

Media Advisory – Jan. 23, 2009

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Volunteers needed to assist vulnerable adults

Vulnerable adults living in nursing homes, assisted-living facilities and adult family homes throughout Snohomish County are in need of community help.

More than 2,500 such residents lack volunteer ombudsmen, who serve as advocates, educators, investigators and problem solvers on their behalf. Volunteer ombudsmen come from all walks of life, various age groups and educational levels. The common thread is a passion for older adults and persons with disabilities.

The Snohomish County Long Term Care Ombudsman Program will offer a free, four-day training session on Feb. 17, 18, 24 and 25 for new volunteer ombudsmen. Once certified, volunteers are asked to spend an average of four hours a week on their ombudsman duties. Expenses such as mileage are reimbursable.

The Snohomish County Long Term Care Ombudsman Program is part of a statewide program that protects residents and works with residents and their families to achieve high-quality and compassionate care.

Applications for the training program are available by contacting Michal Glauner at 425-388-7393 or michal.glauner@snoco.org. Applications for the February training program must be received in the office by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3.

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