

anathan house

June 29
49

for
Older People

*Council
League for
Aged
People*
49



supported by
pittsburgh section
national council of jewish women
1620 murray avenue • pittsburgh, pa. 15217

THE OPEN DOOR

Who is a Senior Citizen? He is an individual sixty years or over, who is either semi- or fully retired, the pattern of whose life has so changed that he must realize himself in new areas.

The Pittsburgh Section, National Council of Jewish Women, always aware of, and sensitive to the needs of the community, began a pilot project in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania on June 29, 1949.



The door of the Council Lounge for Older People was opened - a non-sectarian, recreational and educational program, operating five days a week. An Executive Committee composed of Council Members served in an advisory capacity, set policy, supervised programming, and disbursed the monies allocated by Council for Lounge operation. There was a paid Director, and an Executive Committee made up of Council Members. This group set policy with the help of an Advisory Committee, consisting of the heads of various social agencies

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and well informed leaders of the community concerned with problems of gerontology. In addition, there was a corps of volunteers who served as hostesses, receptionists, canteen workers and leaders of various interest groups.

In September 1963 a new door was opened: the door of the Simon J. and Bessie Anathan House for Older People. Through the generosity of the Anathan Family, our original benefactors, Council purchased a four story house at 1620 Murray Avenue - a location most accessible to its guests. Our program remains essentially the same, but widely expanded. With full consideration for the needs, inclinations and abilities of the older adults, the program at Anathan House is so wide, so varied and so flexible, that there is an absorbing center of interest and happiness for each guest. Council has always encouraged active participation by the guests in program planning, and in service to the organization and the community. The Anathan House

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Members have their own officers, board and committees who work within the framework of Council policy.

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The Executive Board of Anathan House, with a Chairman appointed by the Section President, also works under the aegis of the parent organization. The Chairman, her officers and advisors appoint leaders for all activities. There is a large group of volunteers assisting in this project.

We hope that we have conveyed to you the spirit of Anathan House.

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The eagerness and the actual hunger with which our guests participate in the program, the sense of importance and accomplishment, the feeling of being wanted, the pleasure in the companionship of contemporaries, are gifts which cannot be expressed or measured.

The door to a new life has been opened!