



News and Info

Monday, February 27, 2012

2012 Older Americans Month: *Never Too Old to Play.*
For more information and downloadable materials, go to

http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/Press_Room/Observances/2012/Older_Americans.aspx

In This Issue:

[Now Available: *Profile of Older Americans: 2011*](#)

[HHS Seeks Comment on Draft National Plan to Fight Alzheimer's Disease](#)

[Funding Opportunity Reminders](#)

[Webinar on Arts and Human Development](#)

[Health Care Conference Call – Not Too Late to Register](#)

[Webinars This Week](#)

[HHS Implements Three New Provisions of the Affordable Care Act](#)

[Health Reform Expands the Insurance Market, Supports Consumer-Governed Nonprofit Health Plans](#)

[HHS Selects Challenge Winners for Facebook App](#)

[Update from the HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement: Telephone Scam Targeting Refugees](#)

[New AARP Policy Paper Calls for a Reexamination of Policies to Strengthen Caregiving Families](#)

[Aging Innovations and Achievement Awards](#)

[Volunteer and Save Up to 50% on Your Aging in America Conference Registration](#)

[March Observances](#)

[Share this on Facebook](#)

[Tweet this to a friend](#)

[Email this to a friend](#)

Now Available: *Profile of Older Americans: 2011*

This annual summary of the latest statistics on the older population covers 15 topical areas including population, income and poverty, living arrangements, education, and health.

The Profile has proven to be a very useful statistical summary in a user friendly format. It is a web based publication and is posted on the following Administration on Aging (AoA) web page:

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Aging_Statistics/Profile/index.aspx

HHS Seeks Comment on Draft National Plan to Fight Alzheimer's Disease

Public input sought on detailed strategies for research, outreach, and caregiver support

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently released a draft National Plan to overcome Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. The draft National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease offers specific action steps to accelerate research on treatment and prevention, as well as proposals for improving care, services and support for patients, families and caregivers.

HHS is seeking comments on the draft National Plan to fully engage the Alzheimer's disease community, the public, states, local governments, community based service organizations, the private sector, and others in its development. Public comment will be accepted through March 30, 2012 and should be e-mailed to napa@hhs.gov.

To download a copy of the National Plan, go to <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/#DraftNatlPlan>

Funding Opportunity

Funding Opportunity Reminders

2012 Administration on Aging SMP Funding Opportunity

The Administration on Aging is announcing a funding opportunity to compete to continue Senior Medicare Patrol Program (SMP) projects for the next three years. The eligible states/territories are: Alabama, California; Connecticut, Guam, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virgin Islands, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

SMP projects recruit retired professionals as volunteer resources to Medicare beneficiaries, their families and caregivers about how to prevent, detect and report health care fraud, error and abuse in the Medicare program.

The application deadline is 11:59 pm March 19, 2012.

For more information on the Senior Medicare Patrol Program (SMP) and to review the program announcement, please go to:

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Grants/Funding/docs/2012/FY_2012_SMP_PA.pdf

Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative Grants

For the second round of the Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative (VTCLI) grant program, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is making \$25 million of Section 5309 Bus and Bus Facilities funds, as well as approximately \$5 million of Section 5312 Research Program funds available. FY 2012 VTCLI grants can consist of two separate awards.

Each applicant may request up to \$2 million in 5309 funds for One-Call/One-Click Transportation Resource Center capital costs and Up to \$50,000 in 5312 funds for support costs such as marketing, outreach and coordinated planning to demonstrate the successful implementation of a One-Call/One-Click Center. Requests for S5312 funding will not be considered without a S5309 capital project proposal.

The application deadline is 11:59pm April 19, 2012.

For more information on the Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative, including eligibility and evaluation criteria, a list of the previously selected projects and instructions on how to apply, go to please visit the VTCLI webpage: <http://www.fta.dot.gov/veterans>

In addition, the National Resource Center on Human Services Transportation Coordination (NRC) has created a [Veterans Transportation Bookshelf](#) with a wealth of resources including a “Military Community Transportation Needs Overview.”

HHS Health IT Challenge

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) new health IT challenge, *Discharge Follow-Up Appointment Care Transitions Challenge* challenging software developers to create an easy-to-use web-based tool that will make post-discharge follow-up appointment scheduling a more effective and shared process for care providers, patients and caregivers.

Total Prizes for this challenge is \$5,000 + extras.

The deadline is April 30, 20102.

To learn more about the *Discharge Follow-Up Appointment Care Transitions Challenge*, go to

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/01/20120126b.html>

Stay Informed

Webinar on Arts and Human Development

Date: Wednesday, February 29, 2012

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., EST

Host: National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) with the Federal Interagency Task Force on the Arts and Human Development

Topic: *The Gamelan Project and Collaboration between an Ethnomusicologist/Composer and Neuroscientists that Explores Cognitive Development*

The Task Force is a new alliance of 14 federal agencies and departments to encourage more and better research on how the arts help people reach their full potential at all stages of life. Task force members include representatives from agencies and offices within the Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Department of Education, and others.

This webinar is the first in a series of quarterly webinars that will share compelling research and practices along with information about funding opportunities for research in the arts and human development across federal agencies. Future webinars will take place May 30, August 1 and October 3, 2012.

Guests and Speakers:

Dr. Soo-Siang Lim, Director, Science of Learning Centers Program, National Science Foundation

Alexander Khalil, Ethnomusicologist, Performer and Composer

Dr. Andrea Chiba, Temporal Dynamics of Learning Center, University of California San Diego

Victor Minces, Temporal Dynamics of Learning Center, University of California San Diego

Moderator:

Sunil Iyengar, NEA Director of Research & Analysis, will the webinar

How to Join the Webinar:

The webinar is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

To join the webinar, go to <http://artsgov.adobeconnect.com/artsdev1/> and check the "Enter as Guest" radio button. Type in your name and click "Enter Room" to join.

You may listen using your computer's speakers or dial-in to 1-877-685-5350 and use participant code: 942738.

Attendees will be muted but able to type in questions and comments through a text Q&A box.

A video will be presented at the beginning of the webinar so we encourage you to log in to the webinar via computer to see and hear it.

An archive of the webinar will be available on March 2nd at <http://www.arts.gov/research/convenings/>.

Media may RSVP to Sally Gifford, NEA Public Affairs Specialist at 202-682-5606 or giffords@arts.gov

Health Care Conference Call – Not Too Late to Register

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Partnership Center is continues its series of interactive conference calls discussing the benefits and provisions of the health care reform law. All calls are open to the public and include a question and answer session where participants can ask HHS staff any questions they may have about the Affordable Care Act. Participants are encouraged to submit questions via email to ACA101@hhs.gov

To participate in the February conference call, click on the date below and enter your email address to be registered. Call-in information will be sent to registered callers 24 hours in advance of the calls.

[February 28, 2:00 pm EST](#) – *ACA 101 (in Spanish)*

Webinars This Week

ACA Webinar on Million Hearts

On Tuesday, February 28, the Administration on Aging (AoA) will continue its series of webinars focused on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (also known as the Affordable Care Act, or ACA) and its impact on the aging network, this month with a focus on health promotion and disease prevention.

Title: Million Hearts

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Eastern

Description:

Heart disease and stroke are two of the leading causes of death in the United States. The good news is that many of the major risk factors for these conditions can be prevented and controlled. This month we look at two programs focused on this important work. First, Million Hearts™ Campaign is a national initiative that was launched by the US Department of Health and Human Services in September 2011 to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes over five years. Next, we'll spotlight an AoA-funded chronic disease self-management program in Florida that is working with a hospital starting a chronic disease outpatient clinic that targets people with high levels of cardiovascular disease and frequent hospitalizations.

Speakers:

Jackie Leboeuf, Baptist Hospital, Miami, FL

Martha Pelaez, Health Foundation of South Florida, Miami, FL

Janet Wright, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Baltimore, MD

Moderator:

Marisa Scala-Foley, Administration on Aging

To register for the online event

1. Go to <https://aoa-events.webex.com/aoa-events/onstage/g.php?d=935271758&t=a>
2. Click "Register".
3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

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

Please note: Space is limited, so please register as early as possible. This webinar will also be recorded and posted on the AoA website (http://www.aoa.gov/Aging_Statistics/Health_care_reform.aspx) soon after the webinar.

Accessible Transportation Webinar

The webinar *Connecting Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and Mobility Managers to Enhance Accessible Transportation* will provide an overview of the Mobility Management Independent Living (MMIL) program, developed by Easter Seals Project ACTION (ESPA) in partnership with the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living and the National Council on Independent Living (CIL). Through the program, CIL professionals and mobility managers collaborate to strengthen relationships between their groups and raise awareness of the issues people with disabilities face as they seek the transportation they need.

Presenters will share information about strategies that help to establish and foster strong relationships between the partners. In addition, they will offer suggestions on ways organizations, mobility managers and transportation professionals can replicate the MMIL program.

Date: Wednesday, February 29
Time: 2:00 p.m. ET
Host: Easter Seals Project ACTION

To register, visit:

<http://www.easterseals.com/site/Calendar/320323035?view=Detail&id=37286>

Forum on Innovations in Care Coordination

Title: *Rethinking the Role of Home Care Workers*
Date: Thursday, March 1, 2012
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon ET
Site: Room 106, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

PHI (Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute) and SEIU (Service Employees International Union) invite you to join them for a discussion and exploration about innovative ways home care workers can help improve the delivery of long-term services and supports.

The forum will include perspectives from:

- Individuals and Families

- Home Care Workers
- Home Care Providers
- National Policy Makers
- Nationally Recognized Health Care Experts

Together, participants and panelists will explore the potential for home care workers to:

- Take on additional care responsibilities
- Contribute as a proactive member of the healthcare team
- Help achieve the goals of better care at lower costs.

To register, go to

<https://www.seeuthere.com/rsvp/invitation/registration.asp?id=/m9896a0-1JW9SBK9K8VFQ>

To learn more about PHI, go to <http://phinational.org/>

To learn more about SEIU, go to <http://www.seiu.org/>

Tools & Information

HHS Implements Three New Provisions of the Affordable Care Act

Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius recently announced more assistance to states as it implements three new provisions of the Affordable Care Act. The announcement gives states help by:

- Providing a new round of Affordable Insurance Exchange Establishment Grants, totaling \$229 million to 10 states, to help states build new health insurance marketplaces;
- Promoting transparency and meaningful public input into the Medicaid demonstration process, and streamlining the federal-state consideration process as states test new models of care;
- Giving states the option to receive a State Innovation Waiver so they may pursue their own innovative strategies to ensure their residents have access to high quality, affordable health insurance.

For more information on the Affordable Insurance Exchanges, go to

<http://www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/2011/05/exchanges05232011a.html>

For more information on promoting transparency, go to http://www.cms.gov/apps/media/fact_sheets.asp

For more information on the State Innovation Waivers, go to <http://www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/2012/02/state-innovation02222012a.html>

To read the entire press release regarding this announcement, go to <http://www.cms.gov/apps/media/press/release.asp?Counter=4283&intNumPerPage=10&checkDate=&checkKey=&srchType=1&numDays=3500&sr>

Health Reform Expands the Insurance Market, Supports Consumer-Governed Nonprofit Health Plans

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently announced that seven Consumer Operated and Oriented Plans (CO-OPs) will receive repayable loans to help them establish private non-profit, consumer-governed health insurance companies. Created by the Affordable Care Act, CO-OP plans will give consumers and small businesses more health insurance choices.

CO-OP loans support the creation of new innovative health insurers, which will promote competition and increase choice in the insurance market. As consumer-directed organizations, CO-OPs are designed to be accountable to members and responsive to the specific health care needs of plan members by using profits to lower premiums, improve quality, and expand benefits or enrollment.

For more information on this announcement, go to <http://www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/2012/02/coops02212012a.html>

HHS Selects Challenge Winners for Facebook App

New applications will support personal emergency preparedness

Three Facebook applications designed to help people prepare for emergencies and get support from friends and family in an emergency – from personal medical emergencies or car accidents to natural or man-made disasters – are winners of a Facebook application challenge sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR).

ASPR's Facebook Lifeline Application Challenge called on software application developers to design new Facebook applications that could enhance individual and community resilience by establishing social connections in advance of an emergency.

Two recent Brown University graduates, Evan Donahue and Erik Stayton, partnered as Team ALP to win first place with their application, named Lifeline.

The Las Vegas team JAMAJIC 360 with David Vinson, Erick Rodriguez, Gregg Orr, and Garth Winckler came in second with an app also named JAMAJIC 360. Third place was awarded to AreYouOk? developed by TrueTeamEffort, a team of 11 University of Illinois students led by Alex Kirlik.

To learn more about this challenge, go to <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/02/20120223b.html>

To learn more about application challenges sponsored by federal agencies, including challenges that support emergency preparedness, visit <http://www.challenge.gov>

Update from the HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement: Telephone Scam Targeting Refugees

In early January, the HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement circulated a message concerning a telephone scam targeting refugees. At that time, a man was calling Bhutanese refugees, identifying himself as a representative of the “Federal Grants Department” from a Washington, DC-based telephone number, 202-436-9601. The caller was informing recently resettled refugees that they were eligible to receive \$10,000 because they are refugees from Bhutan. To claim the money, they were instructed to produce a money order for \$650, and call the telephone number for further instructions on where to send the money.

The HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement has received updated reports that the scam is still on-going, but some of the details have since changed: the man now identifies himself as “Nathan Price with the IRS” calling from a different DC-based telephone number, 202-657-4189, who instructs the refugees to have money wired to various people in India.

The most recent target of this scam lost over \$6,000. The HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement advises everyone to be aware of this scam, and avoid giving any personal information or making payments to unknown callers.

Please note that the federal government *does not* demand processing fees, security deposits or overseas wire transfers from grant recipients or refugees.

If you are the target of a suspicious request, please contact your local police or resettlement agency for further assistance.

New AARP Policy Paper Calls for a Reexamination of Policies to Strengthen Caregiving Families

The AARP Public Policy Institute has released a new paper, [*A Call to Action: What Experts Say Needs to Be Done to Meet the Challenges of Family Caregiving*](#). The paper highlights policy recommendations from an AARP Solutions Forum and summarizes ten common themes from the work of ten authors examining family caregiving today. These authors collectively call for a reexamination of policies and strategies to strengthen caregiving families.

Aging Innovations and Achievement Awards

2012 Call for Nominations Now Open

This year n4a will honor and promote member initiatives in Care Transitions, Financial Assistance, Caregiving, Livable Communities, Technology, Volunteerism and more. n4a members can nominate one or more programs now through the March 14 deadline.

To learn more, go to the n4a website at <http://www.n4a.org/>

Volunteer and Save Up to 50% on Your Aging in America Conference Registration

Aging in America is the largest gathering of multidisciplinary professionals in the field of aging... and we couldn't do it without volunteers!

What you agree to:

- Volunteer to work one day as a guide, room monitor or assisting with conference registration or other logistics.

What you get in return:

- Registration rates that are up to HALF off the regular attendee rates
- The opportunity to attend the most diverse educational opportunity in the field of aging
- The chance to network with thousands of other dedicated professionals who share your interests and passions

To get more details, go to <http://www.asaging.org/blog/calling-all-volunteers-attend-aging-america-half-price>

Observances

March Observances

National Nutrition Month®
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
<http://www.eatright.org/nnm>

Save Your Vision Month
American Optometric Association
<http://www.aoa.org/>

Women's History Month
2012 Theme: Women's Education – Women's Empowerment
National Women's History Project
<http://www.nwhp.org//whm/index.php>

National Poison Prevention Week (March 18-24)
Poison Prevention.org
<http://www.poisonprevention.org/poison.htm>

National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (March 10)
HHS Office of Women's Health
<http://womenshealth.gov/nwghaad/events/>

National Native American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (March 20)
National Native American AIDS Prevention Center
<http://www.nnaapc.org/news/awareness-day.htm>

AoA News and Info is an electronic newsletter distributed by the AoA Office of Outreach and Consumer Information. Its contents are for informational purposes. For information on AoA, please visit our website at <http://www.aoa.gov>. You can also contact us at 202-619-0724 (phone); 202-357-3555 (fax) or by Email at aoainfo@aoa.gov.

Use of trade names and commercial sources is for identification only and does not imply endorsement by AoA. References to non-AoA sites on the Internet are provided as a service to AoA News and Info readers and do not constitute or imply endorsement of these organizations or their programs by AoA or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. AoA is not responsible for the content of pages found at these sites. URL addresses listed in AoA News and Info were current as of the date of publication.