



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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The Parker Jewish Institute Hosts ‘Shielding Seniors’ Workshop on Preventing Scams and Identity Theft

New Hyde Park, New York, Tuesday, September 22, 2026 – The Parker Jewish Institute hosted “Shielding Seniors: Protect Yourself from Scams and Identity Theft,” a free, educational program, on Tuesday, September 15, 2026. Funded by a grant from The New York Bar Foundation, the initiative helps older adults recognize, avoid and report common scams.

Anyone can fall victim to a scam. Scammers build trust, create urgency and then pressure people to share personal information or send money. Older adults, many of whom live on fixed incomes, may be targeted when they are homebound, have mobility issues or experience social isolation, experts said.

Common scams include calls from someone impersonating a grandchild or loved one in crisis and requesting immediate financial assistance. With artificial intelligence and other technology, scammers can “spoof” a loved one’s voice, making these calls more convincing. Other scams include Medicare and health insurance fraud, fake government or utility-provider demands, cryptocurrency schemes, tech-support scams, fraudulent home repairs and online romance scams.

Warning signs can include unsolicited requests for money or personal information; demands for cash, gift cards or wire transfers; and pressure to act quickly or keep the situation secret. And, experts warn, if an offer sounds too good to be true, such as an unsolicited caller promising a low-cost roof repair, it may be a scam.

When in doubt, hang up the phone and contact the person or organization directly using a trusted phone number, such as one from your bank card, account statement, utility bill or the organization’s official website. Families can also establish a private “safe word” to verify emergency calls. Never click on links in unexpected emails or text messages. If a pop-up appears suggesting someone is trying to access your device, shut the device down immediately. If you suspect you’ve shared personal information with a scammer, consider freezing your credit with all three major credit bureaus: Experian, Equifax and TransUnion.

“Everyone needs to be on high alert when it comes to scams, not just older adults. It’s important to recognize the pattern: scammers gain your trust, create a sense of urgency and pressure you to act quickly. Take a moment to step back and regroup. Before sending money or sharing personal information, call someone you trust, your bank using the number on your card or statement, or your utility provider using the number on your bill. Find out if the request is legitimate. Too often, it’s fraud, and you may never get that money back. We’re grateful to the experts who spent the morning with us, sharing their knowledge with our community,” said Michael N. Rosenblut, President and CEO of The Parker Jewish Institute.

Speakers at the event included Ann-Margaret Corrozza, attorney; Jennifer Benjamin, of Family First Home Companion; Cindy Manigat of M&T Bank; James Donnelly of Safe Haven Insurance Agency; and NYPD Police Officer Samantha Gleason.

About The Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation

The Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation is headquartered in New Hyde Park, New York. The facility is a leading provider of Short-Term Rehabilitation and Long-Term Care. At the forefront of innovation in patient-centered health care and technology, the Institute is a leader in teaching and geriatric research. Parker Jewish Institute features its own medical team, and is nationally renowned as a skilled nursing facility, as well as a provider of community-based health care, encompassing Home Health Care, Medical House Calls, Palliative Care and Hospice. Parker Jewish Institute is also home to Queens-Long Island Renal Institute (QLIRI), led by an interdisciplinary team of experienced Nephrologists and Dialysis Registered Nurses, a Renal Social Worker, and a Registered Renal Dietitian.

