

Age-Friendly Public Health Systems

Housing and Older Adults

Social Determinants of Health include the conditions in which people live and age. Housing security includes having physical, social, and economic access to sufficient and safe housing that meets people's needs for a healthy life at all ages.



'Housing for all ages and stages' is important – people want to live where they choose and deserve to age in communities that are age-, disability-, and dementia-friendly and climate- and disaster-ready. Equitable, age-friendly housing means availability of accessible and affordable housing in suburban, rural, and urban communities. It also means housing for older adults and people with disabilities is not only available but considers the needs of caregivers and accommodations for receiving care in the home.

There are profound ethnic and racial minority group housing disparities. Preventing and ending homelessness through housing assistance that supports access to appropriate housing, preventing and ending housing discrimination through fair housing education and enforcement, building and rebuilding communities through community investment, adding rental housing supply to improve affordability and housing quality, and learning and sharing knowledge to achieve these goals through high quality research and timely, accurate data are all important to reducing housing inequity.

Trust for America's Health's 6Cs Framework for Creating Age-Friendly Public Health Systems (AFPHS) organizes public health roles in aging. Public health can enhance older adult age-friendly housing options by:

- ✓ Creating and leading changes in age-friendly housing access and affordability, including finding viable policy solutions for reducing race and income disparities in meeting housing needs
- ✓ Connecting home healthcare and HUD programs to coordinate intersectional age-friendly health and housing efforts for older adults
- ✓ Collecting data on older adults, fair housing, and housing assistance that supports access to decent age-friendly housing
- ✓ Coordinating existing housing programs to improve screening, access and delivery to older adults
- ✓ Communicating about housing programs and home health services
- ✓ Complementing existing HUD programs and initiatives



Resources:

[Aligning Public Health Interventions with Older Adult Housing Needs and Challenges](#)

[California Department of Aging – Master Plan for Aging: Five Bold Goals for 2030.](#)

[Aligning Public Health Interventions with Older Adult Housing Needs & Challenges](#)

[Ensuring Health Equity During and Beyond COVID-19: Addressing Housing and Homelessness](#)