



Tuesday, May 8, 2012

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

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HHS Announces \$10.4 Million to Enhance Rural Health Care

Rural health providers across the nation will receive more than \$10.4 million to provide direct health care services to their communities. The funding recently announced by HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius will be used to meet a broad range of health care needs in rural areas, from health promotion and disease prevention to expanding oral and mental health services.

Each of 70 grantees will receive approximately \$450,000 over a three-year project period to address the needs of a wide range of population groups including, but not limited to, low-income families and individuals, the elderly, pregnant women, infants, adolescents, minorities and individuals with special health care needs.

To learn more and to access the list of grant recipients, go to <http://www.hrsa.gov/about/news/pressreleases/120502rural.html>

Health Care Law Helps Community Health Centers Build, Renovate Facilities, Serve More Patients

Grants from the Affordable Care Act will help build and expand health centers, create jobs, and expand access to an additional 860,000 patients

In a visit to Fairmount Primary Care Center in Philadelphia last week, Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced awards made possible by the new health care law that will help build, expand and improve community health centers nationwide.

Funding of more than \$728 million will support 398 renovation and construction projects, boosting health centers' ability to care for additional patients and creating jobs. The awards are part of a series of capital investments that are made available to community health centers under the Affordable Care Act, which provides \$9.5 billion to expand services over five years and \$1.5 billion to support major construction and renovation projects at community health centers.

According to a new report released today, the health care law has supported 190 construction and renovation projects at health centers and the creation of 67 new health center sites across the country, and will support more than 485 new health center construction and renovation projects and the creation of 245 new community health center sites over the next two years.

Overall, since the beginning of 2009, employment at community health centers nationwide has increased by 15 percent. And, through the Affordable Care Act

and the Recovery Act, community health centers are serving nearly 3 million additional patients today and will serve an additional 1.3 million additional new patients in the next two years.

To learn more about the awards and to access the list of recipients, go to <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/05/20120501a.html>

Funding Opportunity

Funding Opportunity Reminder

Empowering Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities through Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Programs

Agency Issuing Grant: Administration on Aging (AoA)

Eligible Applicants: State Governments

This funding opportunity is to help ensure that evidence-based self-management education programs are embedded into the nation's health and long-term services and supports systems. This effort will help preserve and expand the prevention program distribution and delivery systems that were developed through previous AoA Evidence-Based Disease and Disability Prevention Program and Recovery Act CDSMP grants. It is supportive of the HHS Strategic Framework on Multiple Chronic Conditions in bringing to scale and enhancing sustainability of evidence-based, self-management programs; helps to address the Healthy People 2020 objectives to increase the proportion of older adults with one or more chronic health conditions who report confidence in managing their conditions and to increase the proportion of older adults who receive Medicare benefits for Diabetes Self-Management Training. It is designed to achieve the following two major goals: Goal 1: Significantly increase the number of older and/or disabled adults with chronic conditions who complete evidence-based CDSME programs to maintain or improve their health status. Goal 2: Strengthen and expand integrated, sustainable service systems within States to provide evidence-based CDSME programs.

The application deadline is June 11, 2012.

Click [here](#) for more info on this funding opportunity

Applicants must apply for this grant through www.grants.gov

Stay Informed

Webinar Series on *Volunteers: A Theory of Organizational Abundance*

This three-part series is sponsored by the National Center for Engaging Volunteers in the Aging Network, an AoA-funded project. Its target audience is leaders in the aging services network. The series will address how to sustain and even expand capacity in a time of economic scarcity by engaging the time, talents and experience of skilled volunteers.

Developing Your Volunteer Engagement Plan: Steps to Get Started"

This webinar is the third session in series one of the three-part series. In this discussion, participants will learn about:

Facilitating staff and volunteers to work in parallel and share ownership
Allowing volunteers to have authority and autonomy in leadership positions
Integrating volunteers into existing governance structure

Date: Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

To register, go to <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/843525983>

Meet Volunteers Where They're At: Designing an Onboarding Process that Catalyzes Commitment

This webinar is the third session in series two of the three-part series. In this discussion, participants will learn about:

What drives volunteer satisfaction
How volunteer motivation and needs change as they progress
Volunteer orientation “must haves”

Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

To register, go to <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/931005847>

NeedyMeds to Offer Webinar Series on Its Website Resources

NeedyMeds is a non-profit information resource for people searching for programs that offer assistance with medications and other related health care costs. This bi-monthly webinar series will provide an overview of the different resources available on the NeedyMeds website.

To register for one of this month's hour-long sessions, click on the date below.

May 9 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

May 31 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time

To learn more about NeedyMeds, go to <http://www.needymeds.org/index.htm>

Alcohol and Psychoactive Medication Misuse/Abuse Prevention

Alcohol and prescription medication misuse/abuse are significant, growing, and often under-recognized problems among older adults. The purpose of this webinar is to: 1) enhance attendees' understanding of substance abuse and mental health issues affecting older adults; and 2) to provide information about programs and strategies targeting older adults with or at risk for alcohol and prescription medication misuse/abuse issues.

Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Time: 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. EST

This webinar will discuss the prevalence of, risk factors for, and impact of alcohol and prescription medication misuse/abuse on older adults. Effective screening tools and an evidence-based program—Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) — will be featured. Actions that state and local agencies can use to implement effective programs will be highlighted, with a specific focus on strategies used in the [Florida BRITE](#) project.

This webinar is supported through a partnership between the HHS Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration and the Administration for Community Living and is available free of charge. To register, please go [here](#)

A call recording and slides for the webinar will be available shortly following the discussion. Please visit [here](#) to access these materials, as well as additional webinars, factsheets, and other resources related to older adult behavioral health.

Webinar on Leaving a Legacy - The Wealth of Generations

This webinar is the second session in the National Council on Aging's (NCOA) two-part series on economic sustainability and its effect on aging and eldercare.

Date: Thursday, May 17, 2012

Time: 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. ET

Agenda Topics:

What do economic issues, such as the Great Recession and the future of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, mean for older adults?

Is it time for a better understanding and more open discussion of what economic sustainability means for different generations?

Speakers:

Harry R. Moody, Ph.D., Director of Academic Affairs for AARP

Andrew Achenbaum, Ph.D., Professor of History and Social Work at the University of Houston

Registration is free and can be accessed [here](#)

Third Innovative Communities Summit

Long-Term Care Quality Alliance (LTQA) and the Integrating Care for Populations & Communities National Coordinating Center (ICPC NCC) will co-host the Third Innovative Communities Summit. This summit will showcase communities working to improve care transitions and will highlight the importance of long-term service & support providers for individuals and for community efforts to improve care transitions.

Date: June 4 – 5, 2012

Site: Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, DC

The full agenda is now available for download. [Click here to learn more about the conference](#)

[REGISTER NOW](#) for this free event.

Webinar Reminders

Monthly Webinar Series on Resources Available to Assist Persons with Alzheimer's Disease or Other Dementias and Their Family Caregivers sponsored by the National Institute on Aging and the Administration for Community Living's Administration on Aging.

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

To register online for the opening session:

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".

Future sessions include:

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

To register go to <https://aoa-events.webex.com/aoa-events/onstage/g.php?d=669631314&t=a>

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

*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*

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!](#)

Tools & Information

AoA's May Widget Celebrates Older Americans Month

May is Older Americans Month (OAM) and AoA's May widget offers information on Baby Boomers and how to join in the OAM celebration. This year's OAM theme is *Never Too Old to Play* and May's widget also highlights the [OAM website](#) that features a variety of resources to organize and promote "A Day of Play" in May. You can view AoA's statistics widget at http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Site_Utilities/Widget/index.aspx. If you want to add AoA's widget to your site or blog, click the "share" button on the widget and the code of the widget will display.

In addition to widgets, AoA's social media features a variety of engaging e-cards. Looking for an attractive e-greeting with a health tip to send to friends and family? AoA's e-cards feature attractive images with links to health information. You'll find e-cards that encourage healthy eating, different types of exercise and volunteering. To view all AoA e-cards and select one for a friend, visit http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/Social_Media/eCards/index.aspx

Connect with AoA on Twitter, Facebook and YouTube! AoA is now tweeting about aging issues and resources. You can follow us by visiting our Twitter page at www.twitter.com/aoagov. AoA also has a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/aoa.gov and a channel on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/AoA25/videos>. Please click the "Like" button for us on Facebook and view and share our videos on YouTube.

If you have any questions or comments on our social media content, feel free to contact Augustina.Howe@aoa.hhs.gov

National Online Dialogue on Veterans Transportation

The national online dialogue on transportation, "*Strengthening Transportation Choices So We Can Serve Those Who Have Served Their Country*," is for U.S. Veterans, service members, their families and caregivers, community service providers, and the Aging Services Network. This event, sponsored by the Federal Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility, will be held from May 7 – June 8, 2012.

For more information click: ["Strengthening Transportation Choices So We Can Serve Those Who Have Served Their Country"](#) starting May 7 to register and add your voice to the conversation!

Senior Hunger Report Card™ *America Failing Nation's Seniors*

Last week the Meals On Wheels Research Foundation (MOWRF) issued the first annual [Senior Hunger Report Card™](#) (Report Card). The Report Card evaluates

the nation's performance in reducing food insecurity and eradicating hunger. MOWRF examined America's progress in eight categories and assigned grades.

Half of the eight categories received a grade of "F":

Overall Performance: 8.3 million seniors faced the threat of hunger in 2010, a 78% increase since 2001 – and a 34% increase since the start of the recession in 2007.

Economics: Since 2009 and the end of the recession, the risk of hunger for the overall US population has declined. However, during the same time period food insecurity increased among those age 60 and older – primarily among the near-poor, with income one to two times the poverty level.

Women's Studies: The effects of food insecurity are disproportionately borne by women, who make up over 60% of seniors facing the threat of hunger. Senior women are more likely to face the threat of hunger than their male counterparts – and the gender gap has widened since 2009.

Ethics: In the richest nation on Earth, more than 1 in 7 seniors is threatened by hunger. This increase from 1 in 9 seniors in 2005 foretells an alarming human cost if this national crisis is not reversed.

The report also gives details on the ten states with the highest rates of seniors facing the threat of hunger.

This Senior Hunger Report Card™ is the first in a series of annual report cards on the state of senior hunger that the Meals On Wheels Research Foundation plans to issue.

AARP Names New Board Members and Officers

AARP recently appointed new members and officers to its Board of Directors, including the organization's newest president, Robert G. Romasco, who will serve in this capacity until 2014.

The all-volunteer, 22-member Board of Directors is the governing body of AARP and approves all policies, programs, activities and services for AARP's millions of members. Some of the major responsibilities of AARP board members are to approve the budget and monitor AARP finances; determine the Association's state and national legislative policy agenda, and set policy that guides the association's strategic plans and activities.

To read about AARP's newest board members, go to <http://www.aarp.org/about-aarp/press-center/info-03-2012/AARP-Names-New-Board-Members-and-Officers.html>

Observances

Asthma Awareness Month

May 1st, was World Asthma Day and the start of Asthma Awareness Month. Asthma is a serious chronic respiratory disease that affects the quality of life of nearly 26 million Americans.

Cleaner air, both indoors and out, makes it easier to manage this potentially deadly disease. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites all of our partners to assist in promoting a better understanding of asthma during the month of May.

EPA plays an important role in helping to reduce environmental irritants, such as smog, smoke and chemicals in the air, that affect our health and trigger asthma attacks. The Clean Air Act has provided numerous health benefits including the prevention of millions of asthma attacks each year. Across the country, many other organizations are playing an important role in the fight against asthma. Each year EPA celebrates outstanding programs and leaders who are improving the lives of people with its National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management. This year, four healthcare programs were honored for their outstanding efforts to improve the lives of people with asthma in under-served communities. To read about their work and the work of previous honorees, go to http://www.epa.gov/asthma/award_winners.html

For a list of resources and ways you can promote easier breathing and better living, visit the EPA Asthma webpage at <http://www.epa.gov/asthma/>

Other 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 13 to 19: *National Women's Health Week*

Theme: *It's Your Time*

Sponsor: HHS Office on Women's Health

To learn more or to search for events in your community, go to the National Women's Health Week web page at <http://www.womenshealth.gov/whw/>

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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