembly.

The Global People's Assembly invited GPNYC to organize this session as part of a several-day forum, parallel to the opening of the UN General Assembly. The panel included the director of the New York Office from the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as representatives from Red Cross Serbia, Ageing Nepal, Mauritius Human Rights in the Indian Ocean, and Colgate University.

To view the full program, [click here](#).

AGE & YOUTH—
TOGETHER
FOR A CHANGE

DIGNITY AND RIGHTS
IN THE TIME OF COVID

The session explores human rights of older persons and combatting ageism and discrimination through intergenerational advocacy.

SEPTEMBER 22
12-1 PM EST

REGISTRATION
REQUIRED!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Speakers:

- Jack Kupferman, Moderator, Gray Panthers
- Craig Mokhiber, Director - New York OHCHR
- Nataša Todorović, Red Cross Serbia
- Milutin Vražević, Red Cross Serbia
- Krishna Gautam, Ageing Nepal
- Vijay Naraidoo, Droits Humains Ocean Indien, Mauritius
- Chloe Sisselman, Youth Representative

GRAY PANTHERS
Age and Youth in Action

Global
Call to Action
Against Poverty

SELECTED MEDIA

Action to Protect Older Women's Rights Has Stalled in the UN General Assembly



By Barbara Crossette | November 23, 2021

Frances Zainoeddin sits on the International Federation on Ageing and bemoans the slow gains made by the United Nations General Assembly to ensure the legal protection of older people's human rights, especially that of women.

The Life & Times of a Tireless Champion for the Aging



Hosted by Ron Roel | April 26, 2021

Episode Description: Jack Kupferman was always surrounded by older adults—his parents ran a rest home in upstate New York and his family lived in the back. So it's no surprise that today Jack is at the center of a major online event next month to honor the nursing home lives lost as a result of COVID-19, while raising awareness of the need for nursing home transformation.

In Search of a Place to Cry: The Gray Panthers COVID Memorial



By Lucy Schiller | May 17, 2021

Excerpt: "These are among the most 'other' peoples," Jack Kupferman, the director of the New York City chapter of the activist group the Gray Panthers... "They're literally behind walls. This is what we never want to be. To be in a long-term care facility, particularly a skilled nursing facility, is not on anyone's bucket list." It's easy, in other words, to look away—actually, it might even feel imperative, because the sight is uncomfortable, painful, shocking, guilt-inducing. To actually regard the agonizing deaths-by-covid of the elderly would be a disruption of business as usual—this country has never treated the old, the differently-abled, the "other" of any kind with dignity, let alone attention.

WBAI's "A New Day" program, August 17, 2021



A New Day
Tue, Aug 17, 2021 07:00 AM

Jack Kupferman discusses the impact of the pandemic in nursing homes, the state of elder care in U.S. society, and how a multigenerational movement can best advocate for the rights of aging people.

Please note the interview begins at the 0:24:20 mark.

COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

THIS YEAR GPNYC FORGED NEW ALLIANCES WITH NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ENTITIES, AND REINFORCED EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER).

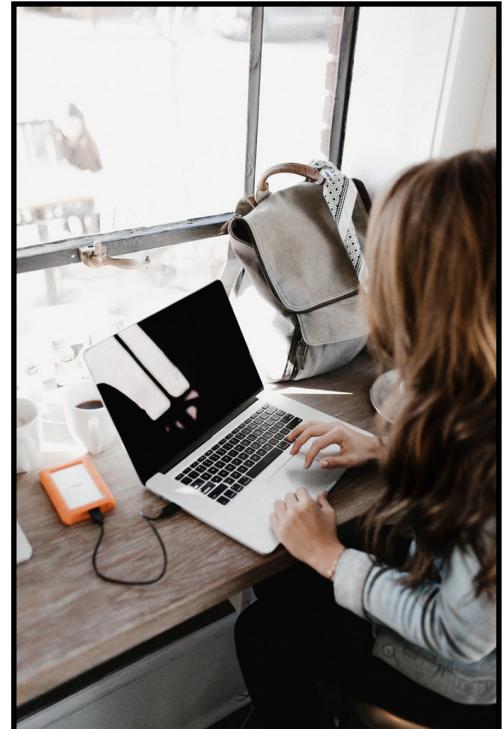
GPNYC IS GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT AND FRIENDSHIP.

- A Labor of Love Eldercare
- Action for Sustainable Development
- **Age Wave**
- Canadian Palliative Care Network
- GCAP (Global Call to Action Against Poverty)
- Gray Panthers National Council
- Live Oak Coalition-Founding Member
- The Riverside Church
- Social Security Works - Grassroots Coalition
- Stakeholder Group on Ageing at the United Nations

INTERNSHIPS

GPNYC works closely with institutions of higher education to cultivate intergenerational contact. Due to the pandemic this outstanding group of 2021 student interns worked diligently to create content, promote and participate in the GPNYC's virtual events. GPNYC wishes to acknowledge the following interns (in alphabetical order).

- Fiona Ferry, Connecticut College
- Sophia Manners, Colgate University | "Older adults remain an integral part of the larger community, and their respect, love, and care should remain at the utmost importance in this time of need." | [Testimonial on Twitter](#)
- Ben Mara, College of the Holy Cross
- Sara Silva, University of Pennsylvania | "Advocacy is not an easy job; it's thankless, it's tiring, and it's endless. But it's also more rewarding than any job or volunteer experience I've ever had." | [Testimonial on Twitter](#)
- Chloe Sisselman, Colgate University | [Testimonial on Twitter](#)
- Nina Srđić Hadži-Nešić, Occidental College



SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MYRON AND ELAINE ADLER PRIVATE FOUNDATION

***IN HONOR OF JENNIE KUPFERMAN**

Thank You to our Major Donors

- Elaine Adler
 - Ken Dychtwald
 - Jill Parker Gerson
-

Board of Directors

- Jack Kupferman, President
 - Michelle Arnot, Vice President
 - Brendan Birth, Secretary
 - Edith Cresmer, Treasurer
 - Frances Zainoeddin, Governance/Protocol
 - Jill Parker Gerson, Honorary
-

Staff

- Vicki Ellner, Community Organizer
-

Consultants

- Barbara Bullard, B-Bullard LLC
 - Greg Cohen, Cause Effective
 - Rick Sanford, Webmaster
-

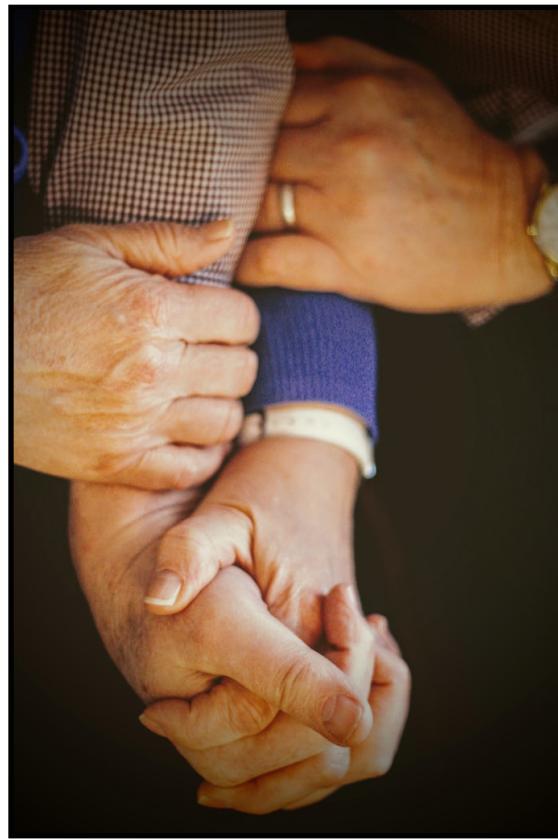
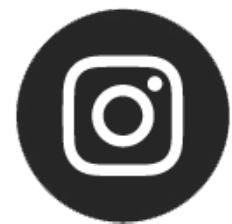
Volunteers

- Brett Combs, Website
- Saleen Shah, Communications
- Emily Trask, Social Media

The Gray Panthers are a series of multi-generational local advocacy networks in the United States which confront ageism and many other social justice issues. The organization was formed by Maggie Kuhn in response to her forced retirement from the Presbyterian Church at the age of 65 in 1970.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE: DONATE - VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND STAY INFORMED!



Gray Panthers NYC
244 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10016
United States

(917) 535 0457

jack@graypanthersnyc.org
michelle@graypanthersnyc.org
brendan@graypanthersnyc.org
graypanthersnyc.org