



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Cranston Senior Services Receives Community Awareness Grant for Alzheimer's and Age Related Impairments**

**Cranston, RI – November 20, 2018** – The Cranston Department of Senior Services announced that it is the recipient of a \$10,000 grant to focus on increasing awareness and understanding of memory loss and aging, normal cognitive decline with the aging process, cognitive impairment, mild or moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease, and other related dementias. This is one of 27 projects funded by the Momentum Fund of Tufts Health Plan Foundation in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. The fund was established to foster new ideas and advance the movement to make cities and towns better places to grow up and grow old. The investment of mini-grants totals nearly \$270,000.

The scope of work will include offering a series of presentations/workshops to varied sectors of the community, including caregivers, individuals suffering from dementia, first responders, business outlets serving the public such as banks, the City of Cranston's Tax Department and faith based organizations. The principal constituency is the elderly population with the city. As the second largest city in the state with a population of 81,073, Cranston totals twenty-nine percent of its population over 55 years of age, with 21% being 60 years of age or older.

The city of Cranston will be enhancing its Age-Friendly efforts through programs offered by the Department of Senior Services, Senior Housing, Adult Day Care Centers, Community Action Program, and Assisted Living and Nursing Home facilities.

Mayor Allan Fung stated: "I'm pleased that the Cranston Senior Center has received this generous grant to further enhance the services they provide to the community. These new initiatives will help raise awareness and make Cranston a safe and caring community for our seniors suffering from dementia, Alzheimer's disease and other cognitive impairments."

Phillip Gonzalez, the Foundation's senior program officer added, "Many New England communities recognize older people as tremendous assets. This is an opportunity for us to learn from communities as they innovate and collaborate to address the needs of that community".

For more information on all the services the Cranston Department of Senior Services has to offer, please visit our webpage at: [www.cranstonseiorcenter.com](http://www.cranstonseiorcenter.com) .