

Hunter College Libraries

Archives & Special Collections

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Guide to the Brookdale Center on Aging records, 1975-2004 (bulk dates: 1975-1988) Accession: #1996-08

CREATOR

Brookdale Center on Aging (Hunter College)
Brookdale Center on Aging (Hunter College). Institute on Law and Rights of Older Adults.
Samuel Sadin Institute on Law.

EXTENT

Linear Feet: 0.63 linear feet
Number of Containers: 2 boxes

COLLECTION SUMMARY

The Brookdale Center on Aging records (1975-2004) contain a handful of issues of Brookdale's newsletters, press releases, a copy of the 2004-2006 strategic plan, brochures, clippings, and a few internal reports. The collection is strongest in documentation of Brookdale's first two decades.

LANGUAGES

English

PROCESSING ARCHIVIST

Susan M. Kline, 2020

Collection Details

Historical Note

Social worker and gerontology expert Dr. Rose Dobrof founded the Brookdale Center on Aging at Hunter College in 1974 and was its Executive Director until 1994. The need for Brookdale arose as lifespans increased and older adults became an increasingly larger percentage of the population. Brookdale expanded in 1977 when it added the Sadin Institute for Law and Public Policy, which is focused on education about aging-related legal issues.

As one of the earliest gerontology centers based at a university, Brookdale conducts multidisciplinary research; provides professional development for individuals who work with the elderly population in both healthcare and legal settings; and aims to destigmatize aging and improve the wellbeing of older adults. The center advocates for advancements in policies and gerontological care and some of its programs pertain to housing and the urban environment, artistic expression, financial exploitation, and HIV and how those issues affect older adults' quality of life.

In addition to Dobrof, other Brookdale leaders have included executive directors Harry Moody (director from 1997 to 2003), Dennis Kodner (director from 2003 to 2007), and Marianne Fahs (the founding director of research). As of 2020 Ruth Finkelstein serves as executive director.

Collection Description (Scope and Contents)

The Brookdale Center on Aging records contain very limited documentation of the center's leadership and initiatives. The brochures, publications, and newsletters provide general information about Brookdale's work especially in the 1980s and 1990s. More extensive information is contained in the report of the Institute on Law and Rights of Older Adults Report (circa 1978). The collection also contains the final products of three projects, specifically: the Living History Project final report, the Life Stories project of interviews with residents of the senior housing complex Phelps House, and the guide *How to Start a Respite Service for People with Alzheimer's and Their Families*. The most recent item is the 2004-2006 strategic plan.

Subjects

Geriatrics.
Aging.
Older people.
Social gerontology.
Social work.

Arrangement

Files are arranged in alphabetical order by title.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Received in 1996.

Using the Collection

ACCESS STATEMENT

Access to all materials is unrestricted.

RIGHTS STATEMENT

Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

PREFERRED CITATION

Brookdale Center on Aging records, Archives & Special Collections, Hunter College Libraries, Hunter College of The City University of New York

Collection Inventory

Box	Folder	Folder Title	Date(s)	Notes
1	1	Articles and Clippings	1975-1985	
1	2	Articles by Staff	1985-1987	
1	3	Brochures	1980s-1990s	
1	4	Convocation Seminars	1975	
1	5	Gala	1999 June	
1	6	<i>How to Start a Respite Service for People with Alzheimer's and Their Families</i>	1987	A Guide for Community-Based Organizations.
1	7	"In the Traffic of a Targeted City"	1985	Transcript of discussion following performance on August 6, 1985.
1	8	Institute on Law and Rights of Older Adults Report	Circa 1978	
1	9	Paul LeClerc Visit	1988	Includes staff directory.
1	10	The Living History Project Final Report	1978 December	
1	11	News From Hunter College Press Releases	1975	
		Publications		
1	12	"Help for Seniors"	1988	Volume 1.
1	13	Newsletter	1987-1988	Fall 1987, Spring 1988
2	1	Senior Rights Repvorter	1987-1988, 1997	
2	2	<i>Update</i>	2000, 2002	
2	3	Strategic Plan 2004-2006	2004 July	
2	4	We Won the Lottery: The Story of Phelps House Godard-Riverside Community Center	Circa 1985	Life Stories Project sponsored by Brookdale. Interviewed conducted by Hunter College High School students.