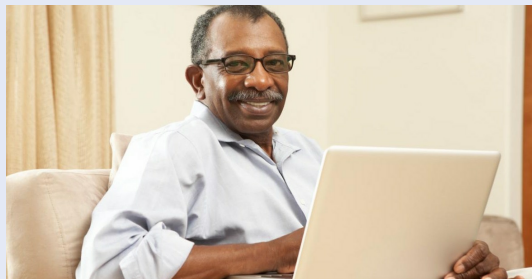


August 24, 2022

Age-Friendly Public Health Systems Learning and Action Network News



News:

Recommendations for Hunger, Nutrition, and Health

[A new report from the Task Force on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health \(Task Force\)](#) has been released to inform the [White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health](#). The report contains 30 policy recommendations for a healthier country by 2030. The Task Force is an independent group of national leaders and experts convened by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, Food Systems for the Future, the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University, and World Central Kitchen. The Task Force Co-Chairs will host a [public webinar on the Report](#) and its critical recommendations on August 31th.

AFPHS Recognition Program News

Three Florida county health departments – [Indian River](#), [Miami-Dade](#), and [Walton](#) – have been recognized as Advanced AFPHS. There are now 15 county health departments in Florida that have demonstrated their deep commitment to healthy aging programs and services. Learn more about the AFPHS Recognition Program and enroll [here](#).

Events and Opportunities:

Age-Friendly Public Health Systems (AFPHS) Monthly Trainings

Feel free to share and view the recording of our [August training](#) - Aligning Age-Friendly Communities and Public Health to Promote Equitable Healthy Aging. Our next training will be on **September 15, 2022**.

Building Partnerships to Scale Effective Dementia Care Supports in Indiana – *Monday, September 12, 2022, 1:00 pm ET*. This webinar, led by the National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center the Administration for Community Living (ACL), will provide an overview of the Caregiver Stress Prevention Bundle (CSPB) for people living with dementia and their informal caregivers. Indiana University (IU) was awarded grant funding in 2020 under the ACL's Alzheimer's Dementia Programs Initiative to implement CSPB. Attendees will learn how and why IU partnered with AAAs to implement the dementia care program and results-to-date. Register [here](#).

Taking Public Health Action for Family Caregivers – *Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 10:00 am – 11:00 am ET*. The National Alliance for Caregiving and the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors are hosting a webinar to share insights into caregiving issues relevant to public health and outline actions public health professionals can take to safeguard the health of family caregivers. This webinar will also act as a release for a new report *Chronic Disease Family Caregiving Through a Public Health Lens: The Framework for Family Caregiving and Public Health*. Register [here](#).

Public Health and Faith II – *Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 12:00 pm – 1:30pm ET*. This is the second installment of the “Public Health and Faith” webinar series, which explores the ways that public health care partner with faith institutions in their dementia caregiving efforts. The leading work of The Balm in Gilead, Inc., the Tennessee Department of Health, and the Dementia Ministry at Due West United Methodist Church will be featured in this session. Register [here](#).

Serving People Living with Dementia: Programs and Interventions to Promote Social Engagement – *Monday, September 19, 2022, 12:00 pm ET*. Presented by engAGED: The National Resource Center for Engaging Older Adults, this webinar will focus on social engagement for people living with dementia. The Rush Alzheimer’s Disease Center will provide a primer on social isolation and loneliness among people living with dementia. Pima Council on Aging and Gateway Geriatric Education Center will then highlight programs and interventions that help people living with dementia and caregivers stay socially engaged. Tips for organizations to develop, implement and sustain these social engagement opportunities will also be shared. Register [here](#).

Housing for People of All Ages – *Wednesday & Thursday, September 21 – 22, 2022*. AARP is hosting a virtual event to explore how communities across the nation can provide safe, affordable housing options for individuals and families of all backgrounds, incomes, and abilities. Best practices, insights, and next steps will be shared around four core themes: housing choice, design, stability, and equity. 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. Interested parties are [invited to submit](#) innovative, replicable, successful initiatives for the Regional Age-Friendly Resource Guide. The Summit will focus on transportation, housing, the long-term care workforce and health systems, and emergency preparedness and resilience. 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](#).

Accelerating Health Equity Conference – *Tuesday - Thursday, May 16-18, 2023*. Proposals are now being accepted for the Accelerating Health Equity: Together on the Quest for Healthy Ecosystems conference, hosted by the American Hospital Association, in the following content areas: building authentic and sustained community engagement and partnership, understanding and meeting individual health and social needs, establishing systematic and shared accountability and building diverse leadership and governance, creating equitable and include workplaces, and other emerging topics. The conference is focused on the development of equitable solutions to address barriers that prevent access to high-quality care and improved health outcomes. [Click here](#) for more information.

Public Input Opportunity: Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Information Collection

The Administration for Community Living is seeking public comment on the proposed extension of the data collection requirements for the ACL Evidence-Based Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSME) Program Information Collection, as [published in the Federal Register](#). The CDSME Grant Program awards competitive grants to implement and promote the sustainability of evidence-based CDSME programs that have been proven to provide older adults and adults with disabilities with education and tools to help them better manage chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, chronic pain, and depression. Comments can be sent via e-mail to Lesha.spencer-brown@acl.hhs.gov until **11:59 pm ET on September 19, 2022**. [Click here](#) for more information.

Resources:

COVID-19

Recommendations for Next Public Health Challenge Based on Lessons from the Pandemic

To help the nation prepare for the next biological and epidemiological challenge, Gail R. Wilensky of Project HOPE recently provided recommendations in a [new Milbank Quarterly Opinion](#) article. These recommendations include having a pandemic expert as part of the National Security Council and clarifying the authorities of the Assistant Secretary for Health, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Wilensky commented that the challenges CDC experienced were not unique to the U.S., but given these lessons, the agency will have a better coordinated response next time.

Many Older Adults Planning to Get COVID-19 Booster in the Fall

According to data from a recent poll conducted by University of Michigan, [61% of adults over age 50 who have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine indicated that they would get an updated booster this fall.](#) Among groups that were especially impacted by COVID-19 (people older than 65, Black, or low-income), 68% these people said they are likely to get a booster. In addition, 77% of respondents felt that recommendations from their health care provider about COVID-19 vaccination are very or somewhat important in helping them decide to get vaccinated.

Additional Resources

Infographic Highlights Dangers of Extreme Heat

A new [infographic](#) from the National Institute for Health Care Management Foundation highlights the dangers of extreme heat, the relationship with the built environment, ways for individuals to protect themselves, and solutions to promote heat mitigation and management. In the United States, over 1,300 deaths per year are due to extreme heat. With the increasing temperatures due to climate change, heat modeling projects that over 8.1 million Americans will experience temperatures exceeding 125 °F in 2023.

Using Music to Test Cognitive Decline

Researchers at Tel Aviv University have developed method to [measure brain activity using a portable instrument.](#) Published in the journal, *Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience*, the method includes measuring electrical activity in the brain for 15 minutes while older adults performed simple musical tasks. Music has great influence on several centers in the brain – it can be a mood stimulant and in different situations it can be cognitively challenging. Combining these two capabilities the researchers created “tests that are quite complex, yet also pleasant and easy to perform.”

Illinois Participates in PACE

[Illinois is the latest state to participate in the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly \(PACE\).](#) Governor J.B. Pritzker stated that in Illinois they “recognize that our elders thrive when they remain in our communities as they age.” The PACE program is “an innovative model that delivers a much-needed alternative to traditional nursing facility care.”

Perceptions Impacting Actual Health

Having positive perceptions of aging can lead to better physical and cognitive performance. Becca Levy, author of the book “Breaking the Age Code: How Your Beliefs About Aging Determine How Long & Well You Live” shares that having a greater population of older adults in [better health means that it's time to "rethink what it means to grow old."](#) She further explains that the images we have about aging “are the product of our cultural diets, whether it's the shows we watch, the things we read, or the jokes we laugh at, become scripts we end up acting out.” Her research indicates that by activating positive age stereotypes people can improve their memory performance, gait, balance, speed and will to live.

Advancing Health Equity through Data Sharing and Policy Change

The Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) recently released a [brief that highlights key lessons to inform data-sharing partnerships between community-based organizations, state agencies, and individuals with lived expertise.](#) The lessons shared in this brief are based on the experiences of participants in Learning and Action in Policy and Partnerships (LAPP). The goal of the initiative is to support community-based data-sharing efforts. Among the key lessons learned from the LAPP pilot are: 1) involving communities as partners in cross-sector data sharing and policymaking often requires reconfiguring how government traditionally operates; 2) addressing health equity goals requires confronting silos within and across agencies, sectors, and systems; and 3) sharing data across systems and sectors requires a shared vision and strong internal champions to advance a governance structure, policies, and legal allowances.

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