THIS WEEK IN CAREGIVING



December 7, 2022



CAREGIVING IN THE NEWS

Booker Reintroduces Legislation Protecting Family Caregivers from Discrimination

U.S. Senator Corey Booker has reintroduced the Protecting Family Caregivers from Discrimination Act, legislation that would expand protections for family caregivers from discrimination by their employers.

The legislation would prohibit employers from firing, demoting, mistreating, refusing to hire, or taking other adverse employment action against workers who are caregivers for their loved ones.

From: Office of Senator Corey Booker| Published: December 1, 2022

READ MORE

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Who Will Care for 'Kinless" Seniors?

Lynne Ingersoll and her cat, Jesse, spent a quiet Thanksgiving Day together in her small bungalow in Blue Island, III.

A retired librarian, Ms. Ingersoll never married or had children. At 77, she has outlived her parents, three partners, her two closest friends, five dogs and eight cats.

When her sister died three years ago, Ms. Ingersoll joined the ranks of older Americans considered "kinless": without partners or spouses, children or siblings. Covid-19 has largely suspended her occasional get-togethers with friends, too.

Alzheimer's Drug May Benefit Some Patients, New Data Shows

The hotly anticipated results of a clinical trial of an experimental Alzheimer's drug suggest that the treatment slowed cognitive decline somewhat for people in the early stages of the disease but also caused some patients to experience brain swelling or brain bleeding.

The new data, released Tuesday evening, offered the first detailed look at the effects of the drug, lecanemab, and comes two months after its manufacturers, Eisai and Biogen, stoked excitement by announcing that the drug had shown positive results.

From: New York Times | Published: November

From: New York Times | December 3, 2022

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NAC NEWS AND UPDATES

29, 2022



The National Alliance for Caregiving Opens Phone Line for Family Caregivers to Talk About Their Mental Well-Being

Sponsored by Travere Therapeutics, the National Alliance for Caregiving is spearheading a project to advance the mental well-being of family caregivers in the United States. NAC wants to hear from family caregivers on the joys, challenges and struggles they've faced on their caregiving journey in order to better understand their needs and the supports and interventions that can be introduced to assist them.

If you're a family caregiver or have cared for someone in the past, call **1-888-665-2190** to share your caregiving story and the feelings associated with it.

If you would prefer to write out your response rather than leave an audio message, you may do so <u>here</u>.

We want to know:

- What joys have you experienced as a caregiver?
- How are you feeling about being a caregiver?
- What are challenges you have faced as a caregiver?
- What are concerns you have about providing care?

The message you leave will inform policy and practice efforts to improve support for family caregivers like you! All messages left will be anonymous, with only the transcript being used to help us advocate for change.

To learn more, click the red button below.

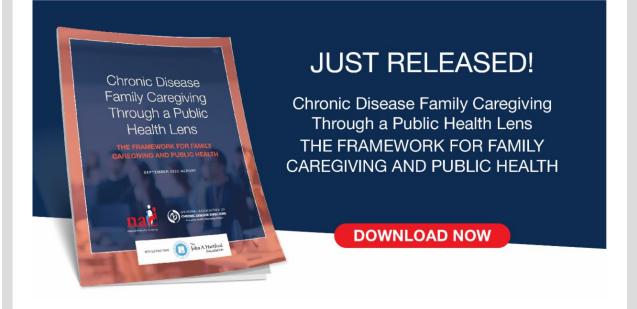
LEARN MORE >



It's important to recognize those with chronic pain and the family caregivers that help care for them. This second installment in the Social Innovations Spotlight Series is written by Dr. Fawn Cothran, PhD, RN, GCNS-BC, FGSA, Hunt Research Director at the National Alliance for Caregiving, and explores those caring for someone with chronic pain and the tools that are available to assist them. Assessing the Pain of Care Recipients: Tools Available to Family Caregivers utilizes a rapid literature review to identify and discuss the tools available to chronic pain caregivers to assess pain in their care recipient and how these caregivers can be better supported in their role.

To read the report, click the red button below..

VIEW THE REPORT



NAC Releases New Report: Chronic Disease Family Caregiving Through a Public Health Lens: The Framework for Family Caregiving and Public Health

The National Alliance for Caregiving is proud to present *Chronic Disease Family Caregiving Through a Public Health Lens: The Framework for Family Caregiving and Public Health*, a new report developed with support from The John A. Hartford Foundation and in partnership with the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD). This framework outlines policy recommendations, implementation actions and messaging content to help the public health community address the complex needs of America's 53 million family caregivers.

Included in this report:

- A foundation of the framework and background into why it's needed;
- Strategies and recommendations for viewing family caregiving through a public health lens;
- A framework comprised of public health data gathering research, education, and awareness and service coordination and delivery across sectors and siloes;
- Actions for implementing an expanded family caregiver support infrastructure via a pilot program.

Guided by the expertise of state-based chronic disease directors, NAC's report and framework recognizes the importance of caregivers as a vital part of the health care team and that supporting these family caregivers is essential for improving public health outcomes for communities and the nation.

To read the report and access our findings, click the red button below..

VIEW THE REPORT >

World Carers Conversation 2022 Session Recordings

World Carers Conversation returned May 19, 2022 as a global, virtual event with the support of EMD Serono and Embracing Carers. Innovators, researchers, policymakers and carer advocates from around the globe learned about advancements in the field, got inspired, and made connections that matter for the future of carers everywhere. These recordings cover the primary conversations and topics discussed.

To view the slide deck used in the event, click here. To view the recordings, click below.

VIEW RECORDINGS

Global Voices of Caregiving: A PhotoVoice Project

As part of the World Carers Conversation 2022, NAC worked with Chief Story Officer Anne Levy and caregivers from around the globe to help them tell their own story through a series of photos. These photos addressed simple questions about being a caregiver, such as what works, what doesn't work, and what a world that embraces and supports caregivers would look like. Each one of these stories is unique to the caregiver's own experience and tells a diverse story of what it's like to care for others, an act which connects us all.



To view and hear these stories, please click on the red button below.

VIEW STORIES



EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

DECEMBER



Living Well With Dementia Series: Preparing the Caregiver for End of Life

December 7, 2022 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET | Online

Understanding how people die is a difficult but necessary topic. Recognizing the signs and behaviors as persons enter into the process of Actively Dying helps us know what is normal as the body slowly ceases its function. Grief, guilt, and the reality of loss will be discussed.

On December 7th, join A Gift of Time for a presentation featuring Tam Cummings, PHD for a discussion about these topics. Dr. Cummings is the author of *Untangling Alzheimer's, The Guide for Families and Professionals*.

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER



Conscious Caregiving

December 7, 2022 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET | Online

The Alzheimer's Association and Juniper invite you to join us for a caregiver awareness event on December 7th.

During the holiday season, many people are visiting older relatives and friends and notice changes. Grandma missed some steps in her Thanksgiving turkey recipe that she's been making for the last 30 years. Or a brother repeatedly forgot recently shared information, like the news that someone passed away or is having a baby. What do these changes mean?

If someone in your life has Alzheimer's or another dementia, communicating with them over the disease progression can be a challenge. In this session, the Alzheimer's Association will walk through effective communication strategies for caregivers to help connect with friends and family who have Alzheimer's or another dementia. Then, Juniper will share and demonstrate the Powerful Tools for Caregivers class. Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a class that supports family caregivers to identify and reduce stress, improve communication with family and health care providers, and master caregiving decisions.

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER >



Understanding Compassion Fatigue and Burnout

December 8, 2022 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET | Online

Does compassion cause suffering? When does it go too far and how can caregivers protect their own wellbeing? Learn the warning signs, who is at risk, and how to restore your emotional energy with a licensed therapist.

On December 8th, Mindspring Mental Health Alliance will host a webinar on compassion fatigue and burnout among caregivers.

The presentation will feature Jaymi Dormaier, a Licensed Master Social Worker with ten years of experience in the mental health field. During Jaymi's career as a social worker and therapist she has worked with diverse populations focusing on anxiety, depression, grief, trauma, foster care, adoption, homelessness, and addiction. She is passionate about helping others live a life they love.

[Fine print: Certificates of attendance are provided at no cost. CEUs are not provided. Everyone who registers will receive the webinar recording & resource info 24 hours after the live event.]

To register for this event, click the red button below.



Washington Post Live: Seth Rogen and Laura Miller Rogen on Their Caregiving Advocacy and Experiences

December 8, 2022 | 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM ET | Online

Actor Seth Rogen and filmmaker Lauren Miller Rogen have lobbied Congress for a national paid family and medical leave policy that includes bolstering support for caregivers. On Thursday, Dec. 8 at 1:30 p.m. ET, join The Post's Leigh Ann Caldwell for a conversation with the couple about how their personal experiences as caregivers have informed their advocacy and the prospects for bipartisan cooperation on the issue in the new Congress.

To register for this chat, click the red button below.

REGISTER FOR THE CHAT

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A New Model of Care: Dementia Connection Model

December 9, 2022 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET | Online

Learn about a new model of care called the Dementia Connection Model and walk away with a number of tools for your caregiver toolbox!

In this dementia care webinar, you will learn about the first-ever cognitive-behavioral approach to care called the Dementia Connection Model©, created by Dr. Jennifer Stelter, clinical psychologist, dementia expert, and Johns Hopkins Press author of The Busy Caregiver's Guide to Advanced Alzheimer Disease. The model ties together three key concepts in understanding Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia and how to provide the best quality of care. You will better understand the "why?" of dementia to provide a quality of life for those you care for. Then, you will exercise your brain in learning "how" to best implement the "what" - sensory-based, non-pharmacological approaches that positively influence the emotions and memories for those living with dementia, enabling positive, productive behavior expressions and a better connection.

You can earn 1 FREE continuing education (CE) credit, after completing the webinar evaluation.

To register for this event, click on the red button below.

REGISTER



Caregiver Burnout: For Caregivers of Autistic Children

December 10, 2022 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM ET | Online

Parenting can be stressful, however studies have shown that parents of Autistic children score much higher on stress indicator tests.

Higher stress levels can be attributed to several factors including:

- Lack of help/support
- Lack of understanding of the child's needs
- Financial burdens
- Long waiting lists for assessments and professional support
- Dealing with judgment from society & family members
- Needing self-care & sensory needs support

And the list goes on and on....

So how can we come together to best support parents and caregivers of children with exceptional needs?

Spectrum Lingo has put together this free webinar to show caregivers how best to empower themselves and avoid experiencing burnout. How can you best serve your child if your tank is empty? So let's fill up your tank and teach you skills and strategies so that you can step into your power and keep your engine running!

To register for this event, click on the red button below.

REGISTER >

Music: The Uses and Benefits

December 12, 2022 | 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM ET | Online

Music can provide connection and shared experience between you and the person with dementia. It is particularly useful in everyday situations when other communication or activities are more challenging.

Music can help to maintain a person's quality of life or even improve it. For carers, music can be beneficial by helping to lighten mood, helping create connections, reduce stress and bring back memories.

The webinar, presented by Dementia Carers Count in the UK, will be hosted by Alex Stirling and will explore the benefits of music and ways in which it can be used in everyday situations.

Alex is a Speech and Language Therapist who specialises in working with adults with acquired communication disabilities. Her interest in dementia has been influenced by the experience of being a part-time carer for her mother.

This session is for you if you would like to ...

- To learn about the role of music when supporting someone with dementia
- Your questions around music addressed in a safe, supportive environment by healthcare professionals with experience of supporting people with dementia and their families
- To meet other people who are supporting a friend or family member with dementia in a similar situation

To register for this event, click on the red button below.



Understanding Psychological Wellbeing

December 13, 2022 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 M ET | Online

This session will explore the psychological needs for you in your caring role and also for the person who has dementia to support the well-being of you both.

This session is for you if:

- you would like to gain a better understanding of your own needs for well being and those of the person with dementia
- you would like to learn about the different factors which can contribute to a persons well being
- you want to spend time with experienced healthcare professionals who will answer your questions in a safe, supportive environment
- you would like to meet other people who are taking care of a friend or family member with dementia in a similar situation

To register for this session, click the red button below.

REGISTER >



Supporting Our Young People with Eating Difficulties

December 13, 2022 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET | Online

The workshop on December 13th featuring Dr. Beth Mosley (Clinical Psychologist) is designed to explore some of the eating difficulties young people maybe facing at this time, to understand the way food can be used as a coping mechanism in times of stress, to address what a parent/carer can do that is helpful or not helpful, and importantly identify what are the red flags to alert a parent/carer to take action to get help, as well as where to get help. The workshop's focus is on providing easily accessible information in an interactive format which will encourage early intervention and prevention of the escalation of difficulties at this time.

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER



The Importance of Self-Care

December 13, 2022 | 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM ET | Online

This 2-hour webinar is one of a series of online events aimed to provide support and reassurance to parents, wherever they are on their parenting journey.

This webinar will focus on the importance of self care for parents and why we often struggle to do it. The facilitators will present some information and ideas on the topic.

This will be followed by a Q & A, during which the facilitators will respond to questions submitted by participants via the private chat.

To register for this event, click the red button below.



Understanding and Supporting Behavior Challenges for Children with ASD

December 13, 2022 | 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM ET | Online

Understanding the many possible underlying causes or functions of problematic behavior is a critical step in helping children & youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder change maladaptive behavior. Effective behavior analysis, which includes a review of communication, sensory, anxiety and other possible causes, will be discussed and positive behavior support (PBS) techniques will be presented.

Tune in on December 13th for a presentation by york hills Centre for Children, Youth, and Families about caring for children with ASD.

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER

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Communication & Behavior: The Language of Dementia

December 15, 2022 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM ET | Online

The communication changes that accompany dementia can present a host of challenges. As verbal language fades, nonverbal and behavior become more prominent methods to express thoughts, wants and needs. This webinar will review common changes that occur

and learn strategies that can be easily utilized to promote understanding.

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER >



Learn About Resources and Tips to Address Social Isolation Within Senior Housing

December 15, 2022 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET | Online

Hear from the American Association of Service Coordinators, Aging Ahead and PEP Housing during "engAGED: The National Resource Center for Engaging Older Adults" webinar on December 15th from 1:00-2:00 pm ET. Speakers will discuss creative initiatives and partnerships that address social isolation and loneliness in senior housing.

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER



Healthy Living for Your Brain & Body

December 16, 2022 | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET | Online

Learn how small changes in exercise, nutrition, cognitive activities, and social engagement can not only increase overall health and well-being but also reduce the risk of Alzheimer's Disease.

To register for this event, call 1-800-272-3900, or click the red button below.

REGISTER >



Understanding Schizophrenia

December 20, 2022 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET | Online

Schizophrenia is a lifelong illness that changes how you think, feel, and act. A combination of hallucinations, delusions, disordered thinking and behavior can be debilitating. Explore the causes, symptoms, co-occurring disorders, and treatment of schizophrenia, and gain practical tips for managing symptoms and supporting loved ones with a licensed therapist.

About the instructor: Jaymi Dormaier is a Licensed Master Social Worker with ten years of experience in the mental health field. In Jaymi's career as a social worker and therapist she has worked with diverse populations focusing on anxiety, depression, grief, trauma, foster care, adoption, homelessness, and addiction. She is passionate about helping others live a life they love.

To register for this event, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE

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Family Reactions to Mental Illness

December 22, 2022 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET | Online

Understanding why people experience things differently can help to ease tension & increase acceptance. Discuss the caregiving experience, the stages of emotional response, and learn how to respond and cope in this one-hour seminar with a licensed therapist.

About the instructor: Jaymi Dormaier is a Licensed Master Social Worker with ten years of experience in the mental health field. In Jaymi's career as a social worker and therapist she has worked with diverse populations focusing on anxiety, depression, grief, trauma, foster care, adoption, homelessness, and addiction. She is passionate about helping others live a life they love.

To register for this event, click the red button below.



JANUARY

Impact of Pain in Dementia

January 5, 2023 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM ET | Online

Tune in on January 5th for a webinar presented by Dementia Carers Count. The session will explain how pain may be experienced by a person with dementia and the impact it may have on both the person you care for and you as a carer.

There will be an opportunity to explore the impact and consequences of pain for a person with dementia and how taking different approaches may improve pain management and wellbeing.

This session is for you if you would like to:

- Gain a better understanding of pain and the implications for someone with dementia
- Understand the risk factors and consequences for both you and the person you care for
- Learn how pain can be identified and managed effectively with tips and strategies
- Discuss the emotional impact of pain for both yourself and the person with dementia
- Spend time with experienced healthcare professionals who will answer your questions in a safe, supportive environment
- Meet other people who are looking after a friend or family member with dementia in

a similar situation

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER >

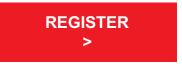


Relationships, Family, and Mental Health

January 5, 2023 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET | Online

The complicated nature of mental illnesses can make relationships challenging, and caregiver stress — the emotional and physical stress of caregiving — is common. Learn strategies to set boundaries, respond to difficult behavior, and manage your own stress in this one-hour webinar with a licensed therapist, Jaymi Dormaier.

To register for this event, click the red button below.



Memory Changes

January 9, 2023 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM ET | Online

As dementia progresses, it affects people's ability to store and retrieve information as the memory becomes less efficient.

Join Dementia Carers Count on January 9 for an event that will focus specifically on some of the memory challenges which can occur for a person with dementia and some ideas and strategies to support these challenges. It will provide you with the confidence to try new ways to support the person and to look after yourself.

The session is for you if you would like to ...

- Learn about how changes in the brain can affect memory
- Get ideas for supporting the person's memory
- Spend time with experienced healthcare professionals who will answer your questions in a safe and supportive environment.
- Meet other people who are taking care of a friend or family member with dementia

in a similar situation

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER >

10 WARNING SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER'S



ALZHEIMER'S PROGRAM: 10 Warning Signs

January 10, 2023 | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM ET | Online

Memory loss that disrupts daily life may be a symptom of Alzheimer's or other dementias. Alzheimer's is a brain disease that causes a slow decline in memory, thinking and reasoning skills. This webinar will discuss 10 warning signs and symptoms.

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER



Sustainable Caregiving for Care Partners of People with Neurologic Illness

Tuesdays, January 10 - February 28, 2023, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM ET | Online

This course will meet weekly for eight session, online workshop to learn evidence-based skills to make your caregiving sustainable.

This is a live-online program of eight weekly 90-minute classes. In each class, you will learn evidence-based skills to help make your caregiving sustainable.

Teaching methods include brief lecture periods mixed with experiential exercises. You will also have opportunities to speak with others in structured break-out groups (pairs or triads) as well as in the larger group.

Each class will have its own theme and the opportunity to practice new skills in a safe place, so that they're more available during the days ahead. Themes include:

- Attentional balance and grounding
- Repertoire of stress responses and meeting difficult emotions
- Positive intention setting
- Mindful self-compassion
- Challenging relationships and patients' concerns around "being a burden"
- Re-framing chronic sorrow
- Balance and growth in adversity
- 'What works for me?' -- wellness practice -journals to cultivate a positive mindset

If you have questions about this program, contact Program Manager Gayle Kojimoto at 415.509.8645 or gayle.kojimoto@ucsf.edu.

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER

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A Fresh Approach to Living Well with Dementia - Virtual Fair by LifeCircles

January 12, 2023 | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM ET | Online

Living with dementia can be very challenging, but there are ways to bloom at every stage. Life is better when we are amplifying our stories, valuing our experiences and learning to live well with dementia.

This free event on January 12th includes presentations from people living well with dementia, tips on positive brain-change approaches, and takeaways for medical professionals to make our community more dementia friendly and inclusive.

This virtual event is for everyone: people living with brain change or dementias, people

curious about dementia, caregivers, family and friends of people living with dementia, and for professionals who work with people living with brain change.

To register for this event, click the red button below.



Visual Changes

January 16, 2023 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM ET | Online

An opportunity to focus specifically on the visual changes that can occur for a person with dementia and the support strategies which can really impact on the well-being of the person and your ability to cope. By understanding the challenges for the person with dementia, this session will provide you with the knowledge that you have the ability and skills to support some of these challenges.

This session is for you if:

- you would like to learn about how changes in the brain can ffect how and what the
 person can see and how they may interpret things in the environment
- you want to spend time with experienced healthcare professionals who will answer your questions in a safe, supportive environment
- you would like to meet other people who are taking care of a friend or family member with dementia in a similar situation

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER >



Transforming Hardship into Healing

January 18, 2023 | 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET | Online

Health challenges can be daunting. The disorienting and confusing nature of a health issue tends to put a strain on relationships; conflicts, changing roles, shifting expectations, sensitive and uncomfortable topics can all add to the messy mix. Whether in a caring dynamic at home, in a clinical or organizational setting, we may find ourselves having difficult conversations. Many relationships, familial and professional alike, snap under the pressure of disagreement.

Tune in or January 18th for a workshop led by Joe Weston that will guide participants through the murky waters of how to have difficult conversations - how does one bend rather than break in tense confrontations? Whether you're dealing with, or caring for someone with a health challenge, working in a caring profession and trying to understand how to better relate to peers, or even working towards a shift in your organizational culture, Joe will offer tried and true insights about how to transform hardship into healing relationships.

Joe Weston is an author, educator, and guide. With a career spanning 30+ years in the fields of conflict prevention, leadership, stress management, and communication, he is a highly sought-after facilitator for individuals, as well as corporations, government agencies, and nonprofits around the world.

To register for this event, click the red button below.



Looking Ahead: A Road Map for Caregivers in Times of Need

January 19, 2023 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET | Online

Caregiving is a labour of love that many perform willingly. We know that life is full of surprises and despite their best intentions, there may be times that caregivers may need to step back from their role to care for themselves. If you are a caregiver, do you have a plan for your loved one in the event that you need to take a break from caregiving?

Join us for this 1.5 hour webinar, facilitated by a caregiver educator from Acclaim Health in partnership with the Regional Learning Centre, where we will discuss:

- How to identify your circle of support
- · Important documents to have in place
- Community resources
- How to create an emergency plan

To register for this event, click the red button below.





CONFIDENCE Financial Education Program

Thursdays, January 19 - February 16, 2023, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET | Online

Join the University of Southern California Family Caregiver Support Program for a virtual program designed to help Latino and Hispanic family caregivers to persons living with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia lower the out-of-pocket costs of caregiving. Over 5 weeks, caregivers will meet virtually and gather in group sessions led by a trained facilitator to discuss: how to navigate community resources, strategies for seeking help, how to balance employment and caregiving, and more!

Sessions will take place over Zoom video conference.

To register for this event, click the red button below.



Managing Changes in Movement and Sensation

January 23, 2023 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM ET | Online

This Zoom meeting presented by Dementia Carers Count on January 23rd (8:30 AM) will explore how changes in the brain affect everyday tasks

It will be an opportunity to focus specifically on some of the motor and sensory challenges which can occur for a person with dementia alongside support strategies which can really impact on the well-being of the person and your ability to cope with the challenges. These challenges may include sequencing everyday tasks such as getting dressed, eating a meal, sensations, and spatial awareness. By understanding the challenges for the person with dementia, this session will provide you with the knowledge that you have the ability and skills to support some of these challenges.

This session is for you if:

- · you would like to learn about how changes in the brain can affect what the person senses and the complexity of the everyday tasks we complete daily
- · you would like some ideas for simplifying tasks and help the persons sensory awareness
- · you want to spend time with experienced healthcare professionals who will answer your questions in a safe, supportive environment
- · you would like to meet other people who are taking care of a friend or family member with dementia in a similar situation

To register for this event, click the red button below.



Meaningful Activity

January 30, 2023 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM ET | Online

Why is meaningful activity important for people with dementia? Meaningful activity is important to help us all maintain a good quality of life, whether we are living with dementia or not. It is particularly important for people with dementia as it:

- Helps maintain skills and independence
- Helps maintain brain (cognitive) function
- Builds and preserves self-esteem and self-confidence
- Gives an outlet for self-expression
- Provides social and emotional connection

The type of meaningful activity a person with dementia will be able to engage in will depend on their interests, strengths and abilities.

Meaningful activity can vary from daily tasks such as cooking and cleaning, to art classes, watching films, exercise and spending time with family and friends.

Why join this session?

It is an opportunity to consider activities and why they are important to someone with dementia. The session explores different sorts of activities might meet the different needs of an individual. There will be some practical advice and strategies about how to engage someone in activities.

The course is for you if you would like to ...

- Know more about why activities are important
- Consider the different needs an individual has and how activities might meet these
- Learn some hints and tips about how to get someone involved in activities
- Spend time with experienced healthcare professionals who will answer your questions in a safe and supportive environment
- Meet other people who are taking care of a friend or family member with dementia in a similar situation

To register for this event, click the red button below.



FEBRUARY

Relationships and Feeling Secure

February 2, 2023 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM ET | Online

This session aims to explore the types of relationships and bonds we have with important people in our lives, including the person with dementia that you care for. There will be an opportunity to discuss how attachment affects a person with dementia and what can help them feel more secure in relationships.

This session is for you if:

- you would like to gain a better understanding of the influences the ability of a person with dementia to feel secure
- you would like to learn about the different strategies which can contribute to a person feeling secure
- you want to spend time with experienced healthcare professionals who will answer your questions in a safe, supportive environment
- you would like to meet other people who are taking care of a friend or family member with dementia in a similar situation

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER >



Caregiver Learning Workshop: Estate and Elder Law Planning

February 16, 2023 | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET | Online

Join Rebecca L. Wilson (Attorney, Myers Billion LLP Law Firm) on February 16th that will cover estate planning and elder law tools that can help you get your ducks in a row. She will focus on tools that enable caregivers to handle issues that arise, from paying bills to making medical decisions. We will discuss ways to create a plan that ensures an individual's wishes are carried out, both during any incapacity and on death. We will also cover the consequences of failing to put together a plan ahead of time and the options that remain when emergencies arise.

For more information, contact **Leacey Brown**, SDSU Extension Gerontology Field Specialist, at 605-394-1722 or **leacey.brown@sdstate.edu**.

To register for this event, click the red button below.



Why Dementia is Different for Everybody

February 22, 2023 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM ET | Online

Dementia affects each person in a different way, depending on multiple factors. These factors can include neurology, physical health, personality, our biography and background and the social environment in which we live. The signs and symptoms of dementia can therefore be quite different depending on the individual.

Did you know that there are more than 100 types of dementia? Understanding the different types of dementia, how they are diagnosed and their effects on different people is important in providing the best care for the person with dementia.

Presented by Dementia Carers Count in the UK, this introductory course on February 22nd, looks at the different factors that affect a person's experience of dementia and how these might influence the role of the carer.

Why join this session?

Whether the person you care for has a formal diagnosis or not, this session is for you. By better understanding dementia, you will be better equipped to deal with the challenges you both might have to face.

The course is for you if you would like to ...

- Gain a better understanding of your friend or family member
- Learn about the different factors which can contribute to a person's experience of having dementia
- Understand why no two people with dementia have the same experience
- Spend time with experienced healthcare professionals who will answer your questions in a safe and supportive environment.
- Meet other people who are taking care of a friend or family member with dementia in a similar situation

To register for this event, click the red button below.

REGISTER >

APRIL



Health and Aging Policy Fellowship 2023-2024 Call for Applications

Deadline to apply: April 17, 2023

With an aging population, one of the greatest challenges for the U.S. is ensuring that policies provide the best possible quality of life for all across all dimensions of society – from the communities where we live, the transportation we depend on, the food we eat, and the health care we receive. Success will require the translation of cutting-edge science and practical clinical experience into sound health policy. The goal of the Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program is to provide professionals in health and aging with the experience and skills necessary to help lead this effort, and in so doing, shape a healthy and productive future for older Americans.

The Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program offers two different tracks for individual placement: (1) a residential track that includes a nine-to-12-month placement in Washington, D.C. or at a state agency (as a legislative assistant in Congress, a professional staff member in an executive branch agency or in a policy organization); (2) a non-residential track that includes a health policy project and brief placement(s) throughout the year at relevant sites. The project may be focused at a global, federal, state or community level.

In addition, through our partnership with the veterans health administration, VA employees can participate in the VA track as a non-residential fellow.

Core program components focused on career development and professional enrichment are provided for fellows in all tracks.

To learn more about the fellowship, click **here**. To apply, click the red button below.

PATIENT AND CAREGIVER STUDIES



Bowel Health Survey

For the past 3 years, the National Association For Continence has conducted a nationwide survey to learn more about bladder health and all of the physical, financial and emotional challenges that come along with it. However, incontinence isn't only a condition of the bladder – bowel problems can be just as troubling, if not more so. That's why this year NAFC is focusing its efforts on learning more about bowel health and how digestive conditions affect you.

NAFC is seeking participants who will complete the survey in order to provide important insight on the symptoms you deal with, your management strategies, your experience with physicians, the products you use, the mental impact it has, and the ways it can influence your relationships. Most of all, we want to learn how we can help make your life a little easier – after all, that's our first and most important priority.

To participate in the survey, click on the red button below.

LEARN MORE
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Atorvastatin for Mild Cognitive Impairment

Start: May 21, 2021 End: Dec. 31, 2023 Enrollment: 20

Where is this Study Located? Maryland

What Is This Study About?

This Phase 2 clinical trial will test the ability of the FDA-approved drug atorvastatin to improve brain blood flow and cognition in older adults with mild cognitive impairment. After answering questions over the phone to determine eligibility, all participants will take an atorvastatin pill once every evening. At the start and end of the three-month study, participants will undergo MRI brain imaging, provide blood samples, and complete thinking and memory tests. Researchers will measure changes in cognitive function and blood vessel flow around the brain.

Do I Qualify To Participate in This Study?

Minimum Age: 60 Years Maximum Age: 95 Years

Must have:

- Diagnosis of mild cognitive impairment, with:
 - Clinical Dementia Rating score of 0.5 or 1.0
- Cognitive scores (memory, processing speed, executive function, and language) >
 1.5 standard deviations below the average of others with similar education and age

Must NOT have:

- History of dementia or any other neurological disease that could cause cognitive impairment
- Currently taking a statin medication, or have taken one in the last six months
- Known allergy or other adverse reaction to a statin
- Currently taking cyclosporine following organ transplant surgery
- Any condition that may make having an MRI brain scan unsafe (e.g., metal shrapnel, heart pacemaker, severe claustrophobia, epilepsy, body size and shape that prevents comfortable fit in scanners)
- Current diagnosis of substance abuse
- History of stroke or heart attack in the past six months
- · History of HIV

To learn more about the study, contact Samantha Horn at (410)550-9020 or by clicking on the red button below.



Brain Stimulation to Improve Memory

Start: July 9, 2021 End: August 30, 2030

Enrollment: 33

Where is this Study Located? Maryland

What Is This Study About?

Transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) is a noninvasive procedure that involves the use of magnetic fields to stimulate areas of the brain. This study is examining the effects of TMS on memory and brain connectivity in people with normal cognition. The study will consist of three study visits and will last two to three weeks. At the first visit, all participants will have a physical examination and undergo MRI brain imaging. On the second and third visits, participants will undergo TMS while an electroencephalogram records their brain activity.

Participants will also complete thinking and memory tests throughout the study.

Do I Qualify To Participate in This Study?

Minimum Age: 18 Years Maximum Age: 40 Years

Must have:

Ability to provide informed consent and participate in all study procedures

Must NOT have:

- Diagnosis of a serious neurological or psychiatric disorder (e.g., stroke, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, schizophrenia, major depression)
- History of seizure
- Taking any medications that act on the central nervous system, including antipsychotics, antidepressants, prescription stimulants, isoniazid, and some antibiotics (e.g., beta lactams, metronidazole)
- Any condition that may make having an MRI brain scan unsafe (e.g., metal shrapnel, heart pacemaker, severe claustrophobia, epilepsy, body size and shape that prevents comfortable fit in scanners)
- Pregnant, or plans to become pregnant during the study
- Members of the NINDS Behavioral Neurology Unit (BNU)

To learn more about the study, contact Gautam C. Ramanathan at (301)496-0220 or by clicking on the red button below.





Effects of Vascular Health on Changes Linked Alzheimer's Disease

Start: Sept. 17, 2012 End: Dec. 31, 2026 Enrollment: 850

Where Is the Study? Tennessee

What Is This Study About?

The Vanderbilt Memory and Aging Project is a long-term observational study to understand the relationship between heart and blood vessel health, called vascular health, to the biological markers of early Alzheimer's disease. In an earlier part of the study, scientists found that changes in vascular health were associated with changes in cognition, brain size, and other biological changes associated with early Alzheimer's. The current study will examine the effects of vascular health on the same measures in people with normal cognition. All participants will attend a four-hour study visit to complete memory and thinking tests, undergo an MRI, an echocardiogram, and provide blood and cerebrospinal fluid samples. Every 18 to 24 months for up to five years, participants will return to repeat the same tests and procedures. Information gathered in this study will help develop new tools for the early detection of Alzheimer's.

Do I Qualify To Participate in This Study?

Minimum Age: 60 Years

Maximum Age: N/A

Must have:

- Normal cognition
- · English as primary language
- Availability of a reliable study partner who knows the participant well enough to complete questionnaires and interviews about the participant's general memory, health, and thinking

Must NOT have:

- History of brain disease that could affect brain structure or function, including:
 - Major psychiatric illness (e.g., schizophrenia, bipolar)
 - Neurological illness (e.g., stroke, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, dementia)
 - Head injury that resulted in loss of consciousness
- Diagnosis of congestive heart failure, atrial fibrillation, or other heart arrhythmia
- Diagnosis of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Current diagnosis of cancer
- History or current serious alcohol or drug abuse
- Any condition that may make having an MRI brain scan unsafe (e.g., metal shrapnel, heart pacemaker, severe claustrophobia, epilepsy, body size and shape that prevents comfortable fit in scanners)
- · Living in a nursing home or other long-term care facility

To learn more about the study or enroll, contact **Paige Crepezzi** at (617)643-6348 or by clicking on the red button below.





Brain Stimulation for Primary Progressive Aphasia

Start: March 1, 2022 End: Jan. 31, 2024 Enrollment: 30

Where Is This Study Located? Massachusetts

What Is This Study About?

Primary progressive aphasia (PPA) involves changes in the ability to use language to speak, read, write, and understand what others are saying. This study will evaluate the effectiveness of noninvasive brain stimulation to improve language performance in people with PPA. Participants will be randomly assigned to receive either the intervention or a sham treatment once a day on weekdays for two weeks. At the start and end of the study, participants will complete language performance tests and undergo MRI brain imaging. Researchers will measure changes in language skills and brain connectivity.

Do I Qualify To Participate in This Study?

Minimum Age: 18 Years

Maximum Age: 90 Years

Must have:

- · Diagnosis of PPA
- · Observed for at least one year by a specialized clinician
- · Mild to moderate language impairment
- Native English speaker
- Availability of a study partner (e.g., spouse, sibling, or adult child) who can accompany participant to every study visit

Must NOT have:

- History of seizures, unexplained fainting, or an immediate family member with epilepsy
- History of serious neurological illness unrelated to neurodegeneration associated with PPA (e.g., multiple sclerosis)
- History of serious medical problems (e.g., poorly controlled diabetes, uncontrolled high blood pressure, cancer within the last five years)
- Symptoms of major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, substance use disorder, or intellectual disability
- Evidence of significant brain disorder, including cerebrovascular disease, hydrocephalus, or brain tumor, as determined by MRI brain imaging
- Any condition that may make having an MRI brain scan unsafe (e.g., metal shrapnel, heart pacemaker, severe claustrophobia, epilepsy, body size and shape that prevents comfortable fit in scanners)
- · Pregnant or breastfeeding

To learn more about the study or enroll, contact **Alexandra Touroutoglou** at (615)322-8676 or by clicking on the red button below.



Online Training Program for Latino Dementia Caregivers

Start: November 2022 End: September 2024

Enrollment: 48

Where Is This Study Located? San Antonio, Texas

What Is This Study About?

This study is evaluating the effectiveness of an online caregiver education program, named Learning Skills Together or Juntos, to improve confidence and overall well-being of

Latino family caregivers of a person with dementia. Participants will be randomly assigned to participate in the program either immediately or as part of a waitlist group that will complete the program three months later. At the start and end of the six-week study, caregivers will answer questionnaires related to their confidence performing care tasks, resilience to challenging behaviors, and overall health.

Do I Qualify To Participate in This Study?

Minimum Age: 18 Years Maximum Age: N/A

Must have:

- Family member to a person diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia
 - Person with dementia must have a Global Deterioration Score between 4 and
- Provide unpaid assistance with at least one major activity of daily living (e.g., bathing, eating, dressing)
- Able to read and speak English or Spanish

Must NOT have:

- Previous participation in the Learning Skills Together program
- Plans to place the care recipient in a skilled nursing facility within the next six months
- Severe depression, based on study screening evaluation

To learn more about the study or enroll, contact **Carole White** at (210)567-5831 or by clicking on the red button below.





Memory Training to Improve Cognitive Function in Older Adults

Start: April 7, 2022 End: Feb. 28, 2023 Enrollment: 30

Where is this study located? Michigan

What is this study about?

Working memory allows a person to remember and access information in the mind without losing track of what they are doing, such as a task. This study will test whether working memory training can improve learning and memory in people with mild cognitive impairment or normal cognition. Participants will receive online or in-person working memory training for 10 training sessions. At the start, end, and one month after the two-week training period, participants will take memory tests and undergo MRI brain imaging. Researchers will evaluate changes in task performance, memory, and cognition, and brain activity.

Do I Qualify To Participate in This Study?

Minimum Age: 60 Years Maximum Age: N/A

Must have:

- · Diagnosis of mild cognitive impairment
- Right-handed

Must NOT have:

- History of a neurological or medical condition known to affect cognitive functioning, other than mild cognitive impairment
- · Serious mental illness
- Significant vision, hearing, or other impairment that limits the ability to participate
- History of alcohol or drug abuse
- Any condition that may make having an MRI brain scan unsafe (e.g., metal shrapnel, heart pacemaker, severe claustrophobia, epilepsy, body size and shape that prevents comfortable fit in scanners)

To learn more about the study or enroll, contact **Alexandru lordan** at (734)647-3704 or by clicking on the red button below.

LEARN MORE

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The Trial-Ready Cohort -- Down Syndrome (TRC-DS)

Because people with Down syndrome have the same brain changes as those with Alzheimer's disease, they are at very high risk for Alzheimer's disease dementia and are an important population to consider as we develop therapies for Alzheimer's research.

Participants are needed to support new research into the connection between Alzheimer's and Down syndrome. The Trial-Ready Cohort -- Down Syndrome (TRC-DS) needs healthy adults between the ages of 25 and 55 with Down syndrome to participate and become part of a larger movement advancing Alzheimer's disease therapies and potential cures for people with Down syndrome.

To learn more about the study, click here. To enroll, click on the red button below.





LGBTQIA+ & Non-LGBTQIA+ Caregivers Needed: Parkinson's Research

Are you 18+ and a caregiver for someone living with Parkinson's?

The UNLV School of Public Health and the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research just launched an exciting research study – and we need your help! Parkinson's Research with Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity ("PRIDE") explores the health and health care needs of people living with Parkinson's disease.

Little is known about the LGBTQIA+ community because questions about us are not often asked in research. This one time, 45-minute phone study measures the unique needs and struggles of LGBTQIA+ individuals with Parkinson's and their caregivers. It will answer some of the following questions: What problems do LGBTQIA+ individuals with Parkinson's disease experience when using health care services? Would the community benefit from additional support and services? How do LGBTQIA+ people find the services they need?

Participation is voluntary and all information will be kept private. Participants will receive a \$25 Visa E-gift card.

All questions can be directed to primary investigator Jason Flatt, PhD at 702-895-5586 or **Jason.Flatt@unlv.edu**. Please note that we unfortunately cannot accept Google phone numbers.

Complete the survey today by calling **1-888-709-7689**! To learn more about the study, click on the red button below.

LEARN MORE

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

Caregiving Today: A Look at This Vital Role and What it Takes with the All of Us Research Program



Caregivers - whether professionals, family members, or friends - give so much for the well-being of those in their charge. But who cares for the Caregivers? This discussion, held on November 17th, focused on the health of the caregiver, needed resources, and how further research can support this important role.



RESEARCH & RESOURCES



New Resources in Search. Find. Help. for Older Adults and Caregivers during Emergencies

The purpose of Search. Find. Help. is to help leaders and staff of organizations serving community-dwelling older adults and their caregivers find resources they can use to support these populations during all types of public health emergencies, including disease outbreaks like COVID-19, natural disasters, and severe weather.

The site includes resources addressing social isolation, managing chronic conditions, elder abuse and neglect, caregiver support, delayed medical care, and emergency preparedness.

Search. Find. Help. has been updated with **over 60 new resources** to support older adults during other public health emergencies such as natural disasters and severe weather with a focus on disproportionately affected populations, including Tribal populations and people with disabilities.

NORC at the University of Chicago has provided an action plan to help organizations select, adapt, and implement programs to meet the needs of their communities. To view the action plan click the red button below.

VIEW THE ACTION PLAN

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≗Playbook

Better Care for People with Complex Needs

The Hurdles Facing Black Families Navigating Serious Illness -- Podcast

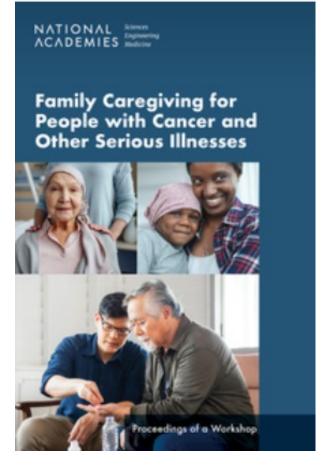
Serious illnesses like cancer and kidney failure are painful for patients and hard on their caregivers. Services like hospice and palliative care exist to support families and ensure their loved ones live easier lives and die more comfortable deaths. But data show Black individuals are less likely to have their pain treated and less likely to use hospice and palliative care.

In this Tradeoffs podcast episode from November 10, 2022 — the latest in a series made possible by the Better Care Playbook — a researcher details ways to make this care more equitable and a caregiver shares her family's journey navigating a serious illness.

To listen the podcast, click the red button below.

LISTEN TO THE PODCAST

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Family Caregiving for People with Cancer and Other Serious Illnesses: A Workshop

On May 16 and 17, 2022 the Roundtable on Quality Care for People with Serious Illness, the National Cancer Policy Forum and the Forum on Aging, Disability and Independence will host a collaborative public workshop that will examine opportunities to better support family caregiving for people with cancer or other serious illnesses.

The proceedings summarize presentations and discussions from the May 2022 workshop, which was hosted by the Roundtable on Quality Care for People with Serious Illness, the National Cancer Policy Forum and the Forum on Aging, Disability, and Independence. To view the archived videos and presentations, please see the project **Webpage**.

To view the workshop's proceedings, click the red button below.

VIEW THE PROCEEDINGS



Grandfamilies and Kinship Support Network: A National Technical Assistance Center

The Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network is the first-ever national technical assistance center for those who serve grandfamilies and kinship families. The Network

exists, free of charge, to offer a new way for government agencies and nonprofit organizations in states, tribes, and territories to collaborate and work across jurisdictional and systemic boundaries—all to improve supports and services for grandfamilies and kinship families. Our work is rooted in cultural competence and linguistically appropriate approaches and is fully accessible to people with disabilities.

The Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network will create lasting change for families around the country by connecting and supporting:

- Policy and program leaders at government agencies in states, tribes, and territories within aging/elder/senior services, child welfare, disability, education, housing, nutrition, Medicaid and Medicare, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF);
- · Kinship navigators; and
- Leaders of nonprofit, community-based, and faith-based organizations focused on supporting grandfamilies and kinship families.

To learn more about the Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network, click the red button below.

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What Do We Know About Healthy Aging?

Many factors influence healthy aging. Some of these, such as genetics, are not in our control. Others — like exercise, a healthy diet, going to the doctor regularly, and taking care of our mental health — are within our reach. Research supported by National Institute on Aging and others has identified actions you can take to help manage your health, live as independently as possible, and maintain your quality of life as you age. Read on to learn more about the research and the steps you can take to promote healthy aging.

To learn more, click the red button below.



Caregiving After Cancer Treatment Ends

Many factors influence healthy aging. Some of these, such as genetics, are not in our control. Others — like exercise, a healthy diet, going to the doctor regularly, and taking care of our mental health — are within our reach. Research supported by National Institute on Aging and others has identified actions you can take to help manage your health, live as independently as possible, and maintain your quality of life as you age. Read on to learn more about the research and the steps you can take to promote healthy aging.

To learn more, click the red button below.

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PREVIOUSLY APPEARED



Legal and Financial Planning for People with Dementia

Many people are unprepared to deal with the legal and financial consequences of a serious illness such as Alzheimer's disease or a <u>related dementia</u>. Legal and medical

experts encourage people recently diagnosed with a serious illness — particularly one that is expected to cause declining mental and physical health — to examine and update their financial and health care arrangements as soon as possible. Basic legal and financial documents, such as a will, a living trust, and advance directives, are available to ensure that the person's late-stage or end-of-life health care and financial decisions are carried out.

To learn more, click the red button below.

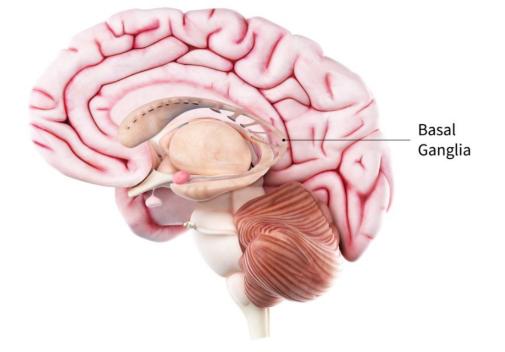
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I Am Not Alone Care Alliance

ianacare, the market leader in family caregiver benefits, is now forming the "I Am Not Alone Care Alliance" to create a full infrastructure of support across all sectors. They have galvanized key leaders and influencers from Fortune 500 companies, digital health, public sectors, and HR & benefits communities to lead the conversation and shape the future of caregiving resources. Designed for action and launched during National Family Caregivers Month, the I Am Not Alone Care Alliance will change the way public and private sectors work together to amplify the voice of millions of family caregivers and to fill the gaps - so no caregiver does this alone.

To learn more, click the red button below.



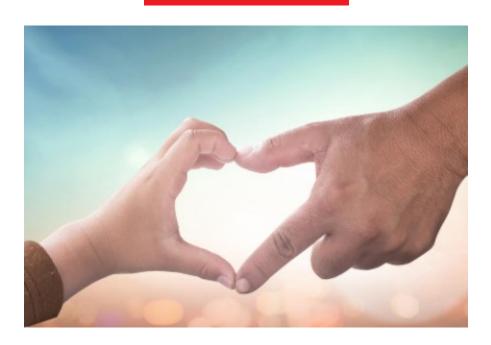
Parkinson's Disease: Causes, Symptoms, and Treatments

Parkinson's disease is a brain disorder that causes unintended or uncontrollable movements, such as shaking, stiffness, and difficulty with balance and coordination.

Symptoms usually begin gradually and worsen over time. As the disease progresses, people may have difficulty walking and talking. They may also have mental and behavioral changes, sleep problems, depression, memory difficulties, and fatigue.

To learn more, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE



Support for Families When a Child Has Cancer

When a child has cancer, every member of the family needs support. Parents often feel shocked and overwhelmed following their child's cancer diagnosis. Honest and calm conversations build trust as you talk with your child and his or her siblings. Taking care of yourself during this difficult time is important; it's not selfish. As you dig deep for strength,

reach out to your child's treatment team and to people in your family and community for support.

To learn more about long-term care, click the red button below.

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What Is Long-Term Care?

Long-term care involves a variety of services designed to meet a person's health or personal care needs during a short or long period of time. These services help people live as independently and safely as possible when they can no longer perform everyday activities on their own.

Long-term care is provided in different places by different caregivers, depending on a person's needs. Most long-term care is provided at home by unpaid family members and friends. It can also be given in a facility such as a nursing home or in the community, for example, in an adult day care center.

To learn more about long-term care, click the red button below.

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Veteran Caregiver Kids: America Wants to Hear Your Story

A new initiative is seeking out the voices of America's military-connected caregiving youth to further shine a light on the experiences of "hidden helpers" — children living with and serving wounded, ill or injured service members and veterans.

Children and young adults are asked to submit their stories in the way they want to tell them — through writing, drawing, film, photography or other means.

To learn more, click the red button below.



Getting Started Guide for New Caregivers

When many people hear the word caregiver, they tend to think of someone who takes care of a disabled relative and acts almost like a home nurse while also taking care of finances, cooking, and cleaning. That's not wrong, but not all caregivers play such an involved role. Being a caregiver can mean a lot of things.

<u>Mental Health America</u> (MHA) has released a guide for new caregivers. Its specific focus is on people who care for someone who has been recently diagnosed with a mental health condition.

To view the MHA guide, click the red button below.

VIEW THE GUIDE

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Saving Money with the Inflation Reduction Act

The Inflation Reduction Act will save money for people with Medicare by improving access to affordable treatments and strengthening the Medicare program.

The cost of a month's supply of each Part D-covered insulin will be capped at \$35, and you won't have to pay a deductible for insulin, starting on January 1, 2023.

If you have drug costs high enough to reach the catastrophic coverage phase in your Medicare drug coverage, you won't have to pay a copayment or coinsurance, starting in 2024.

To learn more, click the red button below.



Legacy Lessons from the Sages of Aging

Curated from twelve hours of interviews with 12 of the diverse set of legendary pathfinders in the fields of aging, Legacy Lessons from the Sages of Aging is a 90-minute powerful and inspirational documentary for students and professionals in gerontology, social work, healthcare, medicine, nursing, law, housing, psychology, and other professions who work to meet the needs of older adults.

VIEW THE VIDEO

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Planning for the Future After a Dementia Diagnosis

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia, it may be difficult to think beyond the day to day. However, taking steps now can help prepare for a smoother tomorrow.

Over time, the symptoms of Alzheimer's and related dementias will make it difficult to think clearly. Planning as early as possible enables you to make decisions and communicate those decisions to the right people.

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How to Share Caregiving Responsibilities with Family Members

Caring for an older family member often requires teamwork. While one sibling might be local and take on most of the everyday caregiving responsibilities, a long-distance caregiver can also have an important role.

First, try to define the caregiving responsibilities. You could start by setting up a family meeting and, if it makes sense, include the care recipient in the discussion. This is best done when there is not an emergency. A calm conversation about what kind of care is wanted and needed now, and what might be needed in the future, can help avoid a lot of confusion.

Decide who will be responsible for which tasks. Many families find the best first step is to name a primary caregiver, even if one is not needed immediately. That way the primary caregiver can step in if there is a crisis.

Agree in advance how each of your efforts can complement one another so that you can be an effective team. Ideally, each of you will be able to take on tasks best suited to your skills or interests.

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Look for the Helpers: Providing Support to Older Adults

People age 50 and above commonly provide health, personal, and other types of care and support to other older adults living with chronic conditions or disabilities. This support is often essential for aging in place and managing chronic conditions. In July 2022, the University of Michigan National Poll on Healthy Aging asked a national sample of U.S. adults age 50–80 about their experiences helping an adult age 65 or older with health, personal, and other types of care needs.

To learn more about the poll's findings, click the red button below.



Medicaid Structured Family Caregiving: Enabling Family Members to Make Caregiving Their Primary Focus

Family caregivers play an important role in states' efforts to help Medicaid beneficiaries safely remain in their communities. And, as of August 2022, at least seven states (Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, and South Dakota) covered structured family caregiving (SFC) services provided to older adults and/or people with physical disabilities under their Medicaid programs. Coverage of SFC services results in Medicaid payments and other support to family caregivers, usually including spouses and others who are legally responsible for the beneficiary. This brief, which is based on research and interviews with state staff, examines how Georgia, Missouri, and South Dakota are using Medicaid-funded SFC services to help older adults remain in the homes they share with their loved ones.

SFC services consist of a package of services that support home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver participants' primary caregivers and includes payment, individualized training based on the needs of the waiver participant, coaching, back-up or respite care, and other supports. All interviewees emphasized that they valued SFC services because they enabled HCBS waiver participants who do not self-direct services to receive the personal care they need in their homes from people they know and trust.

Georgia and South Dakota offer SFC services to both older adults and people with disabilities enrolled in Medicaid. Missouri, however, offers the services only to Medicaid beneficiaries with Alzheimer's or a related diagnosis. In all three states, Medicaid beneficiaries must be enrolled in an HCBS waiver to qualify for SFC services. As of July 2022, Missouri was providing SFC services to 62 waiver participants, and South Dakota was providing them to 217 participants. Also, all three states administer their SFC services through agencies, which are entities (usually home health providers) that have agreed to provide the services. Interviewees reported that approach enabled their states to implement the service without new staff resources and helped ensure appropriate oversight of the care delivered to Medicaid beneficiaries.

To learn more about Medicaid structured family caregiving, click the red button below.



The COPD Caregiver's Toolkit

Caring for someone with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) might be new for you. It is a condition that can be hard to understand and manage. COPD is a group of lung diseases including emphysema and chronic bronchitis, or both — that block airflow in the lungs. This makes breathing difficult for people living with COPD.

Caregivers who feel confident about what to do often provide better care for their loved ones. "The COPD Caregiver's Toolkit" offers advice on a variety of topics for patients and caregivers, including how to prepare for doctors' appointments, navigate changes in home life, provide help after a COPD flare-up or hospital stay and stay mentally and physically healthy through it all.

To view the toolkit, click the red button below.

VIEW THE TOOLKIT



Acceptance & Letting Go

We cannot control everything; we can only control our responses. On our caregiver journey, we often want to assert control over situations in order to show love or support. Sometimes the best way to provide care to our loved ones is to practice radical acceptance and letting things go.

Letting go is hard for everyone at first. Courage to Caregivers has put together some tips and philosophies on acceptance.

To learn more, click the red button below.

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Potential Contributor to Sex Differences in Alzheimer's Risk

Alzheimer's disease, which can destroy the ability to think, learn, and remember, is more common in women than men. The reasons for this disparity between the sexes are not well understood.

Women are known to have greater levels of tau protein abnormally build up in brain cells over their lives. The structures that form, called tau tangles, are one of the hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease.

To learn more, click the red button below.

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Paying for Long-Term Care

Many older adults and caregivers worry about the cost of medical care and other help they

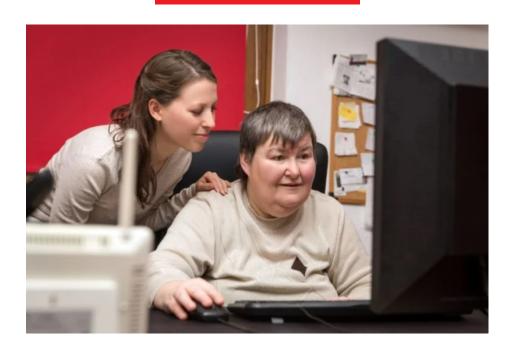
may need. These expenses can use up a significant part of monthly income, even for families who thought they had saved enough.

At first, many older adults pay for care in part with their own money. Initially, family and friends may provide personal care and other services, such as transportation, for free. But as a person's needs increase, paid services may be needed.

Older adults may be eligible for some government health care benefits. Caregivers can help by learning more about possible sources of financial help and assisting older adults in applying for aid as appropriate.

To learn more about options for paying for long-term care, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE



Caring for a Person Who Has Intellectual Developmental Disabilities

An intellectual or developmental disability affects a person's ability to live, attend school, and work independently. A person may need support with cooking, banking, transportation, social situations, health care visits, and jobs. Three of the best-known intellectual or developmental disabilities are Down syndrome, autism, and traumatic brain injury (TBI). Many families care for a person who has an intellectual or developmental disability. It could be a young child, an adult child who lives at home with their parents, or even an adult sibling.

To learn some tips about caring for someone with intellectual developmental disabilities, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE

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Holiday Hints for Alzheimer's Caregivers

Holidays can be meaningful, enriching times for both the person with Alzheimer's disease and his or her family. Maintaining or adapting family rituals and traditions helps all family members feel a sense of belonging and family identity. For a person with Alzheimer's, this link with a familiar past is reassuring.

However, celebrations, special events, or holidays, which may include other people, can cause confusion and anxiety for a person with Alzheimer's. He or she may find some situations easier and more pleasurable than others.

To learn some tips that will help you balance busy holiday activities with everyday care for a person with Alzheimer's disease, click the red button below.

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Daily Multivitamin May Improve Cognition in Older Adults

Alzheimer's disease and related dementias affect more than 46 million people worldwide. Safe and affordable treatments to prevent cognitive decline in older adults are urgently needed. In response to this need, certain dietary supplements have been touted as having protective effects on cognition.

To learn more, click the red button below.





Fall Prevention Partner Toolkit

There's so much about life to enjoy as we age. We need to stay healthy and take steps to prevent falls so we can enjoy our family, friends, and the things we love. Falls are the number one cause of injury in adults aged 65 and older and can lead to serious health problems. Many of these falls are preventable. You can take control by assessing your fall risk.

Take the Falls Free CheckUp by clicking on the red button below, and discuss the results with your doctor.

TAKE THE FALLS FREE CHECKUP



Age-Friendly Insights Poll: Broad Political Support for Policies to Help Family Caregivers

In a recent poll, the John A. Hartford Foundation recently asked adults living in the U.S. for their opinions on policies to help family caregivers, including those recommended in the 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers. Agreement is near-universal: Action is needed to support family caregivers .

To learn more about the poll's findings, click the red button below.

MAKE YOURSELF A PRIORITY, TOO

[TIPS FOR CAREGIVERS]

Taking Care of Yourself: Tips for Caregivers

Being a caregiver can be extremely rewarding, but it can also be overwhelming. It's not uncommon to feel lonely or frustrated with everyone around you, from the care recipient to the doctors. That's why taking care of yourself is one of the most important things you can do as a caregiver. Here are a few things you can do to care for yourself:

- Stay physically active. Try doing yoga or going for a walk.
- Eat healthy foods. Nutritious food can help keep you healthy and give you energy.
- Join a caregiver support group online or in person. Meeting other caregivers will give you a chance to share stories and ideas.

To learn more self-care tips for caregivers, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE

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Doctor's Appointments: Tips for Caregivers

Working with doctors and other healthcare professionals can be an important part of being a caregiver. Some things caregivers may find especially helpful to discuss are: what to expect in the future, sources of information and support, community services, and ways they can maintain their own well-being.

For suggestions that can help caregivers be an ally and an advocate for those they care for, click the red button below.



- I access care
- O I am a care provider
- I support caregivers and care providers



#CdnCaregiving

Giving Care: An Approach to a Better Caregiving Landscape in Canada

Unpaid caregivers and paid care providers make up the largest part of Canada's health-care and social supports systems. Research shows that they provide approximately three hours of care for every hour provided through the rest of our systems. They help seniors living in the community or in long-term care settings; children and adults with physical, intellectual, or developmental disabilities; people with medical conditions; people experiencing mental illness; and people with changing support needs related to aging.

On November 7, 2022, the Canadian Centre for Caregiving Excellence released it's first policy white paper – *Giving Care: An approach to a better caregiving landscape in Canada.* The report aims to ignite a public conversation on the state of caregiving and offer potential policy solutions to address the many challenges and systemic issues experienced by Canada's 8+ million caregivers and care providers across the country.

To view the white paper, click the red button below.

VIEW THE WHITE PAPER

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Understanding and Treating Depression

It's normal to feel sad, down, or low at times. But these feelings can sometimes linger. They can get worse, too, eventually making it hard to do basic daily tasks. If you've had a depressed mood or a loss of interest or pleasure in most activities for at least two weeks, you may be experiencing depression.

Depression is a serious disorder. "It's not some-thing that you can just 'push through,' or get through without help," says Dr. Kymberly Young, a mental health researcher at the University of Pittsburgh.

Depression isn't caused by a single thing. Some people's genes put them at risk for depression. Stressful situations may trigger depression. Examples include money problems, the loss of a loved one, or major life changes. Having a serious illness like cancer or heart disease can also lead to depression. And depression can make such illnesses worse.

To learn more about depression, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE



Feeling Fatigued?

Exhaustion seems to be on the rise. Fatigue is one of the symptoms most often reported by people with COVID-19, and their tiredness can linger. Add this to the many other causes of fatigue that existed before the pandemic—such as lack of sleep, mental health concerns, and health conditions like anemia or heart disease. Overall, it seems, we are one weary nation.

Fatigue can be helpful. It can be a warning sign that you need to ease up after strenuous exercise. Or it can make you rest if you get sick. But more often, fatigue creates problems. It can be an overwhelming and lasting feeling of exhaustion that makes it hard to do

everyday tasks.

To learn more about fatigue, click the red button below.





Medicare Open Enrollment Period Outreach & Media Materials

October 15 to December 7 is when all people with Medicare can change their Medicare health plans and prescription drug coverage for the following year to better meet their needs.

The U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) have provided partner organizations with outreach and media materials for **English-speaking**, **Spanish-speaking**, and **other audiences** that can help them to help others with Medicare open enrollment.

To learn more about Medicare outreach resources, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE



engAGED Year Three Poll

The National Resource Center for Engaging Older Adults (engAGED) would like to learn about programs offered by caregiving organizations that specifically address social isolation, loneliness or social engagement. To this end, engAGED is conducting a poll from November 1 to December 2 to learn more about social engagement programs currently offered by Aging Network and partner organizations. This is part of our Year Three project workplan, and builds upon an engAGED poll conducted in 2020.

Responses to this poll will help engAGED learn more about social engagement programs currently offered by Aging Network and partner organizations, including types of programs, partners involved, populations and communities served and outcome measurements. The

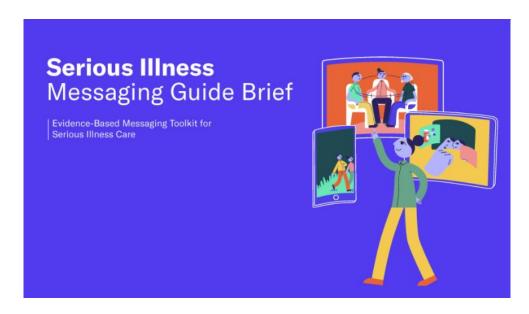
results from this poll will be used to develop a fact sheet depicting social engagement program trends across the Aging Network and partner organizations.

engAGED is asking partner organizations to promote the poll widely to their networks and have provided a dissemination toolkit that contains sample social media and newsletter language along with sample images. To access the toolkit, click <u>here</u>.

Questions? Contact info@engagingolderadults.org.

To participate in the poll, click the red button below.

PARTICIPATE IN THE POLL



Serious Illness Messaging Toolkit

Capture public interest, bypass misconceptions, and increase demand for your services with better messaging. This toolkit will show you easy ways to improve your messaging about care for serious illness.

This toolkit is the product a joint endeavor funded by The John A. Hartford Foundation and Cambia Health Foundation. Its launch will take place on November 2.

To access the toolkit, click the red button below...





Vitality Arts

Next Avenue's special series, Vitality Arts, shows the powerful effect that participating in the arts can have on our minds, bodies and souls. Look to this page for information, resources and inspiration that will help you age better through the arts and show that creativity has no age limit.

To learn more, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE

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Long-Distance Caregiving

Anyone, anywhere, can be a long-distance caregiver, no matter your gender, income, age, social status, or employment. If you are living an hour or more away from a person who needs your help, you're probably a long-distance caregiver. This kind of care can take many forms—from helping with money management and arranging for in-home care to providing respite care for a primary caregiver and planning for emergencies.

The U.S. National Institute on Aging provides a number of resources for long-distance carers. To learn more, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE



If You're About to Become a Cancer Caregiver

Today, most <u>cancer treatment</u> is given in outpatient treatment centers – not in hospitals. This means someone is needed to be part of the day-to-day care of the person with cancer and that sicker people are being cared for at home. As a result, <u>caregivers have many roles</u>. These roles change as the patient's needs change during and after cancer treatment.

To learn more about cancer caregiving, click the red button below.

Adult Day Care

Adult Day Care Centers are designed to provide care and companionship for older adults who need assistance or supervision during the day. Programs offer relief to family members and caregivers, allowing them to go to work, handle personal business, or just relax while knowing their relative is well cared for and safe.

The goals of the programs are to delay or prevent institutionalization by providing alternative care, to enhance self-esteem, and to encourage socialization. Adult day health care offers intensive health, therapeutic, and social services for individuals with serious medical conditions and those at risk of requiring nursing home care.

To learn more about adult day care, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE

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What Are the Caregiver's Rights?

Caring for someone you love after a heart or stroke event can be hard. The responsibilities and the emotional stress of being a caregiver can cause you to forget to take care of yourself.

These rights can help you reaffirm that you have a right to health and happiness, even when you're caring for someone else. They'll help you realize that the emotions and pressures you may be feeling are normal

To learn more about caregivers' rights, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE

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Hospital Discharge Planning: A Guide for Families and Caregivers

A trip to the hospital can be an intimidating event for patients and their families. As a caregiver, you are focused completely on your family member or friend's medical care, and so is the hospital staff. You might not be giving much thought to what will happen when your friend or family member leaves the hospital.

Everything about this transition – whether the discharge is to home, a short-term rehabilitation ("rehab") center, or a residential nursing facility – is critical to the health and well-being of the person you care for. Yet, while it's a significant part of the overall care plan, there is a surprising lack of consistency in both the quality and process of discharge planning across the health care system.

To learn more, click the red button below.





One Way to Help Family Caregivers: Caregiving Navigators

In early 2022, Nexus Insights brought together long-term care providers, caregiver advocates, tech-driven start ups and policy experts to discuss how to help older adults and their caregivers better navigate the complex and fragmented array of long-term care and aging services. The resulting report, "Where Am I, Where Do I Go: The Missing Entry Point to Long-Term Care Solutions for Older Adults and Their Caregivers," details the challenges older adults and their families face and the need for navigational centers, or hubs, to support these individuals as they make critical decisions, often under stressful conditions, about their care needs.

To learn more about the benefits of navigation hubs, click <u>here</u>. To view the report itself, click the red button below.

READ THE REPORT >

Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers: National Research Centers, Local Resources

The Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers (ADRCs) offer local resources, support, and opportunities to participate in research on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. These centers are dedicated to developing and testing new ways to detect, diagnose, treat, and prevent dementia and to improving care for people with these diseases and their families. The National Institute on Aging (NIA) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funds more than 30 ADRCs at medical institutions across the country. Each center has specific scientific and population areas of focus.

For families affected by Alzheimer's and related dementias, ADRCs offer:

- · Help with obtaining diagnosis and managing your care
- Information about the diseases, services, and resources
- Opportunities for volunteers to participate in clinical trials and studies that contribute to improved understanding of dementia, which may lead to new treatments and better care
- Support groups and other special programs for volunteers and their families

To learn more about resources offered by ADRCs, click the red button below.



Caring for the Caregiver: Balancing Work While Caring for Others

Caregiving is a selfless act, but for most caregivers finding the right balance between employment and their personal well-being can be difficult. It may seem counterintuitive for caregivers to think of themselves, but for a caregiver to effectively manage working while providing care, self-care is essential.

To improve the work-life balance and well-being of caregivers, there are actions they can take and employer-sponsored benefits that may provide some help.

To learn more, click the red button below.



Navigating the Journey: Caregiving for a Loved One With Autism Spectrum Disorder

Autism Spectrum Disorder (or simply Autism) is a mental difference characterized by a spectrum of non-typical social, sensory, and cognitive traits. Autism is not a disease, but rather a form of neurodivergence with its own type of normality. Still, your loved one might be going through a lot.

Courage to Caregivers has compiled a list of resources available for caregivers supporting a loved one with autism. To learn more, click the red button below.





One-to-One Caregiver Peer Support

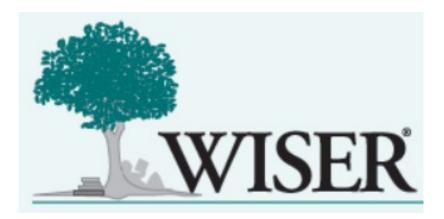
Courage to Caregivers is accepting registrations for volunteers (caregiver providing support) and participants (caregiver seeking support) for its virtual One-to-One Caregiver Peer Support program.

This program connects caregivers with volunteers who have experience caring for someone with a mental illness. The purpose of the program is to provide participants with support and resources so they are better able to take care of someone else.

Volunteers are trained through a series of online webinars and monthly ongoing training opportunities. Courage to Caregivers has an onboarding process with your privacy and confidentiality in mind.

To learn more, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE >



Financial Caregiving Hub

The Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER) has produced a new tool designed to serve as a one-stop clearing house for financial caregivers and care recipients. The online tool offers an easily accessible suite of vetted and trusted educational materials focused on caregiving, aimed at helping caregivers for their spouses, parents, children, and other family members access vetted content including podcasts, videos, and blog posts from experts along with links to community-based

programs supporting caregivers.

To explore the Financial Caregiving Hub, click the red button below.





My Health Priorities: A Guide for Older Adults and Care Partners

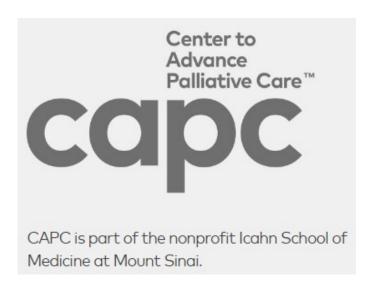
What matters most in life and health is different for everyone. Managing your health may be particularly difficult if you have multiple chronic conditions.

The more you and your health care team know about what matters most to you, the better you can work together to line up your health care decisions with your Health Priorities.

Patient Priorities Care has come up with a new tool designed to help older adults determine their health and life priorities. The aim of the tool is that knowing your health priorities will help you to communicate what matters most to you to your health care team, family and care partners.

To explore the online tool, click <u>here</u>. To view a printable version, click the red button below.

VIEW THE GUIDE



MOTIVATE: Marketing and Messaging Palliative Care

The Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) has developed the MOTIVATE toolkit about marketing and messaging palliative care.

Due to low public awareness and consistent misconceptions, how you frame palliative care and its benefits is vitally important. Marketing, supported by sound messaging, helps patients, families, referral sources, and service partners understand the work that you do. Palliative care is about quality of life. When done well, proper messaging and marketing can clarify this and motivate patients, families, and clinicians to take advantage of it.

Use the MOTIVATE toolkit to refine your program's marketing strategy, and your messaging.

To explore the online toolkit, click the red button below.





Join The ALL IN® Community

Aurinia Pharmaceuticals is committed to supporting the lupus nephritis community. That's why it launched the ALL IN® program, a source of information, resources, and support for those affected by or at risk for lupus nephritis and their care partners. Caring for someone with lupus nephritis can be overwhelming, but you're not alone. The Lupus Nephritis Awareness Kit offers support for both individuals living with LN and their loved ones, along with other helpful resources.

To learn more, click the red button below.





Engaging Older Adults Through Virtual Communities

Due the COVID-19 pandemic, efforts to address social isolation and loneliness are more important than ever.

To highlight how such efforts have supported older adults and caregivers who may be facing social isolation, USAging has produced a new video vignettes—"Engaging Older Adults Through Virtual Communities"—showcasing the unique ways AAAs and Title VI Native American Aging Programs have engaged older adults through high and low-tech methods.

To view the video, click the red button below.

Just released: 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers





2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers

The National Alliance for Caregiving – a coalition of 67 national organizations – applauds the release of the 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services but urges strong accountability and implementation efforts to turn the strategy into action.

The strategy details more than 350 federal actions and 150 measures that state and local governments, public health departments, philanthropies, and community-based, faith-based, and nonprofit organizations can take immediately to support the nation's 53 million family caregivers who make up 21% of the population.

The National Strategy includes potential government actions that address issues that family caregivers say are most important, including:

- 1) Access to Respite Services
- 2) Support with Day-to-Day and Complex Medical Tasks
- 3) Inclusion of Caregivers in Care Teams
- 4) Financial Education on Caregiving Costs
- 5) Better Identification of Family Caregivers
- 6) Research on the Needs of Family Caregivers

NAC was integral to mobilizing the caregiving community in support of the RAISE (Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage) Act, which established the council and process for developing the 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers. NAC also worked with The John A. Hartford Foundation and the National Academy for State Health Policy to ensure family caregivers were centered in the development of the recommendations and that the strategy reflected the lived experiences of this diverse community.

We encourage individuals and organizations to **provide public comment** on the National Strategy. The Strategy will be updated biennially, informed in part by public feedback, ensuring it continues to meet the needs of family caregivers and those they care for as they evolve.

To learn more, click the red button below.



Different Care Settings at the End of Life

The three most common places people at the end-of-life die are at home, in a hospital, or in a care facility. While not everyone has the chance to decide where they will die, people who know the end of life is approaching may be able to plan ahead. Several factors may help with this planning, including knowing the type of care you need and want, where you can receive this level of care, <u>advance care directives</u>, <u>costs</u>, and availability of family and friends to help.

To learn more, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE



Frequently Asked Questions About Palliative Care

Palliative care is specialized medical care for people living with a serious illness. Palliative care can be received at the same time as your treatment for your disease or condition. It focuses on providing relief from the symptoms and stress of serious illness. The palliative care team works to prevent or ease suffering, improve quality of life for both the patient and their family, and help patients and their families make difficult health care decisions. When a patient decides to forgo treatment for their serious illness or is near the end of life, they may decide to enter hospice care.

To learn more, click the red button below.

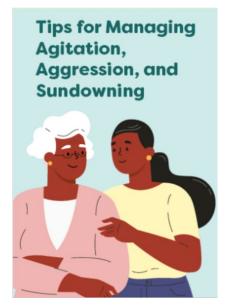


Keep Your Mind Active

Being intellectually engaged may benefit the brain. People who engage in personally <u>meaningful activities</u>, such as volunteering or hobbies, say they feel happier and healthier. Learning new skills may improve your thinking ability, too. For example, <u>one study</u> found that older adults who learned quilting or digital photography had more memory improvement than those who only socialized or did less cognitively demanding activities. <u>Some of the research</u> on engagement in activities such as music, theater, dance, and creative writing has shown promise for improving quality of life and well-being in older adults, from better memory and self-esteem to reduced stress and increased social interaction.

To learn more, click the red button below.





Tips for Managing Agitation, Aggression, and Sundowning

Download or order this one-page tip sheet that caregivers can use during difficult situations to help deal with agitation, aggression, and sundowning behaviors in people with Alzheimer's disease. Hang the publication in your home or office for quick access to the tips.

To view the tip sheet, click the red button below.

VIEW THE TIP SHEET >

Making Decisions for Someone at the End of Life

It can be overwhelming to be asked to make health care decisions for someone who is dying and is no longer able to make their own choices. It is even more difficult if you do not

have <u>written or verbal guidance</u>. Even when you have written documents, some decisions still might not be clear.

To learn more, click the red button below.





Understanding the Options

FAIR Health created a new consumer website for older adults and family caregivers with decision-making and treatment cost tools to help them make informed choices and navigate the health care system. The tools assist in answering questions like "should I have a hip replacement?" and estimating costs of care for conditions such as Alzheimer's disease.

To view the website, click the red button below.



Vaccinations and Older Adults

When fall arrives, many of us know it's time to get the annual flu, or influenza, shot. It's also a good time to consider what other vaccines or boosters to get to protect your health.

Staying up to date on vaccines is especially important for older adults. Our immune system helps the body fight infection, but it gets weaker as we age. Vaccines help to strengthen the immune system.

Other vaccines that are important to older adults include COVID-19, pneumonia, shingles, and TDP (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis).

To learn more about vaccinations and older adults, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE



Hearing Loss and Older Adults

Hearing loss is a sudden or gradual decrease in how well you can hear. It is one of the most common conditions affecting older and elderly adults. Approximately one in three people between the ages of 65 and 74 has hearing loss and nearly half of those older than 75 have difficulty hearing. Having trouble hearing can make it hard to understand and follow a doctor's advice, to respond to warnings, and to hear doorbells and alarms. It can also make it hard to enjoy talking with friends and family. All of this can be frustrating, embarrassing, and even dangerous.

To learn more hearing loss, click the red button below.



How Biomarkers Help Diagnose Dementia

Biomarkers are measurable indicators of what's happening in the body. These can be found in blood, other body fluids, organs, and tissues. Some can even be measured digitally. Biomarkers can help doctors and researchers track healthy processes, diagnose diseases and other health conditions, monitor responses to medication, and identify health risks in a person. For example, an increased level of cholesterol in the blood is a biomarker for heart attack risk.

Before the early 2000s, the only sure way to know whether a person had <u>Alzheimer's</u> <u>disease or another form of dementia</u> was after death through autopsy. But thanks to advances in research, tests are now available to help doctors and researchers see biomarkers associated with dementia in a living person.

To learn more, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE >

CONVERGENCE



Convergence Dialogue on Reimagining Care for Older Adult Adults

In a new report, Convergence Center for Policy Resolution released recommendations from its Convergence Dialogue on Reimagining Care for Older Adults. The report offers consensus solutions produced by leaders and experts who participated from across the political spectrum in a multi-stage convening. These unlikely allies propose changes to America's systems of care that reflect the unique needs and realities of aging adults today and in the future.

To review the report, click the red button below.



Brain Stimulation Can Affect Memory in Older Adults

The number of older adults worldwide is rising, along with an increase in age-related memory decline. Researchers have long sought ways to prevent or reverse memory impairment. They've been able to pinpoint specific brain circuits and networks that underlie learning and memory. But effective and lasting interventions to improve memory have remained elusive.

To learn more about brain stimulation and memory, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE



Genetic Risk Factors that Underlie Depression May Also Drive Alzheimer's Disease

Some cases of Alzheimer's disease may be driven by the genetic risk factors that can underlie depression, according to an NIA-supported data-mining study by researchers at Emory University School of Medicine. The results, published in Biological Psychiatry,

suggest that the activity of at least seven genes may help explain why depression appears to increase the chances one may experience Alzheimer's.

To learn more about the connection between depression and Alzheimer's disease, click the red button below.

LEARN MORE



Exposure to Green Space May Boost Cognitive Health

Residential areas with more green space were associated with faster thinking, better attention, and higher overall cognitive function in middle-aged women, according to an NIA-funded study. Published in JAMA Network Open, the findings suggest that green space — such as trees, flowers, grass, gardens, and parks — could be explored as a potential community-based approach to improving cognitive health.

To learn more about this study's findings, click the red button below.

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