



Newsletter

Monday, June 3, 2013

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8th Annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Elder abuse, like domestic violence and child abuse, comes in many forms. It is recognized by experts as a public health crisis for which there are no socio-economic borders. Millions of older Americans are abused, neglected, or exploited each year, with an estimated 84% of cases going unreported. The 8th annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15th provides a great opportunity to shed light on the problem of elder abuse and generate support for your programs and services.

What Are You Planning to Commemorate World Day This Year?

On World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, individuals and organizations from across the world are urged to raise awareness of the various types of abuse to which older individuals are subjected. We hope that you will join us in making

this year's recognition of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day a rounding success in the United States.

This year, take a stand in the fight against elder abuse and take a stand for dignity and respect of our elders. Looking for other ways to commemorate World Elder Abuse Awareness Day this year and take a stand against elder abuse? As part of the Year of Elder Abuse Prevention, the Administration for Community Living is pleased to provide information, tools, and resources to support partners in their efforts to raise public awareness about elder abuse and shed light on the importance of preventing, identifying, and responding to this serious, often hidden problem. Check out the [YEAP toolkit and WEAAD logos](#) for resources when planning your activities.

[Let the NCEA know what you're planning](#) this year to commemorate World Elder Abuse Awareness Day! You can share your event, as well as see what others are planning.

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America's Health Rankings® Senior Report

Shows commonalities among the five healthiest states for older adults as well as similarities at the opposite end for states deemed the least healthy for older adults.

Last week, the United Health Foundation released its annual [America's Health Rankings® Senior Report](#) (Report). Administration for Community Living Administrator Kathy Greenlee was included among the speakers at the May 29th event to release the Report. Also in attendance were representatives of the National Council on Aging and the Meals on Wheels Association of America.

The Report comprised the evaluation of 34 measures, with each categorized into one of two types — determinants and outcomes. Determinants represent those actions that can affect the future health of the population. Outcomes represent what has already occurred either through death or disease.

The Report looks at the four groups of health determinants that can be affected:

- [Behaviors](#) include the everyday activities we do that affect our personal health. It includes habits and practices we develop as individuals and families that have an effect on our personal health and on our utilization of health resources. These behaviors are modifiable with effort by the individual supported by community, policy, and clinical interventions.
- [Community and environment](#) reflect the reality that the daily conditions in which we live our lives have a great effect on achieving optimal

individual health. These factors can be modified by a concerted effort by the community and its elected officials, supported by state and federal agencies, professional associations, advocacy groups, and businesses.

- [Policy](#) influences the availability of resources to encourage and to maintain health and the extent that public and health programs reach into the general population. Policies can have very wide reach throughout the state and promote healthy living and judicious consumption of health care resources.
- [Clinical care](#) reflects the quality, appropriateness, and cost of care we receive at doctors' offices, clinics, and hospitals.

For 2013, Minnesota tops the list followed by Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Iowa. The bottom five states include Oklahoma, Louisiana, West Virginia, Arkansas, and Mississippi, which is ranked 50th. Only Oklahoma was not in this group in 2012.

The Report authors note that for a state to improve the health of its older adult population, efforts must focus on changing the determinants of health. If a state is significantly better in its score for determinants than its score for outcomes, it will likely improve its overall health ranking in the future.

Conversely, if a state is worse in its score for determinants than its score for outcomes, its overall health ranking will likely decline over time.

[Read more.](#)

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Obama Administration Releases Final Rules on Employment-Based Wellness Programs

Last week, the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, Labor and the Treasury took another step forward to implement the health care by issuing final rules on employment-based wellness programs. The final rules support workplace health promotion and prevention as a means to reduce the burden of chronic illness, improve health, and limit growth of health care costs. The rules will also ensure that individuals are protected from unfair underwriting practices that could otherwise reduce benefits based on health status.

[Read more.](#)

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National Conference on Mental Health

Earlier today, President Obama and Vice President Biden hosted a White House Mental Health Conference as part of the Administration's effort to launch a

national conversation to increase understanding and awareness about mental health. President Obama delivered the opening remarks and Vice President Biden delivered the closing remarks to conference participants.

While millions of Americans struggle with mental health problems, those who need help are too often afraid to seek it because of the shame and secrecy associated with mental illness. The conference brought together people from across the country, including representatives from state and local governments, mental health advocates, educators, health care providers, faith leaders, and individuals who have struggled with mental health problems, to discuss how we can all work together to reduce stigma and help the millions of Americans struggling with mental health problems recognize the importance of reaching out for assistance. [President Obama's remarks](#).

[Click here](#) to read about the discussion topics and to access the speakers' bios.

[Read more](#) about the conference and the organizations representing media, educators, health care providers, faith communities, and foundations that have already committed to increase understanding and awareness of mental health.

MentalHealth.gov Launched Today

Today, the Federal government introduced a new resource for people struggling with mental illness. [Mentalhealth.gov](#) is a new website providing consumer-friendly content. At the website, you can find information about the signs of mental health problems, how individuals can seek help, and how communities can host conversations on mental health.

The website's social media channels will connect people to the latest information on the national mental health conversation. You can also share your [story](#) for others to learn from your experience.

The website also includes videos featuring first-person narratives of individuals who have recovered from or managed mental health problems, or supported a friend or loved one struggling with these issues. Individuals contributing their stories to this initiative include: Glenn Close, Demi Lovato, John Saunders, and Cher.

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PBS NewsHour Premieres Six-Part Series on the Challenges of Long-Term Care

Last week, PBS NewsHour premiered *Taking Care*, a six-part series on the challenges of long-term care. Produced with support from The SCAN

Foundation, the series' intent is to show the magnitude of the problem of long-term care, the challenges faced by individuals and governments, and some of the models for change being tested. In addition to the broadcast reports, the series will feature robust online components, including additional material, topical reports and discussions.

The first report, which aired on May 30th, is a [video profile of Mary Wyant](#), an artist and former college professor struggling with dementia. Like most Americans, Mary and her family had not prepared for the possibility of long term care.

[Click here](#) for addendums to the Mary Wyant report and more information on the series.

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“Unleash the Power of Age in Your Community” Challenge - Winners Announced

The U.S. Administration for Community Living (ACL) is pleased to announce the winners of the *Unleash the Power of Age in Your Community* challenge, held in celebration of Older Americans Month 2013 to honor individuals 60 and older who are making a positive impact in their communities.

The *Unleash the Power of Age in Your Community* challenge invited organizations to recognize older Americans by nominating people 60 or older who are putting their talents and expertise toward inspirational achievements in their communities and beyond. ACL received over 50 entries from 20 states and Puerto Rico. 14 finalists, selected by a panel of expert judges, were posted online for public voting. The public selected the following three winners:

Robert Craig of Bridgewater, New Jersey, for his extensive volunteer work at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville, New Jersey.

Pat Sussman of Berkeley, California, as founder of San Francisco's Ashby Village that enables older adults live independently in their homes.

Epifanio Vega Gonzalez of Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, for sharing his musical talents in Puerto Rico's long-term care facilities.

Each challenge winner will receive special recognition from ACL, and their accomplishments will be featured on the [Older Americans Month website](#), and through social media.

Held each May since 1963, Older Americans Month celebrates the significant contributions of older adults. Older Americans are an ever-increasing and important segment of the population. The theme of this year's celebration—

Unleash the Power of Age! — pays tribute to the many ways these Americans are sharing their talents, wisdom, and life experiences with their communities.

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Funding Opportunity

SMP Funding Opportunity

Educating consumers to prevent health care fraud is the essence of the mission and message of the Administration for Community Living's (ACL) Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program. The 54 SMP projects recruit and train volunteers to educate Medicare beneficiaries about how to protect their Medicare numbers, examine their Medicare Summary Notices to detect discrepancies, and report suspicious activity when detected. The SMP program seeks to empower seniors through increased awareness and understanding of health care programs to protect them from the economic and health-related consequences associated with Medicare fraud, error, and abuse.

The SMP program, like many other federal, state, and local programs, must estimate the benefits that the program provides. However, since there is not currently a way to quantify the effects of prevention education, measuring the impact of the SMP program on the extent and cost of fraud and abuse is difficult. For that reason, ACL has released a new Funding Opportunity Announcement that seeks applications that will describe how to best conduct research on prevention education, such as that conducted by the SMP program, to determine how to best measure and quantify the effects of these efforts. This research may include, but is not limited to, identification of methodologies for measuring cost savings or avoidance associated with SMP's fraud prevention efforts. ACL plans to fund one (1) cooperative agreement at the federal funding level of \$200,000 per year, over a three (3) year project period, pending availability of federal funds.

[Full funding announcement.](#)

An informational teleconference will be held on this Thursday June 6, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. ET.

The call in number is: 1-800-619-4376. Passcode: 1800704.

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Funding Opportunity on Older Adults and Oral Health

DentaQuest Foundation is looking to identify, cultivate and spread promising oral health models and effective approaches to pressing oral health challenges. Since 2000, the Foundation has awarded over \$30 million in grants and program support to improve oral health. On January 9th, 2013 the [latest Innovation Request for Proposals was released](#).

Individuals may submit concept papers at any time. The DentaQuest Foundation reviews these on the 4th Thursday of every month. Two weeks later, authors of successful concept papers will be invited to submit a full proposal. There is no specified amount of funding, as DentaQuest is seeking as wide of a range of ideas as possible. If a concept seems too large for context, DentaQuest will work to modify as reasonable. If an idea/proposal seems smaller than it could be, DentaQuest will also work with authors to expand.

For more information about the Initiative, eligibility, and the application process, contact: Andrea Forsht, (617) 886-1760 or Andrea.Forsht@dentaquestfoundation.org.

For more information on older adults and oral health, visit the Administration for Community Living (ACL) [Older Adults and Oral Health webpage](#) for the [audio](#) of the webinar *Older Adults and Oral Health: Inspiring Community-Based Partnerships for Healthy Mouths*. This webinar, held on May 15th, was jointly sponsored by five Department of Health and Human Services agencies: ACL/Administration on Aging, the Centers for Disease control and Prevention, HHS Office on Women's Health, and the Health Resources and Service Administration. At the webpage, you can also download the [presentation slides](#) and the webinar [transcript](#).

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Stay Informed

CDC “In the Know: Social Media for Public Health.” Webinar Series

Join the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Prevention Information Network (NPIN) for the last in its free six-part webinar series titled “In the Know: Social Media for Public Health.”

In the Know: Social Measurement & Evaluation will explore how public health communication & outreach efforts using a variety of social media channels can be effectively measured & evaluated.

Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET

[Register.](#)

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AHRQ Innovations Exchange New Web Series

Building Health Information Exchanges to Support Accountable Care Organizations and Medical Homes: Delaware's Experience will be the topic of the next session in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Innovations Exchange [Web event Series](#).

Date: Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. ET

[Register.](#)

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Webinar on the *Disability Employment Tabulation 2008-2010: Overview*

The Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) invites you to participate in its webinar discussion on its recently released publication [Disability Employment Tabulation 2008-2010: Overview](#).

The Disability Employment Tabulation, sponsored by ODEP and the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), provides data on disability employment in order to further education, research, and develop policy initiatives that improve employment opportunities and outcomes for people with disabilities.

Presenter: Melissa Chiu, Chief, Industry and Occupation Statistics Branch, U.S. Census Bureau

Date: Thursday, June 6, 2013

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (EDT)

[Register.](#) You will receive a confirmation message by email with the event details after registration.

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June National I&R/A Support Center Conference Call

The next National I&R/A Support Center Conference Call will feature Joseph Amaroso (CIRS-A), Director of New Jersey's Division of Disability Services. Mr. Amaroso will address disaster preparedness for the national aging and disability I&R/A network, and will draw upon New Jersey's experience with Hurricane Sandy for his presentation.

Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. ET

Call info: 888-346-3659; Passcode: 382574

The Support Center [posts](#) audio recordings and PowerPoint presentations of all of its calls.

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Webinar on *Using Deliberative Methods to Engage the Public: Facilitating a Deliberative Session*

The Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) invites you to participate in a webinar on *Using Deliberative Methods to Engage the Public: Facilitating a Deliberative Session* to explore the views of patients, consumers, or other members of the community on challenging public problems in healthcare or related areas.

Specific topics in this webinar will include:

- Facilitation techniques and tools
- Guiding the discussion Managing unpredictable situations
- Group exercises
- Training resources

Date: Thursday, June 13, 2013

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EDT

[Register.](#)

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Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2015

The *Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGAs)* is a federal document based on the most recent scientific evidence that provides information and advice for choosing an eating pattern which promotes health and decreases the risk of chronic disease. The *DGAs* are intended to aid the design and implementation

of nutrition programs. The Older Americans Act requires adherence to the DGAs for Nutrition Services.

The Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee reviews the science and provides recommendations to the federal government for the 2015 document. The first meeting of the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee will be held on June 13-14, 2013. Webcast or in-person advanced registration is required. [Click here](#) for more information about registration, materials, future meetings, and the comment process.

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Webinar on Community Health Workers and Reducing Disparities in Diabetes: Lessons Learned From the Front Lines of Care

Date: Monday, June 17, 2013

Time: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. EDT

Community health workers (CHWs) who are part of the Diabetes Equity Project (DEP) in Dallas are helping to improve the health of underserved people living with diabetes. DEP is one of five local programs that make up the Alliance to Reduce Disparities in Diabetes that is implementing community-based health care improvement strategies for vulnerable populations. Baylor Health Care System, where the DEP program is located, has seen improved health outcomes and reduced costs as a result of integrating CHWs on the front lines of care.

Webinar participants will learn about:

- The opportunities for expanding the use of CHWs and ways for other states and health systems to leverage the lessons learned at Baylor.
- The process Baylor took to recruit, train and credential CHWs
- The first-hand experience of a Baylor CHW

Panel:

- Belinda Nelson, PhD, Research Investigator, National Program Office, Alliance to Reduce Disparities in Diabetes (Moderator)
- Christine A. Snead, RN, CPHQ, Nurse Manager, Care Coordination, Baylor Physician Services, Baylor Health Care System
- Magdalena Lopez, Community Health Worker, HealthTexas Provider Network, Baylor Health Care System
- James Walton, DO, MBA, President and CEO, Genesis Physicians Group, Former Vice President Network Performance, Baylor Quality Alliance, Baylor Health Care System

[Register.](#)

This webinar is sponsored by the Alliance to Reduce Disparities in Diabetes.

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Tools & Information

AoA's Social Media Focuses on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in June

June 15th is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) and Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging's (AoA)'s statistics widget offers data on the incidence of elder abuse in the U.S. Click on the AoA statistics widget on the [AoA Widgets page](#) to view this data. Also, when you click on the statistics widget, you'll get more information on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, including the history of the observance, events taking place in honor of WEAAD and resources available to raise awareness of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation.

During June AoA/ACL Facebook and Twitter pages offer information on WEAAD, other June observances, webinars, recent publications on policy, and ACL/AoA online resources. Be sure to check our posts on the [AoA Facebook page](#) and [ACL Facebook page](#), and our tweets on the [AoA Twitter page](#) and [ACL Twitter page](#).

You can help to promote World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Re-tweet our tweets and re-post the information and comments shared on Facebook. Tweet or post information on what you are doing to observe World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

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New SAMHSA Toolkit Helps States Assess and Meet Behavioral Health Needs

The Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released last week a new toolkit designed to help states' service agencies better assess and meet the behavioral health needs of their communities. The [Behavioral Health Needs Assessment Toolkit](#) provides states with detailed information on the latest behavioral health statistics as well as step-by-step instructions to generate projections related to what areas will need to be addressed in the future.

[Read more.](#)

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Call for Proposals - 2013 AUCD Conference

The 2013 Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) Conference provides a special opportunity for you to share your interests, talents, and perspectives in the areas of promoting inclusion, increasing diversity, and a wide range of disability related topics with others in our network and our partners.

The deadline for submitting proposals has been extended to June 12th and the conference will be held November 16-20, 2013 in Washington, DC.

[Proposal guidelines and submission details.](#)

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June Is Men's Health Month

The purpose of Men's Health Month is to heighten the awareness of preventable health problems and encourage early detection and treatment of disease among men and boys. This month gives health care providers, public policy makers, the media, and individuals an opportunity to encourage men and boys to seek regular medical advice and early treatment for disease and injury.

Resources:

- View the video [Before You Eat the Church Food](#) developed by the Association of Black Cardiologists. In the video, men share stories in their own words about what they are doing to help reduce obesity, diabetes and other chronic conditions, and how they are engaging members in their communities to buy into their own health and wellness.
- Sponsored by the Men's Health Network, the [Wear Blue](#) campaign provides tools and resources to promote Men's Health Month.
- Visit the Men's Health Month [social media page](#) for suggested messages to post to Facebook and share via Twitter.

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June Observances

For the month:

Caribbean American Heritage Month (June 8 - Caribbean American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day)

Resource: [National Caribbean American Heritage Month](#)

[Presidential Proclamation](#)

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month

Resource: [Library of Congress](#)

[Presidential Proclamation](#); [Statement from HHS Secretary Sebelius](#)

For the Week:

June 14-20: National Men's Health Week

Resources: [Men's Health Network](#) and [Men's Health Month](#)

For the Day:

June 14: World Blood Donor Day

June 15: World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Resource: [ACL World Elder Abuse Awareness Webpage](#)

June 16: Father's Day

June 22: Anniversary of Olmstead Decision

June 27: National HIV Testing Day; PTSD Awareness Day

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