



1612 K Street NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20006

1-202-737-6637 [www.graypanthers.org](http://www.graypanthers.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saturday, August 13, 2011

Gray Panthers

Contacts: Judy Lear, National Chair, 202-737-6637, Ext. 28 [judylear@graypanthers.org](mailto:judylear@graypanthers.org)

Shadia Henson, 202-737-6637, Ext. 21 [shenson@graypanthers.org](mailto:shenson@graypanthers.org)

## **Gray Panthers Launches Media Watch on Social Security – Fight Truth Decay**

National Gray Panthers, an intergenerational social and economic justice group, will celebrate the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Social Security on August 14, 2011 by launching a campaign to challenge lies and errors of fact currently being floated in print and electronic media about the soundness and effectiveness of the Social Security program.

The appointment of a 12 member “Super Committee” to reduce the national debt is considered by the Gray Panthers to be a “clear and present danger” to preserving the benefits of Social Security for its beneficiaries. A team of Gray Panther “watchdogs,” armed with a Fact Sheet called the “Truth About Social Security,” has launched a national campaign calling on its membership to watch out for lies, challenge the media to issue corrections, and report their findings to the National Gray Panthers which will post this information on its website and Facebook pages. Gray Panthers throughout the country have made the commitment to be Social Security media watchdogs.

Here is a common example of a lie about Social Security: “Social Security is going broke” -- Gray Panthers’ response: “Social Security is solvent. Social Security today has a \$2.6 trillion surplus and can pay out every benefit owed to every eligible American for the next 27 years. From that point forward, it will still be able to provide 75-80 percent of all benefits. If we lift the cap on contributions so that rich people pay their fair share, we can fund it indefinitely.”

For more information, see Gray Panthers website: [www.graypanthers.org](http://www.graypanthers.org) or contact Judy Lear, National Chair, Gray Panthers 202-737-6637, ext. 28.

#####