

October 16, 2023

AFPHS News



News:

AFPHS Booth at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo!

If you are attending the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo in Atlanta, GA next month, stop by our booth (#214) in the exhibit hall.

New Publication!

TFAH's President and CEO Dr. J. Nadine Gracia and Senior Policy Development Manager Megan Wolfe co-wrote a [new publication](#) for a special issue of the *Geriatrics* journal. This article highlights the value of Age-Friendly Public Health Systems in the Age-Friendly Ecosystem.

Upcoming Webinar – Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care –

Thursday, October 26, from 2-3:30 pm ET. The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) and Trust for America's Health (TFAH) are pleased to invite you to a webinar on the [Three Keys to Cross-Sector Age-Friendly Care](#). This effort was the result of a collaboration between IHI, TFAH, and the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, with funding from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund. The Three Keys resource is designed to foster collaboration across the older adult care continuum, promoting system changes that will lead to an optimal care journey for older adults and their caregivers. It includes concrete guidance for health systems and public health agencies, as well as community organizations to identify and prioritize activities in healthy aging. Attendees will learn about the development of related resources and the value of implementing the change ideas designed specifically for each sector. The webinar will also provide an opportunity to share feedback on the Three Keys resources. [Register here.](#)

Events and Opportunities:

Age-Friendly Public Health Systems (AFPHS) Monthly Trainings

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

The October AFPHS training will feature the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and highlight the different roles for healthcare providers and state, local and tribal communities in implementing and delivering older adult fall prevention programs, how to communicate about fall prevention with older adults and caregivers, and fall prevention resources for all of these different

audiences. It will also include two examples of coordinating care among health partners to keep older adults injury-free.

This session will be held on **October 19 at 3 pm ET**. Register [here](#). You can also view a recording of our **September training** – Coordinating Existing Supports and Services – and read our September blog post **[What's Public Health Got to Do with...Rural Healthy Aging?](#)**

Build your expertise and healthy aging knowledge! Individuals who attend 6 or more AFPHS monthly trainings will be designated as AFPHS Champions. More than 80 people across the country have been recognized as Champions to date. Visit the **[AFPHS Recognition Program page](#)** for more information.

Loneliness: The Hidden Public Health Crisis – *Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET*. Join Co-Moderators Lucy Rose, founder of The Cost of Loneliness Project, and Jeremy Abbate, publisher of Scientific American, in a virtual fireside chat with Julianne Holt-Lunstad, PhD, Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience at Brigham Young University. This free virtual session will cover topics such as 1) what is loneliness and why is it so relevant to health; 2) what is the data on its impact and where is the research heading; 3) what therapeutic modalities for loneliness are being advanced; and 4) how do we build “anti-loneliness” into any plans for future societal development? This free virtual webinar is hosted by Kitalys Institute. Register [here](#).

UsAgainstAlzheimer's Summit – *Tuesday & Wednesday, October 17 – 18, 2023* The National Alzheimer's Summit will highlight groundbreaking research on Alzheimer's prevention, advancements in early detection and diagnosis, and breakthrough disease-modifying treatments that help doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals to support their patients and families. This Summit will bring together international leaders to discuss how to best incorporate these monumental developments into everyday practice to benefit individuals living with Alzheimer's. Register [here](#).

Community Solutions to Climate Change Challenges – *Thursday, October 19th 3:00-4:00 pm ET*. Join the Vaccine Equity Cooperative and national climate equity leaders for this interactive conversation, during which attendees will receive an overview of the connection between climate change and health equity; hear bright spot examples from the CBOs creating local climate equity solutions; and learn about the tools used nationally and locally to address health inequities caused by climate change. Questions can be submitted in advance using the box on the registration form. Register [here](#).

Prioritizing Housing and Health to Prevent and Address Homelessness – *Thursday, October 19, 2023, 1:00 – 3:00 pm ET*. The Bipartisan Policy Center, Mayors and CEOs for U.S. Housing Investment, and Kaiser Permanente are hosting a series of panel discussions focused on efforts to prevent and address homelessness. At this hybrid event, elected city officials and diverse business and community leaders will showcase innovative approaches for preventing homelessness and supporting affordable housing. Leaders will share valuable insights on how to scale up promising interventions, emphasize the impacts on housing and health, and discuss how federal and local governments can invest in prevention and stabilization strategies. Register [here](#).

Successful Public Health Approaches in Dementia Caregiving: A Virtual Roundtable Series – *Tuesday, November 7, 2023, 12:00 pm ET*. In each episode of this virtual roundtable series, the story of one state that has successfully implemented a state-wide, innovative, and integrative approach to advancing its dementia caregiving goals will be featured. Attendees can learn about other states' efforts in dementia caregiving and get ideas for action in their states and communities. This series offers a great opportunity for knowledge exchange, peer-learning and idea generation. In this episode, we will present the story of Washington state. Register [here](#).

Resources:

[Healthy People 2030](#)

Healthy People 2030 Healthy People in States and Territories Page
The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion has launched [anew page](#) – Healthy People in States and Territories. The page provides an overview of the Healthy People State and Territorial Coordinators, a list of available health improvement plans, and links to relevant leading health indicators.

New Health Equity Video

A new video – **[“5 Things to Know About Health Equity”](#)** – emphasizes the importance of health equity in improving national health goals. Developed by the Office of

Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, this video emphasizes that “achieving health equity requires valuing everyone equally with focused and ongoing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities, historical and contemporary injustices, and social determinants of health — and to eliminate disparities in health and health care.” This short video also includes strategies for how organizations can use Healthy People 2030 to improve health equity.

Data

2022 BRFSS Data Available

2022 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) dataset and prevalence tables are now available. The BRFSS online prevalence tool supports state- and topic-specific data analysis, state-to-state, and state-to-national comparisons. This dataset can also be used to view survey results from more than 445,000 participants across all 50 states, DC, and participating US territories. One of the new elements in this version of the dataset is the BRFSS Social Determinants & Health Equity and Reactions to Race optional modules.

Importance of Increasing Health Data Availability in U.S. Territories

U.S. territories tend to receive diminished visibility in health data relative to states. This results in a limited ability of federal and territorial governments to respond to health emergencies. **A recent article in the Journal of the American Medical Association co-authored by the Association for State and Territorial Health Officials staff provides recommendations and strategies to strengthen territorial visibility.** The three recommendations are: 1) encouraging elected representatives to advocate for the examination of federal laws and policies that contribute to territorial health-related data gaps 2) increasing workforce capacity by growing the number of US National Health Service Corps and/or Commissioned Corps members in the territories; and 3) including territories in funding efforts similar to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Strengthening US Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data systems grants.

Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Choices and Scorecard Tools Site

The **newly released 2023 edition of AARP’s LTSS State Scorecard** shows that only five states rank as top performers as most states are falling short, especially around support for family caregivers, the long-term care workforce and equitable long-term supports and services for all. This score card is a compilation of data and analysis that provides a comprehensive picture of how states, through their LTSS systems, are supporting older adults, people with physical disabilities and family caregivers. It features interactive maps and visuals for users to see and compare state data, performance, and rankings and download state fact sheets. This tool is now housed at the new LTSS Choices and Scorecard Tools and Resources website.

Rural Health

Patching Together Health Care Options in a Rural Community

In the small town of LaFayette, Alabama, the only two primary care doctors are planning to retire but worry about leaving their community. **The local hospital closed in 1988 and the nearest emergency room in another town**, 20 minutes away. The residents are turning to the city fire department to fill the void. People regularly walk or drive to the fire station that is staffed with full-time firefighters and emergency medics. They have essentially developed a “de facto walk-in clinic”. This option is not available in many rural communities because emergency medical services are often run by volunteers. The town also has a new telehealth service. This OnMed Care Station is a large booth stocked with a video screen and high-tech health monitoring equipment.

Kansas Health Institute Launches Podcast Focused on Rural Kansas

Health on the Plains, a new podcast launched by the Kansas Health Institute, is focused on rural health challenges and opportunities in Kansas. The first episode highlighted the health on the plains through a conversation with a fifth-generation rancher; and the second episode featured Lisse Regehr, President and CEO of Thrive Allen County a rural health advocacy organization that is working to make Allen County the healthiest rural community in the state.

Additional Resources

New Falls Prevention Guide

The Association for State and Territorial Health Officials has recently developed **a new Falls Prevention Guide in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to support and expand initiatives to address older adult falls.** The guide provides resources regarding surveillance, strategic planning and evaluation, and collaboration. With this guide, state health departments will learn strategies to improve current falls prevention activities, understand approaches from different states,

develop community-clinical linkages, and learn how to leverage resources to maximize their impact.

New White Paper on Stronger Caregiver Supports

A new white paper from the Rosalynn Carter Institute (RCI) for Caregivers and ATI Advisory – [Guiding the GUIDE Model Toward Stronger Caregiver Supports](#) – provides an analysis and recommendations to strengthen caregiver supports included in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation [Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience \(GUIDE\) Model](#). The recommendations included in this analysis are designed to strengthen specific supports for caregivers of people living with dementia. The RCI's primary recommendation is that the GUIDE Model include a rigorous assessment and indicate referrals to protect caregiver health.

Indian Health Service Announces Eight New Alzheimer's Recipients

Announced on World Alzheimer's Day, the [eight awardees of the Indian Health Service Alzheimer's Grant Program](#) are: Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System (Oklahoma), Cherokee Nation Health Services (Oklahoma), The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes (Oklahoma), The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon (Oregon), The Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe (Nevada), The Kenaitze Indian Tribe (Alaska), The Norton Sound Health Center (Alaska), and The Seattle Indian Health Board (Washington). These awards reaffirm the commitment of the Indian Health Service to building the capacity to address Alzheimer's disease and other related dementias.

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