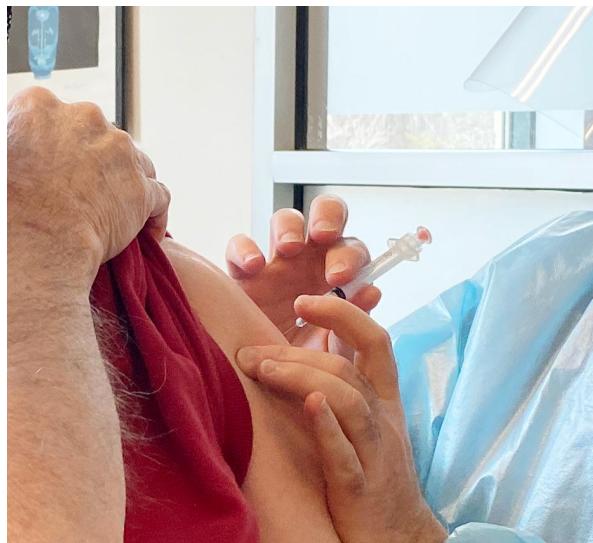


# The Shoreline

May 2021



## ESMV-NS awarded vaccine access contract *Project funded in Massachusetts towns hardest hit by pandemic*



Our agency was one of 25 community-based organizations named as part of the Massachusetts Vaccine Equity Initiative to increase awareness and access to the COVID-19 vaccine in the 20 cities and towns hardest hit by the pandemic.

“With the arrival of the COVID-19 vaccines, we have hosted vaccination clinics and supported the clinics of our community partners to ensure as many people as possible are vaccinated,” said Elder Services’ CEO Joan Hatem-Roy. “This contract allows us to expand that work in the

areas hardest hit by the pandemic.”

Under the contract, we will support efforts in the communities of Haverhill, Lawrence, Lowell, and Methuen to increase trust in the vaccine’s safety and efficacy, especially in communities of color; identify and reduce barriers for accessing the vaccine; and increase vaccine access through existing vaccination locations and mobile vaccination options.

[Read the full announcement here](#)

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## Maria Arias honored in YWCA's Tribute to Women

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Congratulations to Maria Arias! Last week, the YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts in Lawrence honored her at their 38<sup>th</sup> annual Tribute to Women for her extraordinary work throughout the pandemic year. She was one of 22 women recognized for their contributions.

As a program coordinator for our Healthy Living Center of Excellence, she leads the A Matter of Balance and Chronic Disease Self-Management workshops.

Last year, Maria was able to pivot our offerings from an in-person to an online format. She also went above and beyond to distribute information about the COVID-19 virus and local vaccine clinics. Somehow, she finds time to volunteer for our Brown Bag and Elder Community Markets programs and the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center.

*Maria is shown above with her daughter, Lizzette, right, and coworker Bonnie Sisson, who nominated her for the award.*

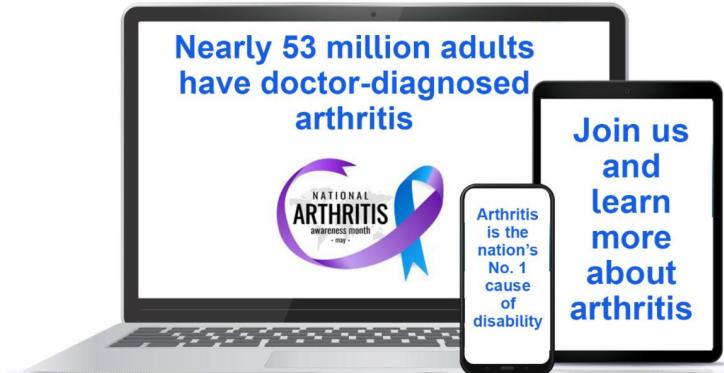
[Watch the YWCA awards program](#)

## COMMUNITY SERVICES & PROGRAMS

### Join us: "Arthritis Awareness in 2021" webinar

Arthritis is one of the most widespread health conditions in the U.S., affecting one in every five adults.

As part of May's Arthritis Awareness Month, you are invited to join ESMV-NS, the Mass Alliance of YMCAs, and the Healthy



Living Center of Excellence for a FREE virtual webinar, "Arthritis Awareness in 2021."

Hear from speakers and learn about arthritis activities, including in-person and virtual physical activities and pain management programs like Enhance®Fitness, Walk with Ease, and The Chronic Pain Self-Management Program.

Our featured speakers are Milagros Abreu, MD, MPH, from the Latino Health Insurance Program, and Julia Chevan, PT, Ph.D., MPH, of Springfield College.

[\*\*Click here to learn more about arthritis and how to manage the disease\*\*](#)

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Wednesday, May 26, from 12-12:30 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88434590559>

Zoom Meeting ID: 884 3459 0559

Passcode: 678814

**Arthritis Awareness  
Webinar ZOOM LINK**

## **Keynote speakers celebrate America's trans elders at upcoming LGBT Elders Conference**



Jess T. Dugan, photographer



Vanessa Fabbre, Ph.D., LCSW

Join us Friday, June 25, for this virtual one-day conference focusing on interdisciplinary practice and community engagement for people working with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender older adults. This year's conference features nationally known speakers Jess T. Dugan and Vanessa Fabbre, who will present "I've Got My Game On: Insights from Trans Elders on Well-Being in Later Life."



Their keynote address explores how older transgender people are represented in our culture. These individuals are often absent, and, when they appear, are sometimes depicted in a one-dimensional manner. Dugan, a photographer, and Fabbre, a social worker, journeyed throughout the United States, creating "To Survive on This Shore: Photographs and Interviews with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Older Adults." They will speak about the process of creating this project and share images, stories, and insights gained from the narratives of more than 80 trans older adults.

**June 25, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. - 4.5 CEUs are available**

**Tickets:** \$95-includes CEUs, \$75-Regular Ticket, \$25-Seniors and Student  
[Register Today](#)

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## **Ask Joan: Aging is a journey, not just a number**

In a recent *Ask Joan* column, our CEO Joan Hatem-Roy discusses the process of aging and how our lives can be enhanced when we take charge of our health to age strong. May is **Older Americans Month**, so this is a great time to recognize the important role older adults play by sharing their talents, energy, and resilience.

Read the [full column](#), originally published in the *Eagle-Tribune* newspaper.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 1: Memory Café** - A judgement-free group for caregivers and their loved ones to socialize and have fun.

Meets virtually twice per month, every other Tuesday, from 1-2 p.m. For more information, or to join the June Café, contact Lyn Brennan at 978-946-1368 or [lbrennan@esmv.org](mailto:lbrennan@esmv.org).

## SAVE THE DATE

**September 14: ESMV-NS 25th Annual Golf Classic** at Haverhill Country Club.  
Register now. Sponsorship opportunities are still available - [click here for more information.](#)

*Elder Services helps more than 40,000 individuals across 28 cities and towns every year.  
Please consider [making an online donation](#) to support our programs.*

**Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley and North Shore**

Website: [esmv.org](http://esmv.org)

800-892-0890 or [communications@esmv.org](mailto:communications@esmv.org)

