

**MEDIA ADVISORY – INVITATION FOR COVERAGE –  
EMBARGOED UNTIL 12 AM MAY 5, 2008**

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**Social Security Isn't Enough, But Many Seniors Still Rely on It**

***State and National Organizations Release Elder Economic Security Initiative  
Showing How Much Elders Need to Make Ends Meet***

Elder Economic Security Initiative  
Release Event

May 5, 2008

Press Conference: 12 – 1 PM  
Capitol Rotunda  
Harrisburg PA

Briefing: 1-2 PM  
Room 461 MC

Invited Speakers:  
Senator Harris Wofford  
Senator Jane Orie  
Senator Connie Williams  
Representatives of  
PathWays PA, CARIE, WOW

On May 5, 2008, elder advocates, legislators, and experts will gather together to demonstrate how the Elder Economic Security Initiative™ (EESI) offers a realistic, geographically based measure of the income that older Americans need to age with dignity.

According to the soon to be released Pennsylvania Elder Economic Security Initiative, the average Social Security payment in Pennsylvania is not nearly enough to support elders with dignity in their own homes. Still, one out of four Pennsylvania elders relies on Social Security as their only income.

Pennsylvania's Elder Economic Security Initiative has come together through a partnership between state and national organizations. PathWays PA, CARIE, the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania, and other state advocacy organizations collaborated on this issue with Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW) and researchers

from the Gerontology Institute at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Pennsylvania will be the third state to release this information, following Massachusetts and California.

PathWaysPA began in 1978 as the Women's Association for Women's Alternatives, one of Pennsylvania's first residential programs to keep low-income, vulnerable women together with their children. It has grown to become one of the Greater Philadelphia region's foremost providers of residential and community-based services with a focus on serving women, teens and children. Each year PathWaysPA serves nearly 5,000 clients with a full complement of social services, job training, and employment assistance, as well as residential programs and advocacy activities.