



## **2022 GRAY PANTHERS NYC ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS**

**Combating Ageism and Achieving Justice  
Through Intergenerational Cooperation**



## Letter From the Board of Directors

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During Year 3 of COVID, Gray Panthers NYC (GPNYC) has been busy with housekeeping. Being in social isolation helped us to concentrate internally on our infrastructure. The opportunity arose to review our outdated By-Laws with assistance from Lawyers Alliance. We are grateful to Laura Abel and Aviva Grossman from that organization who produced the updated document.

In 2021, we “Zoomed” in on working as an agent of change around improvement of Long-Term Care, specifically Nursing Home reform, via a year-long series of webinars. As you recall, the GPNYC team organized and produced a **Day of Remembrance** to honor the 200,000 nursing home residents who succumbed to COVID 19. This award-winning, one-hour documentary has been viewed by over 1,000 people and is available on [our website](#).

We continued to carry this banner through 2022 and will not cease until the positive change that we are working on with our partners and elected officials is implemented. The conversation has continued with our successful monthly **Transformation Tuesday** webinars, which focus on key aspects of advocacy for nursing home reform.

We were proud to collaborate over the summer with EmergingAging NYC, an organization of young professionals dedicated to elder care. Additionally, Gray Panthers NYC is a founding member of the Live Oak Coalition, which advocates for positive change in the nursing home space. We may be preaching to the choir, but we are pleased that the choir is growing.

During this year of midterm elections, we supported our partner, The Riverside Church of New York, in its voter registration drive. As an active member of LiveOn NY, Gray Panthers NYC marched in support of the Fair Pay initiative for home care workers.

Gray Panthers NYC continues to speak up on behalf of Older Persons as an accredited institution with the United Nations. This summer, Gray Panthers NYC facilitated the participation of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing (SGA) members in the High-Level Political Forum. We are grateful to intern Sara Gold for her efforts in supporting that event.

It is with renewed vigor that we anticipate the next 12 months with evident progress in conquering the pandemic and working together to improve quality of life for those in Long-Term Care.

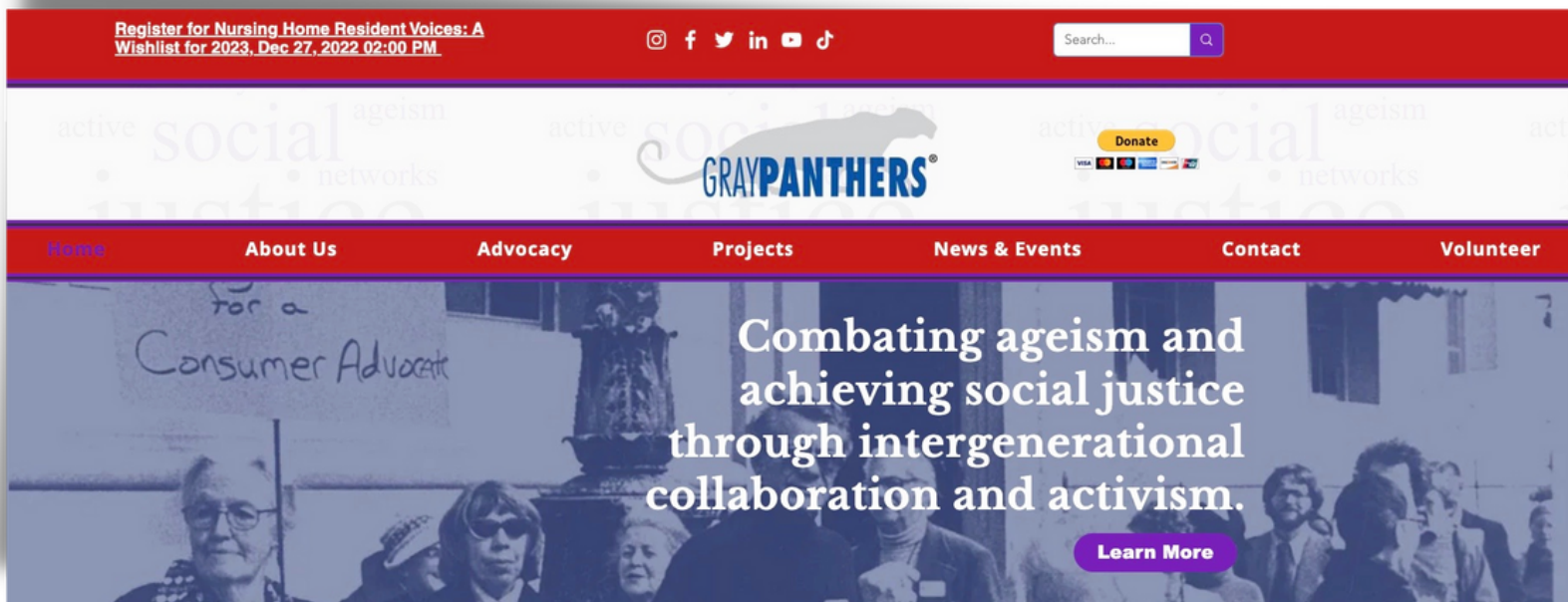
Belated congratulations to our President Jack Kupferman for his dedication and advocacy for older adults, Jack's alma mater Colgate University has awarded him their Alumni Humanitarian Award for 2020!

## New in 2022

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### WEBSITE

This spring, we unveiled our engaging Gray Panthers NYC website designed by expert webmaster Emily Trask, content marketing, and social media strategist. The easy-to-navigate format allows visitors to access our monthly webinars, follow our projects, and review past activities.



### BLOG

This fall on our website, we launched our blog, GRAY MATTERS, which allows us to express our position on timely issues – spearheaded by GPNYC Secretary Brendan Birth. Transformation Tuesday presenters and followers are invited to contribute as well, adding new focus areas to our advocacy.



## NEWSLETTER

As of this past spring, Gray Panthers NYC revived its newsletter, renamed MAKE NOISE, with the strong and steady support of Susan Friedman, Editor. Issued quarterly, the newsletter keeps our followers apprised of ongoing activities.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Under the guidance of Saleen Shah, Community Liaison, Gray Panthers NYC has a lively and ongoing presence on Twitter. Emily Trask keeps our LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram accounts fresh and au courant.



## Transformation Tuesdays

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Organized and hosted by GPNYC, since July 2021, this important and unique public education series takes place on Zoom on the final Tuesday of each month. The brainchild of Michelle Arnot, GPNYC Vice President, each panel is made up of key industry leaders, elected officials, and advocates with the goal of improving oversight of nursing home institutions.

While each panel brings a wealth of information and insight to the topic, GPNYC was particularly proud to host a Town Hall with Assembly Member Ron Kim on October 25. [You can watch it here.](#)



The poster features a white background with red silhouettes of two faces on the left and right sides. At the top left is a red heart icon with a white outline. To its right is the text "HONORING NURSING HOME LIVES" in red and black, with "THE COVID TRAGEDY" in smaller black text below it. Further right is the Gray Panthers logo. The main title "TRANSFORMATION TUESDAYS" is in large, bold, purple letters. Below it, in smaller black text, is "An Educational Webinar Series sponsored by Gray Panthers NYC". The event title "Gray Panthers NYC Town Hall" is in large, bold, red letters, followed by "Featuring The Honorable Ron Kim" in the same style. A purple rectangular box contains the text "TUESDAY, OCT 25, 2PM ET" in white. At the bottom left is a circular black and white portrait of Assemblyman Ron Kim. To the right of the portrait, the text "ASSEMBLYMAN RON KIM (QUEENS)" is in bold black letters, and "Chair, NYS Assembly Committee on Aging" is in purple letters below it.

HONORING NURSING HOME LIVES  
THE COVID TRAGEDY

GRAY PANTHERS

**TRANSFORMATION TUESDAYS**

An Educational Webinar Series sponsored by Gray Panthers NYC

**Gray Panthers NYC Town Hall**  
**Featuring The Honorable Ron Kim**

**TUESDAY, OCT 25, 2PM ET**

**ASSEMBLYMAN  
RON KIM (QUEENS)**

Chair, NYS Assembly  
Committee on Aging

We are grateful to EmergingAging for co-sponsoring the July and August programs, and to all the panelists who generously donated their time and expertise. Recordings of all programs can be found on our website at <https://www.graypanthersnyc.org/transformationtuesdays>.

**December 2021: Healing Hearts – Moving Forward From COVID-19 Loss**

**January: Nursing Home Workforce – Change in the Public Interest**

**February: Ageism in Nursing Homes**

**March: Greed Over Care – Nursing Home Financing**

**April: Nursing Home Policy Updates**

**May: Where Will We Be in 2023**

**June: Reimagining Nursing Homes**

**July: New Models for Paying for Long-Term Care**

**August: Advocates for Social Justice in Nursing Homes**

**September: Grassroots Voices–Nursing Home Reform**

**October: Town Hall Featuring The Honorable Ron Kim**

**November: Leading the Charge on Change: Meet the Moving Forward Coalition**

**December: Nursing Home Resident Voices: A Wishlist for 2023**

## United Nations

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The 60th session of the Commission for Social Development took place virtually in February 2022 at the United Nations. We're proud to report GPNYC President Jack Kupferman spoke during the session's "Thriving Youth – From Ageism to Intergenerational Solidarity" event. You can find Jack at the 1:16:40 mark on [YouTube](#). And you can read more about it [here](#).

In June, Jack also attended the Joint Forum and the Ministerial Conference on Ageing in Rome.



Jack Kupferman (left) with Edwin Walker (right), head of the US delegation to the 2022 UNECE Conference on Ageing.



This summer, Board Member Frances Zainoeddin facilitated the participation of Stakeholder Group on Ageing (SGA) members in the High-Level Political Forum at the United Nations. Frances offered a full report on the results during the August 30 **Transformation Tuesday**.



Summer Intern Sarah Gold, Skidmore College senior, produced a comprehensive document for the SGA members on how older persons are viewed globally, which is available on our **website**.

A promotional banner for "Transformation Tuesdays". The top half features the title "TRANSFORMATION TUESDAYS" in large, bold, purple, distressed-style font. Below the title, in a smaller, clean font, is the text "An Educational Webinar Series sponsored by Gray Panthers NYC". The bottom half of the banner has a solid purple background with white text. The first line in white text reads "Gray Panthers NYC: Advocating Globally for Older Persons". The second line, in a larger white font, reads "August 30, 2022, 2-3PM EDT". On the left and right sides of the banner, there are stylized silhouettes of two people's heads facing each other, rendered in shades of red and orange.

**TRANSFORMATION  
TUESDAYS**

An Educational Webinar Series sponsored by Gray Panthers NYC

**Gray Panthers NYC: Advocating  
Globally for Older Persons**

**August 30, 2022, 2-3PM EDT**

## Media & Other Highlights

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### Gray Panthers NYC Featured on The Bronx Social Justice and Anti-Violence Forums, February 2022

Host Daren Jaime sits down with the President of Gray Panthers NYC, Jack Kupferman to talk about the organization



combating ageism and achieving social justice through intergenerational advocacy.

### Gray Panthers NYC Presents to Riverside Church NYC, May 5, 2022



We also supported their voter registration initiative this fall.

**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK



**Remarks by Gray Panthers NYC on Improving Older New Yorkers' Access to City Services, September 7, 2022**

You can watch and read Jack's **full testimony here.**





Gray Panthers NYC marched in support of the Fair Pay initiative for home care workers in Sept.

## Edith Cresmer Delivers Testimony to NYS Assembly Members, December 12, 2022

Poignant, personal testimony delivered by our esteemed board member Edith Cresmer that is “inspiring and motivating” NYS elected representatives, according to Assembly Member Ron Kim. You can read her full [testimony here](#).



## Our Allies

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This year GPNYC forged new alliances with national institutions and entities (in alphabetical order).

**COVID Survivors for Change:** Shyvonne Noboa, Sunnyside Community Services, and co-captain for the NY State team for COVID Survivors for Change presented at our September 27, **Grassroot Voices: Nursing Home Transformation** webinar.



**EmergingAging NYC:** This group brings young professionals in aging together to learn about emerging trends and ideas in the field, network, and better lead other New Yorkers to serve older adults. Gray Panthers partnered with EmergingAging for two thought-provoking Transformation Tuesdays.





**Live Oak:** As part of our Long-Term Care initiative, we collaborated with partners in establishing the Live Oak Coalition, which is made up of dedicated advocates and activists working toward Nursing Home reform.



**The Riverside Church:** Thanks to Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper, Minister of Older Adults, for the opportunity to introduce our organization to the parish and support your voter drive.



**THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

# Internship Program

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GPNYC works closely with institutions of higher education to cultivate intergenerational connections. Due to the pandemic, student interns worked remotely to create content, promote, and participate in GPNYC's virtual events.

Thanks to Sarah Gold, who organized the first GPNYC Intern Reunion, held via Zoom. Attendees and their current affiliations listed below included:

- Brendan Birth, Manhattan Community Board 6 / Board Member, GPNYC
- Sara Gold, Skidmore College, Senior
- Harleen Kaur, Spencer Stuart recruiter
- Ben Mara, Consultant
- Mackenzie Schade, Catholic Charities
- Elise Van Gelder, Bio-Rad Laboratories
- Charity White, San Francisco Foundation
- Heather Yoon, Google

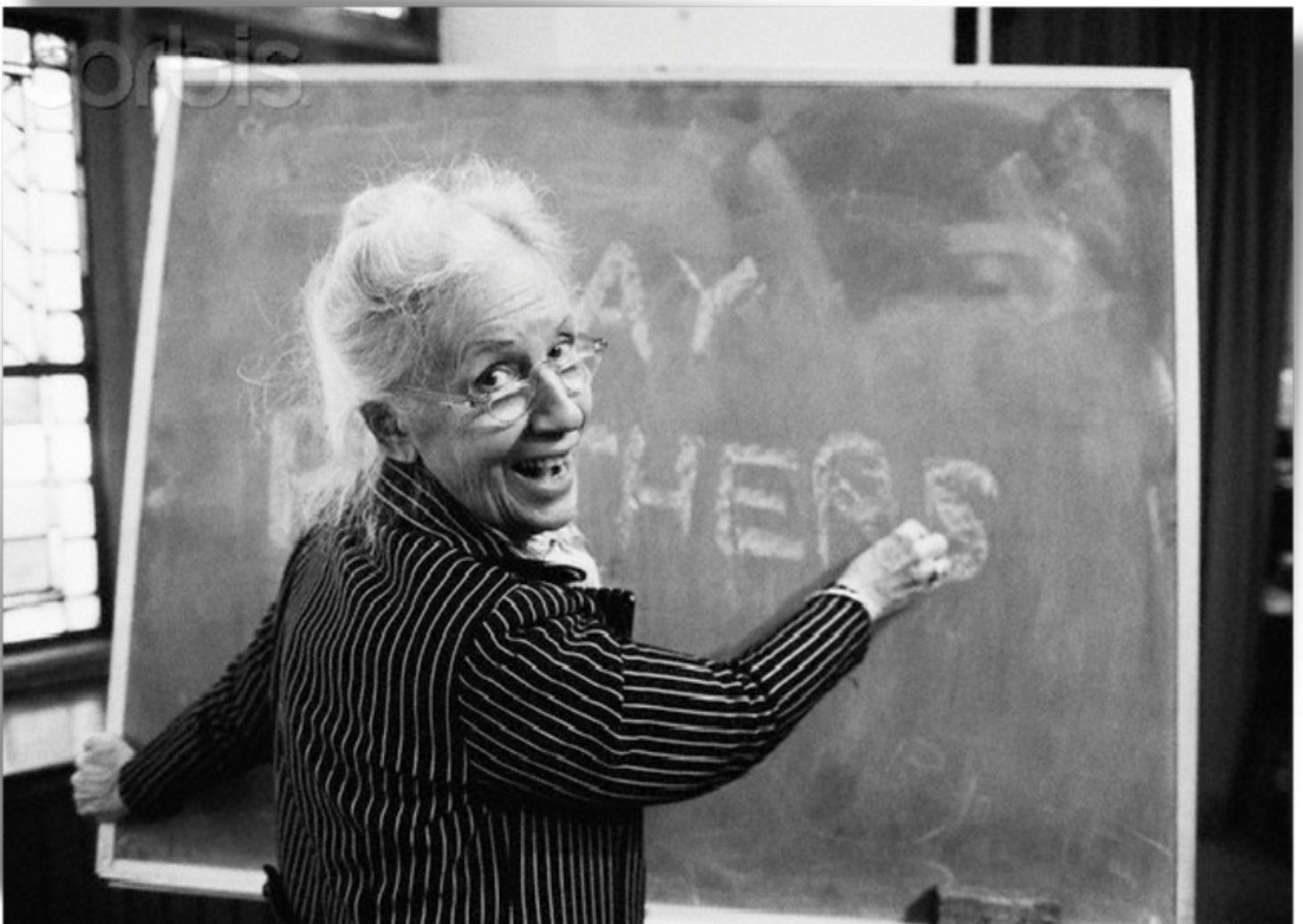
## Special Thanks

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**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE ELAINE ADLER FOUNDATION FOR  
ITS GENEROUS SUPPORT**

**Thank You to Our Major Contributors (over \$1,000)**

**JILL GERSON**



Maggie Kuhn, Founder of the Gray Panthers

# **Our Team**

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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Jack Kupferman, President  
Michelle Arnot, Vice President  
Brendan Birth, Secretary  
Edith Cresmer, Treasurer  
Frances Zainoeddin, U.N. Representative

## **CONSULTANTS**

Barbara Bullard, B-Bullard  
Rick Sanford, Tech Support  
Jessica Scheer, Cause Effective  
Saleen Shah, Community Liaison  
Misha Zimmerman, Newsletter Management

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Emily Trask, Social Media and Website  
Susan Friedman, Editor  
Jenny Olaya, Legal Advisor



## About Us

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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.

[Volunteer](#)



[Donate](#)



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**[www.GrayPanthersNYC.org](http://www.GrayPanthersNYC.org)**