

FAST FACTS: MATHER + OLDER IS BOLDER

WHAT IS MATHER? Mather is a unique non-for-profit organization dedicated to creating Ways to Age WellSM. Founded in 1941 and based in Evanston, Illinois, Mather's vision is to change the way society views aging. Through programs, research, and innovative services within its senior living residences, the organization provides opportunities for all who live, visit, learn from and work with Mather.

WHAT IS OLDER IS BOLDER™? Older Is Bolder uses storytelling to encourage Chicagoland residents to look beyond age, embrace growing older, and appreciate the bold qualities and impactful lives of older adults in our communities. It is an inspiring art installation placed on Chicago Transit Authority buses, railcars and rail stations across Chicagoland. Learn more and engage by visiting OlderIsBolder.com.

WHO ARE THE BOLDMAKERS? The 10 Boldmakers are energized, joyful older adults driving long-term change and growth in their everyday lives. Their stories are curated on OlderIsBolder.com and are meant to spark conversation and reflection on the possibilities that growing older brings. They represent the following neighborhoods across Chicagoland:

- Austin
- Bucktown/Wicker Park
- Englewood
- Garfield Park
- Humboldt Park
- Little Italy
- South Suburbs
- Woodland

WHAT IS MATHER COMMUNITY INITIATIVES? Mather Community Initiatives works toward an equitable society in which all older adults find wellness and learning opportunities so they can thrive in their communities. Community Initiatives include free and thoughtfully designed in-person and virtual classes and programs for those 55+ to spark creativity and create meaningful connections.

MATHER COMMUNITY INITIATIVES BY THE NUMBERS

**53,000+
HOURS**

that participants have collectively spent participating in free programs so far in 2025

19,000+

art and garden kits delivered throughout Chicagoland*

**35+ CHICAGOLAND
COLLABORATIONS**

help Mather to deliver free programming for older adults, including libraries, museums, churches, and community centers

IN-PERSON PROGRAMS ACROSS CHICAGOLAND INCLUDE

- Wellness programs such as Yoga for All, Pilates, and Walking & Wellness Club
- Free lunch events with dancing and entertainment
- Museum tours followed by art making
- Writers' workshops
- and more

*Grow-It-Together Garden Kits and Do-It-Together Art Kits are two unique, free virtual programs that Mather brings exclusively to Chicagoland. Other virtual programs are open to adults 55+ and focus on physical wellness, brain health, pet care, cooking, seasonal eating, and more.

HELPFUL LINKS

[Older Is Bolder](#)

[Mather Community Initiatives](#)

[In-Person Programs](#)

[Virtual Programs](#)

[Mather Institute](#)

Select programs, including Do-It-Together Art Kits, Grow-It-Together Garden Kits, PAW Packs, Cook & Connect, are available only to Chicagoland residents 55+.

