



Tuesday, May 1, 2012

**Older Americans Month Begins on Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**2012 Older Americans Month: *Never Too Old to Play.***  
**For more information and downloadable materials, go to**  
[www.olderamericansmonth.org](http://www.olderamericansmonth.org)

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## **Older Americans Month 2012**

*Message from Administration for Community Living Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee*

It is an honor to join President Obama in proclaiming May 2012 as Older Americans Month. This recognition, which has been celebrated nationally since 1963, gives us an opportunity to honor and acknowledge older Americans for the contributions they make to our Nation. This year's theme for Older Americans Month, "Never Too Old to Play," recognizes that older Americans are active and engaged in their communities, giving younger generations the benefit of their wisdom and experience. I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of the Administration on Aging's national aging services network which is working tirelessly to provide services and supports to older adults that enable them to remain healthy and independent.

During Older Americans Month we should all find ways to enrich the lives of the older adults who touch our lives and make a difference in our county.

To read the President's proclamation, visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/05/01/presidential-proclamation-older-americans-month-2012>

## **White House LGBT Conference on Aging**

Join Administration for Community Living Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee and other senior Obama Administration officials for a day-long discussion on key issues that impact LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) older adults.

The conference will provide advocates, community leaders and members of the public an opportunity to engage with the Obama Administration on the health, housing, and security needs of aging members of the LGBT community.

Participants will receive updates from senior officials from The White House and key agencies and departments, connect with Federal government resources and opportunities through workshop sessions, and provide valuable feedback through the "Open Space" process.

The conference is hosted by The White House Office of Public Engagement in partnership with the University of Miami Center on Aging.

Date: Monday, May 7, 2012

Time: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Site: University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Clinical Research Building  
Executive Center 6th Floor, 1120 NW 14th Street, Miami, FL

It's not too late to register; go to <http://go.usa.gov/mGN>

Questions/Concerns can be directed to [LGBT@who.eop.gov](mailto:LGBT@who.eop.gov)

### **HHS Announces New Affordable Care Act Options for Community-Based Care**

*Medicaid and Medicare introduce greater flexibility for beneficiaries to receive care at home or in settings of their choice*

New opportunities in Medicaid and Medicare that will allow people to more easily receive care and services in their communities rather than being admitted to a hospital or nursing home were recently announced by Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

Both endeavors are made possible by the Affordable Care Act, and are one part of the Obama administration's efforts to help people with disabilities and those living with chronic illness stay in their own homes when they wish to do so. These new efforts follow the recent creation of the Administration for Community Living (ACL). This new entity, brings together the Administration on Aging, the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (formerly a part of the HHS Administration for Children and Families) and the HHS Office on Disability—previously individual offices with a similar and connected mission—to improve the lives of Americans with functional needs. ACL will work on increasing access to community supports and achieving full community participation for seniors and people with disabilities.

For more information on the Administration for Community Living, go to <http://www.hhs.gov/acl/>

#### *Community First Choice Option*

The Community First Choice Option provides states choosing to participate in this option a six percentage point increase in federal Medicaid matching funds for providing community-based attendant services and supports to beneficiaries who would otherwise be confined to a nursing home or other institution.

For more information on the Community First Choice Option, go to [http://www.cms.gov/apps/media/fact\\_sheets.asp](http://www.cms.gov/apps/media/fact_sheets.asp)

## *At Home Demonstration Program*

The Independence at Home demonstration, which is voluntary for Medicare beneficiaries, provides chronically ill Medicare beneficiaries with a complete range of in-home primary care services. Under the At Home Demonstration Program, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will partner with primary care practices led by physicians or nurse practitioners to evaluate the extent to which delivering primary care services in a home setting is effective in improving care for Medicare beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions and reducing costs. Up to 10,000 Medicare patients with chronic conditions will be able to get most of the care they need at home.

The first 16 organizations that will participate in this new demonstration are scheduled to begin on June 1, 2012, and conclude May 31, 2015.

For more information on the Independence at Home demonstration and the organizations selected to participate visit, go to

<http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/independence-at-home>

## **Funding Opportunity**

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### **Initiative to Reduce Avoidable Hospitalizations among Nursing Facility Residents**

The deadline to submit a Notice of Intent to Apply (NOIA) for this funding opportunity has been extended to May 7, 2012 by 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

This recently announced effort aims to improve the quality of care for people residing in nursing facilities. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will support organizations that will partner with nursing facilities to implement evidence-based interventions that both improve care and lower costs. The initiative is focused on long-stay nursing facility residents who are enrolled in the Medicare and Medicaid programs, with the goal of reducing avoidable inpatient hospitalizations. This initiative supports the [Partnership for Patients](#)' goal of reducing hospital readmission rates by 20% by the end of 2013.

To submit your NOIA, go to <https://cmsgov.wufoo.com/forms/q7p5x7/>

To access additional information, including the RFP, the Initiative Fact Sheet and a list of Frequently Asked Questions, go to <http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/rahnfr/>

## **Stay Informed**

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## **Webinar on National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging's *Perspectives Challenge***

The National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging will host an optional, informational webinar on Thursday, May 3, for those interested in participating in its *Perspectives Challenge*.

The *Perspectives Challenge* is an opportunity to share your future-focused ideas and approaches for meeting the nutrition needs of our nation's aging population. Selected participants will be invited to present their Perspective – either in person (certain travel expenses provided) or virtually – at *Perspectives on Nutrition and Aging: A National Summit*, on August 23, 2012, near Washington, DC. We invite you to think BIG and differently, and to share your Perspective. Visit the [Perspectives Challenge website](#) to learn more.

The *Perspectives Challenge* is open to the public, and anyone is welcome to register for this half-hour webinar. The webinar will provide background information about the Challenge and answer audience questions about the guidelines and submission process.

Webinar: The National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging's *Perspectives Challenge*

Date: Thursday, May 3, 2012

Time: 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern / 2:30 p.m. Central / 12:30 p.m. Pacific

[Click here to register for this webinar](#)

## **Reinventing Low Wage Work**

*An Aspen Institute discussion on work in the direct care industry*

In the next few decades, the US population will grow older as millions of baby boomers retire and advances in health care allow us to live longer. This shift in our age demographics will place bigger demands on our healthcare system, and the direct-care workforce, which includes home health aides, nursing assistants, and personal care assistants. Yet, these jobs pay very little, offer few benefits and turnover in these occupations is high. This has ramifications for not only the people working these low-wage jobs and the businesses employing them, but also for the quality of care we receive.

In this discussion, experts in a range of disciplines will engage in conversation about the challenges this workforce faces, the implications these issues have for our economy and healthcare system, and solutions we can consider to

improve these jobs while also improving the quality of healthcare so much of our elderly and disabled population relies on.

Date: Thursday, May 3, 2012

Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Site: The Aspen Institute, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 700,  
Washington, DC 20036

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Presenters:

[Laine Romero-Alston](#), Program Officer, Promoting the Next Generation Workforce Strategies, The Ford Foundation

[Marki Flannery](#), President, Partners in Care

[Rachel Garbow Monroe](#), President, The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation

[Steven Dawson](#), President, PHI (Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute)

Moderator:

[E.J. Dionne, Jr.](#), Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution and Columnist for the Washington Post

For further information contact: Matt Helmer, 202-341-4992; e-mail:

[matt.helmer@aspeninstitute.org](mailto:matt.helmer@aspeninstitute.org)

**New Webinar Series to Address Coordination of Resources Available to Assist Persons with Alzheimer's Disease or Other Dementias and Their Family Caregivers**

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the Administration on Aging (AoA), in partnership with grantees including the Alzheimer's Association, Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers, Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center, and the Eldercare Locator are partnering to host a webinar series to improve coordination of resources available to assist persons with Alzheimer's Disease or other dementias and their family caregivers! All are invited – especially new staff / interns / volunteers, or those just interested in getting a refresher.

The information discussed in these webinars is especially timely. The National Alzheimer's Plan includes action steps for AoA and NIA to share this information. Additionally many States, Area Agencies and local service providers are also working to create and enhance dementia-capable systems of care and support.

NIA & AoA invite you to take advantage of these opportunities. You can register for all three webinars or just the one or two that most interest you.

Once your registration is approved, you will receive a confirmation email message with instructions on how to join the event.

Space is limited, so please register as early as possible. Each webinar will also be recorded and posted on the AoA web site soon after the session.

The schedule is as follows:

Session One:

*Alzheimer's Disease & Other Dementias: Basic/Refresher Information & Current Updates for the Aging Network on Symptoms, Diagnoses and Treatments*

Date: Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. PT/11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. MT  
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. CT/1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET

Agenda:

What is dementia

Types of dementia

Risk factors

Diagnosing dementia

Drug & non-drug treatments for dementia, drug discovery research

Federally-funded sources for more information

Presenters:

Greg Case, Director of the Office of Home & Community-Based Services, AoA

Vicky Cahan, Director, Office of Communications and Public Liaison, NIA

TBD, Alzheimer's Disease Research Center

Laurie Ryan, PhD, Program Director, Alzheimer's Clinical Trials, NIA

Moderator:

Amy Wiatr-Rodriguez, Chicago Regional Support Center, AoA

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To register for the online event  
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1. Go to <https://aoa-events.webex.com/mw03061/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=aoa-events&rnd=0.9625830364440189>
2. Click "Register".
3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

Session Two:

*On-line Tools & Resources to Assist Individuals with Dementia and Caregivers:  
National Alzheimer's Contact Center, Eldercare Locator and ADEAR (Alzheimer's  
Disease Education and Referral Center)*

Date: Wednesday, June 13, 2012

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. PT/11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. MT  
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. CT/1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET

Agenda:

Info on & Tour of National Alzheimer's Contact Center website & tools

Info on & Tour of Eldercare Locator website & tools

Info on & Tour of ADEAR website & tools

Presenters:

Vicky Cahan, Director, Office of Communications and Public Liaison, NIA

Michelle Washko, PhD, Office of Policy Analysis & Development, AoA

David Parris, Senior Associate Director, National Alzheimer's Contact Center,  
Alzheimer's Association

Mary Osborne, Program Manager, Eldercare Locator, n4a

David Burton, Project Director, Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral  
(ADEAR) Center, NIA

Jennifer Watson, Project Officer, ADEAR Center, NIA

Moderator:

Amy Wiatr-Rodriguez, Chicago Regional Support Center, AoA

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To register for the online event  
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1. Go to <https://aoa-events.webex.com/aoa-events/onstage/g.php?d=669631314&t=a>

2. Click "Register".

3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

Session Three:

*Connecting the Aging Network, Individuals with Dementia, and Caregivers with  
Research Opportunities*

Date: Thursday, July 12, 2012

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. PT/11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. MT  
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. CT/1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET

Agenda:

Overview of Alzheimer's Disease Centers (ADCs):

What are ADCs and how can they benefit persons who suspect or have dementia? Where are ADCs located? What are other research centers/sites, such as Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study?

Participating in clinical trials and other research: What are clinical trials (both drug & non-drug trials)? How can a person participate?

How can the Aging Network offer opportunities for healthy volunteers, individuals with dementia and caregivers of people with dementia to be involved with research opportunities?

How can you find research opportunities?

NIH resources: ClinicalTrials.gov, ADEAR clinical trials database, ResearchMatch, Clinical Research and You site  
TrialMatch.org and other & tools

Presenters:

Michelle Washko, PhD, Office of Policy Analysis & Development, AoA

Nina Silverberg, PhD, Program Officer, Alzheimer's Disease Centers, NIA

Diana R. Kerwin, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine-Geriatrics, Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer's Disease Center, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Jennifer Watson, Project Officer, ADEAR Center, NIA

Martha Tierney, Team Lead, National Alzheimer's Contact Center, Alzheimer's Association

Moderator:

Amy Wiatr-Rodriguez, Chicago Regional Support Center, AoA

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To register for the online event

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1. Go to Event address for attendees: <https://aoa-events.webex.com/aoa-events/onstage/g.php?d=665747298&t=a>
  2. Click "Register".
  3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

### **Webinar on Navigating the Senior Care Maze**

*The fourth session of the joint American Society on Aging and Home Instead Senior Care year long webinar series on caregiving*

Family caregivers often face confusion when dealing with the many doctors, medications, appointments and other vital information necessary to help their senior loved ones. This webinar will outline issues such as critical medical information to know, document gathering and doctor and medication management so that caregivers can better manage their seniors' care, as well as be prepared for potential emergencies.

Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Time: 10:00 a.m. PT / 11:00 a.m. MT  
12:00 p.m. CT / 1:00 p.m. ET

[Register Now!](#)

Participants in this web seminar will:

Learn about the gaps in knowledge that many families have regarding their senior loved one's health

Identify critical information and documents that family caregivers need to know about

Discover ways to help manage your senior loved one's doctors and medications

Get tips and resources to become better organized and prepared now, and in the event of an emergency

Presenters:

Dr. Amy D'Aprix, Executive Director of the DAI Foundation, a nonprofit organization established to meet the needs of caregivers and President of Dr. Amy Inc., a company dedicated to Family Caregiver Wellness

Mary Alexander, Director of Strategic Alliances, Home Instead Senior Care Corporation

## **Tools & Information**

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### **National Women's Health Week, May 13 to 19**

Spring is upon us and so is National Women's Health Week. This annual, week-long health observance is coordinated by the US Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health (OWH). The theme for 2012 is *"It's Your Time."*

During this special week, communities, businesses, government, health organizations, and other groups unite in efforts to promote women's health. This year's theme is to heighten awareness of National Women's Health Week's goal of empowering women to make their health a top priority across the life span. It encourages women to take steps to improve their physical and mental health and lower their risks of certain diseases by visiting a health care professional to receive regular checkups and preventive screening, staying active, eating healthy and avoiding unhealthy behaviors such as smoking and not wearing a seatbelt and, for caregivers especially, paying attention to their mental health.

Join OWH in reinforcing this encouragement by promoting National Women's Health Week with events in your community. To learn more about this observance, go to the National Women's Health Week web page at <http://www.womenshealth.gov/whw/>

### **New Web Videonovela Series for Spanish-Speaking Diabetes Patients**

A new Spanish-language videonovela, *Aprende a vivir (Learn to Live)*, features messages to help diabetes patients compare their treatment options to find a regimen that works best for them. The three-part videonovela series is being distributed via the Internet by the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

*Aprende a vivir* tells the story of Don Felipe, who has type 2 diabetes and is head of the Jiménez family, and how he is having a problem learning to manage his disease.

The first episode is now available on AHRQ's *Healthcare 411* Web site, <http://healthcare411.ahrq.gov/aprendeavivir.aspx>; the upcoming two episodes will be posted on the site over the next two weeks.

### **Recent Reports**

*2012 Financial Health of the Social Security Trust Funds*

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/TR/2012/>

Date: April 23, 2012

Source: Social Security Board of Trustees

*2012 Medicare Trustees Report*

<https://www.cms.gov/ReportsTrustFunds/downloads/tr2012.pdf>

Date: April 23, 2012

Source: Medicare and Medicaid Board of Trustees

*Mental Health, United States, 2010*

<http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k12/MHUS2010/index.aspx>

Date: April 25, 2012

Source: Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

*Pensionomics 2012: Measuring the Economic Impact of DB Pension Expenditures*

<http://www.nirsonline.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=684>

Date: April 2012

Source: National Institute on Retirement Security

### **Observances**

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## **May Observances**

### *Arthritis Awareness Month*

Sponsor: Arthritis Foundation

To learn about observance events and programs in your community, go to <http://www.arthritis.org/arthritis-awareness-month.php>

### *Mental Health Awareness Month*

Sponsor: Mental Health America

To learn more or to download a toolkit, go to <http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/go/may>

### *National Physical Fitness and Sports Month*

Sponsor: President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports

To learn more or to download materials, go to <http://www.fitness.gov/>

### May 19: *National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day*

Sponsor: The Banyan Tree Project

To learn more or to download materials, go to <http://www.banyantreeproject.org/>

### May 25: *Heat Safety Awareness Day*

Sponsor: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service

To learn more, go to <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/heat/index.shtml>

### May 27 - June 2: *National Hurricane Preparedness Week*

Sponsor: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service

To learn more, go to <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

### May 30: National Senior Health & Fitness Day®

Sponsor: Mature Market Resource Center

Theme: "Get Moving...Start Improving!"

To get event and registration materials, go to <http://www.fitnessday.com/>

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