
Contact: Greg Jena, Executive Director of Communications, gjena@PFQ.org; 412-446-0708.

NEWS RELEASE

Citizen Care to Celebrate 50th Anniversary in Grand Style with Gala at Heinz History Center

PITTSBURGH, PA, October 22, 2025 – Citizen Care, a member of the Partners For Quality family of nonprofit agencies, is proudly celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2025. The highlight of this landmark will be a 50th Anniversary Gala on Wednesday evening, November 5 at the Senator John Heinz History Center.

Founded in the spring of 1975, Citizen Care provides life-enhancing support to people with intellectual disabilities and autism. The agency has been accredited by the Council on Quality and Leadership since 1978.

“I think the work that Citizen Care does every day makes our world a better place,” said Citizen Care Executive Director Jen Dayton, reflecting on the agency’s legacy. “I don’t think I’ve never been anywhere where so many people are willing to go above and beyond on a regular basis, and they really do that all the time.”

The 50th Anniversary Gala will feature historic displays from the Citizen Care archives, speakers, including staff who helped launch the agency, dinner and music by Dr. Zoot. The evening will showcase a retrospective video exploring Citizen Care’s past, present and future. The video was produced by MarketSpace Agency and Post Script Productions.

“50 years is a big deal. Not every agency makes it 50 years,” said Maggie Rothenberger, President & CEO of Partners For Quality. “Not everybody makes it 50 years and is still going strong. Not every agency makes it 50 years and has the reputation that Citizen Care does at the state and the federal level. I am proud of the fact that Citizen Care is part of our Partners For Quality family of agencies.”

At its founding, Citizen Care operated Robinson Developmental Center, a 132-bed facility caring for persons with disabilities who transferred from an overcrowded state institution in Northwestern Pennsylvania. Robinson Developmental Center marked a shift in the disability world, focusing on making people supported active members of their community and empowering them to gain independence. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, Citizen Care’s first community living homes were opened, giving people supported the opportunity to live an “everyday life”. By the 1990s, Citizen Care established a fundraising department, which is now the Partners For Quality Foundation.

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(October 22, 2025, continued)

Citizen Care's continued evolution led to its board of directors authorizing a total reorganization for the agency in 2005. Parent organization Partners For Quality was established and charged with handling all administrative management duties. This allowed Citizen Care – and all Partners For Quality subsidiaries – to focus on everyday priorities: the persons they support.

This story and more will be shared with guests at the 50th Anniversary Gala on November 5. For tickets and more information about the Gala, visit CitizenCarePA.org or PFQ.org.

About Citizen Care

A proud member of the Partners For Quality family of nonprofit agencies, Citizen Care has been committed to providing services and supports to individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism since 1975. The agency reflects a person-centered philosophy in which people receiving services are gainfully employed, engaged in their communities, and are treated with dignity & respect. Citizen Care is privileged to help them achieve their goals and dreams. Learn more at CitizenCarePA.org.

About Partners For Quality

Headquartered in McKees Rocks, Partners For Quality provides administrative oversight for organizations that support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and behavioral health challenges. Serving Western Pennsylvania since 1975, Partners For Quality, through its subsidiaries, serves about 4,000 people annually and employs more than 1,000 across its organizations. Partners For Quality subsidiaries have earned accreditation from The Council on Quality Leadership, The Council on Accreditation and the Sanctuary Institute (for trauma-informed care). Along with Citizen Care, the Partners For Quality family of nonprofit agencies includes: **Allegheny Children's Initiative**, serving children and families with behavioral health challenges; **Exceptional Adventures**, an agency that provides travel and social opportunities to individuals with disabilities; **Milestone**, supporting individuals with intellectual and behavioral health challenges, including two Health Care Quality Units in Butler and Warren which train professionals in 18 counties; and **Partners For Quality Foundation**, which raises funds for all services throughout the family of agencies. For more information, visit PFQ.org and Facebook.com/PartnersForQuality.

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