

April 12, 2023

AFPHS News



News:

Trust for America's Health (TFAH) 2023 Ready or Not Report

TFAH recently released the [***Ready or Not 2023: Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters, and Bioterrorism***](#) report. This report includes measures on states' readiness to respond to a spectrum of health emergencies. Data and policy recommendations are also provided to improve the nation's emergency preparedness. [**TFAH is hosting a congressional briefing and national webinar**](#) on May 3 to discuss the nation's readiness for public health emergencies, examine the findings of the report, and discuss key recommendations for policymakers.

Congratulations to Benton-Franklin Health District and Wauwatosa Health Department!

The [**Benton-Franklin Health District**](#) in Washington and the [**Wauwatosa Health Department**](#) in Wisconsin have recently been acknowledged as Age-Friendly Public Health Systems through the [**Recognition Program!**](#)

Events and Opportunities:

Age-Friendly Public Health Systems (AFPHS) Monthly Trainings

TFAH's 2023 AFPHS training series will provide guidance on implementing each of the AFPHS 6Cs (based on [**the 6Cs Framework**](#)). Each session will highlight specific examples of public health programs, policies, or other activities that align with the 6Cs and advance healthy aging as a core function.

The April training will focus on coordinating existing services and supports between the aging sector and public health. Speakers include Louise Ryan, the Regional Administrator from Region 10, which includes Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. This session will be held on *April 20 at 3 pm ET*. Register [**here**](#).

You can also view a recording of our [**March training**](#) – Connecting & Convening.

Build your expertise and healthy aging knowledge! Individuals who attend 6 or more AFPHS monthly trainings will be designated as AFPHS Champions. More than 65 people across the country have been recognized as Champions to date. Visit the [**AFPHS**](#)

[Recognition Program page](#) for more information.

Creative Fundraising for Senior Nutrition Programs – *Thursday, April 13, 2023, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm ET.* The Administration for Community Living’s Office of Nutrition and Health Promotion Programs is hosting a webinar strategies to fundraise for senior nutrition programs and explore how fundraising contributes to a sustainable program. The webinar will also address how to identify and evaluate fundraising activities and their target audiences as well as how to develop community relationships and partnerships. Register [here](#).

Solving for Homelessness Among Older Adults, People with Disabilities, and Other Populations Through Cross-Sector Partnerships – *Tuesday, April 18, 2023, 3:00 pm ET.* This webinar is part of a Housing and Services Resource Center (HSRC) series on partnerships between systems so older adults, people with disabilities, and people experiencing homelessness can access all resources and ultimately have stable housing in the community. The webinar will explore the formation and operation of a partnership between the regional task force on homelessness; the county government division on aging and independence services and divisions on health; and other community-based organizations. The partnership developed a coordinated approach to reducing homelessness among a population that each had been separately serving. The webinar will cover how the collaboration began, how it could be replicated in other areas, and the value of the partnership. Register [here](#).

Obesity in the U.S.: Increasing Access to Treatment – *Tuesday, April 18, 2023, 11:00 ET.* More than 4 in 10 adults have obesity, a disease that damages nearly every system in the human body. While new innovative treatments are available, coverage for these treatments remains a concern. The Bipartisan Policy Center and the USC Leonard D. Schaeffer Center for Health Policy & Economics will lead a discussion on April 18 on the impact of obesity and policy solutions to prevent and treat this disease. Register to [attend virtually](#) or to [attend in-person](#).

Adult Vaccination Education ECHO Program

The Adult Vaccination Education Program (AVEP): Understanding (Person) Patient Experiences ECHO program aims to gain a deeper understanding of the patient (person) experiences that shape vaccine-related decisions and build practical solutions to the barriers faced to drive policy actions to increase uptake rates. The remaining one-hour module will be held at 9:00 am ET on April 19th. This program serves as a platform for sharing evidence, tools, and good practices needed to empower key stakeholders to become champions of adult immunization in their communities and help increase uptake rates. Register [here](#).

HIV and Aging Webinar Series – *Friday, April 28, 2023, 10:30 am – 11:45 am ET.* People aging with HIV may also experience additional unique health challenges such as multiple chronic conditions, multiple medications, and increased vulnerability to stressors. The final webinar in a series hosted by the MidAtlantic AIDS Education and Training Center will address the complexities of care, treatment and management, the psychosocial needs and impact of social determinants of health, and how to improve the quality of life for a growing population of older adults living with HIV. Register [here](#).

Improving Support for Care Partners – *Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 5:00 pm ET.* Dr. Jennifer Wolff will be delivering the 2023 Robert L. Kane Memorial Lecture, hosted by the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. Dr. Wolff will summarize challenges and opportunities in the science and policy of care partner support and discuss strategies to sustain innovation and improvement in care, with a particular focus on consumer-oriented health information technology. Register [here](#).

Successful Public Health Approaches in Dementia Caregiving: A Virtual Roundtable Series – *Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 1:00 pm ET.* This fourth installment of the bi-monthly, roundtable series hosted by the BOLD Public Health Center of Excellence on Dementia Caregiving will feature the successful Dementia Care Specialist Program within the Wisconsin Department of Health. The goal of the series is to create a public health community of practice, where agencies share experiences, lessons learned, and strategies they can implement to support dementia caregivers in their jurisdictions. Register [here](#).

6th Annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day Symposium – May 11, 2023, 10:00 am ET. Hosted by the National Council on Aging and co-sponsored by the U.S. Administration for Community Living, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, this symposium includes a full day of sessions on how to best meet the mental health needs of older adults. The keynote speaker this year is Montel Williams. Register [here](#).

Building Resiliency with Healthy Aging Research – Wednesday, May 24, 2023, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm ET (In-person and Online). This interactive hybrid event will feature research projects focused on solving the grand challenges of healthy aging, improving aging for all, and positively impacting older adults. The highlighted research is funded by Innovations in Healthy Aging, a strategic initiative of the University of Arizona Health Sciences. Registration coming soon.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Health Equity Conference – Wednesday, June 7 to Thursday, June 8, 2023

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is hosting their first Health Equity Conference in Washington D.C. This free two-day conference will also be streamed for virtual attendance. Community-based organizations, academia, health provider organizations, and CMS leadership will share innovations and promising practices in health equity. [Click here](#) for more information about the conference.

Health and Aging Policy Fellows

Applications are now being accepted for the [2023-2024 class of the Health and Aging Policy Fellows](#). This one-year Fellowship runs from October 1 – September 30 and has full-time and part-time tracks. It is conducted as a hybrid program of mentoring, networking, learning and practicum experiences. Health and Aging Policy Fellows work across diverse fields of aging and develop lifelong partnerships and networks. Applications are due by **April 17, 2023**.

Thriving Communities Technical Assistance

Local governments can apply for federal [Thriving Communities Technical Assistance](#) (TCTA) funding to help plan for and create transit-oriented housing. The TCTA program supports coordination and integration of transportation and housing in infrastructure planning and implementation. Eligible local government entities should apply if they:

- Will be receiving transportation funding, either directly or through a state pass-through, with priority given to those receiving competitive funds
- Want to address housing needs in disadvantaged communities in accordance with their housing and/or equity goals
- Want to work on at least one of the four TCTA topic areas
- Are committed to community engagement to ensure residents and businesses in disadvantaged communities benefit from the transportation investment

Priority for the 30-40 jurisdictions selected will be given to those with populations of less than 250,000 people. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

The National Collaboratory to Address Elder Mistreatment Mentorship Program

The National Collaboratory to Address Elder Mistreatment (NCAEM), led by the Education Development Center (EDC), has announced a [request for applications](#) for the second cohort its Mentorship Program. The one-year program is intended for support clinicians, service providers, researchers, policymakers and advocates from multiple disciplines who wish to focus on improving care for older adults experiencing or at risk of experiencing elder mistreatment and abuse. Mentees will be paired with an expert mentor with shared interests and experiences to work together to design and complete a project of their choosing, where they will present it at a special two-day convening in Washington, D.C., in June 2024. Email questions about the NCAEM Mentorship Program to NCAEM@edc.org. The deadline for [application submission](#) is **May 5, 2023**.

Resources:

Housing

Missing Middle Housing – A Needed Housing Option for People of All Ages
The United States is in dire need of more midsized and moderately priced homes. There is a mismatch between available housing stock and what the market wants and needs. These midsized, often moderately priced homes provides the size and affordability options that people of all ages— including older adults – need. Middle housing is defined as a “set of residential building types that exist in the middle of the continuum between detached single-family houses and large apartment buildings.” [Discovering and Developing Missing Middle Housing](#) provides local leaders, building and planning professionals, and involved community members with information about what Missing Middle Housing is, where it exists, and why it’s time for the housing industry to invest in midsize, affordable housing.

Motel-Based Housing Solution for Older Adults

Kitty Russell, a 69 year old Virginia resident, has a novel solution for increasing the availability of affordable housing for older adults. She suggests using a motel-based housing model where several traditional low-rise motel in rows would form a grid, with each unit facing a greenway or out toward the city. According to Russell, "such a development could provide quality-of-life aspects that are missing from current retirement living models and still be space-efficient for a city environment." This "[urban retirement motel community](#)" would include a central corridor of taller buildings for administrative and healthcare services, intergenerational activities and potential housing for other workers or care partners.

Nutrition

Nutrition Education Material for Older Adults

The Government Printing Office offers [printed material related to nutrition education for older adults](#). These resources include a leader and activity kit for Eat Smart, Live Strong: Nutrition Education for Older Adults, posters (MyPlate Poster, MyPlate, MyWins Mini Poster, What's on your plate? Mini Poster, and Make Half Your Plate Fruits and Vegetables) and various Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion tip sheets. Most of the material is available in English and Spanish. This service will expire in July 2023. For questions on these materials contact snap-edconnection@usda.gov.

Considerations for Title III-C Senior Nutrition Programs after the Public Health Emergency Expires

The Administration for Community Living’s Nutrition and Aging Resource Center developed a new resource to support Title III-C meal programs navigating the expiration of the Public Health Emergency (PHE). [This factsheet](#) covers what nutrition programs should expect, other factors state units on aging need to consider, and recommendations on how to meet requirements as flexibilities related to the PHE ending.

Additional Resources

Racial and Ethnic Differences in Memory Loss

The Division of Population Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced a new study – [Racial/ethnic differences in subjective cognitive decline: United States, 2015-2020](#) – that highlights the racial and ethnic differences in self-reported memory loss. This is the first national study to examine racial/ethnic differences in subjective cognitive decline in adults 45 years and older. Some of the results from the study include: 1) some racial and ethnic groups in the U.S. are more likely to experience increased memory loss than others, with nearly 17% of American Indian and Alaska Native adults reporting worsening memory loss, compared to just 5% among Asian and Pacific Island adults; and 2) those with lower educational levels are more likely to experience increased memory loss, regardless of race or ethnicity.

Multisector Plans for Aging – Important Roles and Opportunities for Funders

Grantmakers in Aging released [Multisector Plans for Aging – Important Roles and Opportunities for Funders](#). Multisector Plans for Aging (MPA) provide roadmaps for engaging stakeholders across sectors to improve the experience of aging and are a promising strategy for funders who share the vision of a just and inclusive world where all people are fully valued, recognized, and engaged at all ages. This new resource examines the fundamentals of the MPA movement and discusses how funders can and should get involved.

Toolkit: Understanding Disabilities in Native Communities

The National Indian Council on Aging, Inc. released a toolkit dedicated to increasing awareness and knowledge of the needs of American Indian and Alaska Native persons living with disabilities. The [toolkit, “Understanding Disabilities in American Indian & Alaska Native Communities”](#), contains information about disabilities, tribes, and resources to address the barriers tribal communities face in serving AI/AN persons living with disabilities and to improve services, provide protections, and utilize resources in local tribal communities. The most unique feature of this toolkit are the

featured stories of people living with a disability, reflecting on their experiences in the Native disability community.

Equitable Practices for Data

[A new set of data principles has been released by the CDC Foundation](#) to create more equitable practices of collecting and analyzing data. Data is key to understanding how to better address health inequities. These principles are based on recommendations from the National Commission to Transform Public Health Data Systems and are designed to help end-users build data systems that more robustly focus on equity, prioritize deeper community engagement and connect the social and economic factors that impact health.

Comparing Health Care Coverage in Rural and Urban Areas

[A new AARP report](#) examines the impact of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) on health care coverage, affordability, and access in both rural and urban areas among adults ages 50 to 64. The report notes that there have been gains in coverage after ACA implementation. Older adults living in rural areas, however, are more likely than their urban counterparts to be uninsured, and to delay or cancel care due to cost. Some of the reasons noted for this disparity are that rural older adults have lower average incomes, and are less likely to be offered health insurance through their employers. These factors lead to higher rates of chronic disease and mortality. Some of the recommended policy solutions in the report include expanding Medicaid and increasing outreach and enrollment efforts for Medicaid and state health insurance marketplaces.

Created with support from The
John A. Hartford Foundation



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