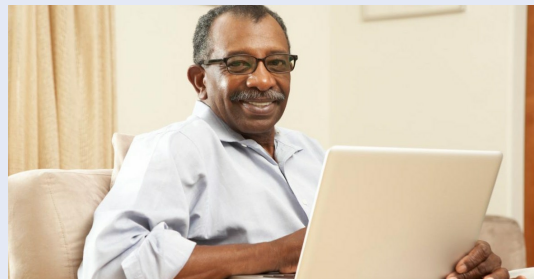


June 22, 2022

Age-Friendly Public Health Systems Learning and Action Network News



News:

New Funding Opportunity from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Plans to Strengthen U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, & Data Systems

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently announced a new multi-billion-dollar funding opportunity to improve the public health infrastructure in state, local, and territorial health departments across the country. [**Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems**](#) (CDC-RFA-OE22-2203) will make strategic investments possible that will have lasting effects on public health agencies and advance critical infrastructure needs related to workforce, foundational capabilities, and data modernization. The CDC will award \$3 billion to strengthen the public health workforce in jurisdictions across the country over the next five years. In addition, \$45 million will be awarded to national public health partners to assist health departments with data driven practices for workforce development.

Events and Opportunities:

Age-Friendly Public Health Systems (AFPHS) Monthly Trainings

Data systems that include information on the health of older adults are crucial to developing programs and services that meet their health and social needs. Organizations and agencies can use this information to target resources, identify community partners, support grant applications, and develop strategies to address health disparities and social needs in their communities.

The July training will focus on the importance of data in addressing social determinants of health among older adults. This session will also highlight how some states have developed and used data on older adults to advance healthy aging in their communities.

This session will be held on **July 21 at 3 pm ET**. Register [here](#).

You can also view a recording of our June training on [Food Security & Nutrition among Older Adults](#) and read June's [blog post](#) *What's Public Health Got to Do With... Food Insecurity?*

engAGED June Office Hours – Wednesday, June 22, 2022, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm ET

This office hours session will focus on reaching rural older adults with technology.

Presenters from the Older Adults Technology Services (OATS), AARP, and the Aroostook

Agency on Aging will highlight how they are helping older adults living in rural areas connect to and engage with technology. Attendance will be capped at 30 participants. [RSVP here.](#)

Enhancing Quality of Life: Building Capacity to Serve People Aging with HIV and Long-term Survivors – *Monday, June 27, 2022, 3:00 pm ET.* This Association of Nurses in AIDS Care webinar will provide an overview of how the National HIV/AIDS Strategy 2022-2025 addresses older adults living with HIV, long-term survivors, as well as Older Americans Act services for older adults living with HIV. This session will also have a particular focus on providing whole-person care to enhance the quality of life of people aging with HIV and long-term survivors. Register [here.](#)

Research Centers Collaborative Network Aging, Race, and Health Disparities – *Tuesday & Wednesday, June 28-29, 2022.* The Research Centers Collaborative Network of the National Institute on Aging is hosting a workshop that will include two sessions: "Frameworks and Methodological Approaches for Health Disparities Research" and "Biologic, Physiologic, and Health Care Implications." Register [here.](#)

Science and Community: Introducing the SuperAgers Initiative – *Thursday, June 30, 2022, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm ET.* Hosted by the American Federation for Aging Research, this session will describe the SuperAgers Initiative, an innovative effort focused on both celebrating and studying the scientific basis of exceptional longevity. A living SuperAger will share their “secrets” of healthy longevity. Register [here.](#)

Second Annual Age-Friendly Ecosystem Summit – *Wednesday, November 9, 2022, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm ET.* The George Washington University's Center for Aging, Health and Humanities is hosting the Second Annual Age-Friendly Ecosystem Summit. This virtual regional collaborative event will be held in partnership with Age-Friendly Alexandria, Arlington, DC, Howard County, Hyattsville, Montgomery County, and the Georgetown University Aging & Health Program. Register [here.](#)

Funding Opportunity – The **GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program** presents the opportunity to bring together food and health care sector stakeholders to build understanding of how to improve the health and nutrition status of participating households. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture requests applications for the GusNIP Program to support and evaluate projects that would increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables among income eligible consumers participating in the United States Department of Agriculture Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, as well as reduce food insecurity and related health care costs. Proposals are due on **June 30, 2022.** [Learn more about this funding opportunity.](#)

Resources:

Healthy Aging 101

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials has developed [a new brief that outlines public health frameworks that advance healthy aging.](#) The brief includes a definition of healthy aging and how public health departments can support healthy aging. It includes an overview of Trust for America's Health Age-Friendly Public Health System framework and the AARP Age-Friendly framework.

COVID-19

COVID-19 Infections and Hospitalizations Higher among Patients with Dementia

Results from a recent study that included 262,847 older adults indicate that patients who have been diagnosed with dementia have a [greater risk for COVID-19 breakthrough infections and hospitalizations.](#) The older adults in the study were vaccinated between December 2020 and August 2021 and they did not have COVID-19 infection prior to vaccination. The highest odds were faced by patients with Lewy body dementia, followed by those with vascular dementia and mild cognitive impairment.

Social Engagement

Pairing College Students with Older Adults

A program is being piloted in Canada that provides college students with subsidized rent in exchange for helping older adults with chores or sharing meals. The Simon Fraser University home-share program [matches students at the university with adults age 55 and older that have available rooms for rent.](#) Prior to the pandemic, many older adults participated in the program for financial reasons. Now the program fosters social connections. Many of the older adult participants shared that they participated because they did not want to live alone.

Manual on Providing Virtual Programming for Older Adults

engAGED, in partnership with Older Adults Technology Services, developed a new manual on developing virtual programs to support older adults that are unable to attend in-person programs. [Implementing and Expanding Virtual Programming For Older Adults](#) includes tips, strategies, and best practices that organizations can use to implement and enhance their virtual programming.

Additional Resources

Maine's New "Cabinet on Aging"

In order to prepare for the demographic changes that will impact health care and the workforce, [the governor of Maine announced they are creating a "Cabinet on Aging."](#) This new cabinet will "advance policies across state government that make sure the needs of Maine people are met as they age."

Older Adults Sacrificing Basic Necessities for to Pay for Health Care

A survey of 6,663 older adults in all 50 states and Washington DC revealed that [out-of-pocket health care costs increased 41% from 2009 to 2019.](#) Results from this Gallup Inc. and West Health survey revealed that about 9% of adults 65 and older spent less on food, 6% cut spending on utilities and 19% trimmed clothing expenditures to help cover health costs. [Adults age 50 to 64 also note that health care costs are a significant burden;](#) 24% of this age group feel it is a major burden, and 48% consider it to be a minor burden. This burden is experienced more by older women and Black Americans.

Communications Campaign to Support Emotional Well-Being among American Indian and Alaska Native Audiences

The [How Right Now \(HRN\)](#) is a communications campaign designed to strengthen the emotional well-being and resiliency of populations adversely affected by COVID-19. With support provided by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the CDC Foundation, HRN has produced a set of materials to promote positive messages and encourage actions to help improve mental health. These coping tools help reduce individuals' stress and worry. They have recently developed [material specifically for American Indian and Alaska Native audiences.](#)

Urban Gardening for Older Adults in Milwaukee

Older adults at the Milwaukee Organization for Active Seniors in Society Center are creating [healthier options for themselves through urban gardening.](#) One of the older adults that helps tend to the garden commented that "now I get people I get to do things with and the fun we have," said Durski. The garden has also provided a way for Durski and other older adults build camaraderie. They have planted tomatoes, cucumbers, radishes, lettuces, beans, and squash.

The Role of Community Power and Health Equity

[A new National Academy of Medicine \(NAM\) Perspectives commentary](#) highlights key approaches to effectively support and build community power to advance racial and health equity. These approaches include: value and prioritize power-building over the long term; support, strengthen, and partner with existing community power-building organizations; and recognize that community power informs all social determinants of health. [In a new discussion paper,](#) NAM authors describe how the community power-building ecosystem works in practice. Examples of state and local power-building organizations and campaigns nationwide are featured. Essential principles and values for effective and authentic partnerships with local communities are highlighted in another [a new NAM Perspectives commentary.](#) The interaction of health,

structural racism and power are also highlighted in this commentary.

The Prevalence and Impact of Ageism

Results from a study of 2,035 adults age 50 to 80, most (93.4%) reported experiencing **one of more forms of ageism every day**. Internalized ageism – individual beliefs held that link aging and health -- was the most common form of ageism reported (81.2%). Higher levels of ageism were associated with adverse physical and mental health outcomes.

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CONTACT

TRUST FOR AMERICA'S HEALTH
1730 M ST NW
SUITE 900
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

P (202) 223-9870

F (202) 223-9871

E AFPHS@TFAH.ORG

