

Insights

May 2022



Older Americans Month theme: Age My Way



Older adults play vital, positive roles in our communities. They are our family members, friends, mentors, volunteers, civic leaders, members of the workforce, and more. They offer a wealth of wisdom gained from decades of experience.

Every person is unique and ages in an individual way. That's why the theme for the national Older Americans Month is Age My Way.

Every May, the Administration for Community Living leads the celebration of older Americans. This year's theme focuses on how older adults can age in their communities, living independently for as long as possible and participating in ways they choose. It's a theme that is at the heart of AgeSpan's mission to help people live safe and healthy lives as they age. [Read AgeSpan CEO Joan Hatem-Roy's full column](#), which was first printed in the *Eagle-Tribune*.

What to expect: LGBTQ+ conference workshops

The 11th Annual [LGBTQ+ Elders in an Ever-Changing World Conference](#) will be held virtually on Friday, June 24, exploring issues of social isolation. It will feature workshops such as "Loneliness and Connection," "One Size Does Not Fit All," "Connecting with Transgender/Gender Diverse Older Adults," and much more. The keynote speaker is Stu Maddux, the award-winning filmmaker of the documentary *Gen Silent*, presenting on "Social Isolation, Loneliness, and Resilience in LGBTQ Older Adults." Last year's conference attracted participants from throughout the country and around the world.



[Learn about presenters and workshops](#)

Thank you to our 2022 Presenting Sponsor



Thank you to our 2022 Keynote Speaker Sponsor



To become a conference sponsor, contact Conference Committee member Bonnie Sisson at bsisson@agespan.org or 978-946-1433.

Haverhill’s AMVETS 147 critical to Brown Bag success

We want to commend Haverhill’s American Veterans Post 147 for their critical help with our monthly Elder Brown Bag program.

AMVETS Post 147 provides a large space free of charge for our monthly Brown Bag distribution in Haverhill. The program takes place in cooperation with the Greater Boston Food Bank, Haverhill residents, and organizations, including the Lions Club, Haverhill Council on Aging, and Haverhill Housing. Volunteers pack and distribute the “brown bags” with groceries each month. The bags are given out to income-eligible adults age 60 and older.

The [Brown Bag program](#) fills the food gap for many older adults in Haverhill and surrounding communities who rely on these volunteers to ensure everything is prepared. [Donations](#) to support Brown Bag are always welcome.

AgeSpan’s Ruth Ortiz with Gerry Marchand of AMVETS Post 147, the site of Haverhill’s monthly Brown Bag distribution.



Celebrating our employees and their great work

Celebrating Social Workers Month – March



Social workers from the Danvers office.



Social workers from the Lawrence office.

Celebrating National Administrative Professionals Day – April 23



Linda Chun, Human Resources Assistant



Carol Hatem, Admin Assistant-HR



AgeSpan nursing staff

AgeSpan Golf Classic proceeds help adults in need

When golfers tee off at the annual AgeSpan Golf Classic, they do more than enjoy a great game. They help older adults meet unexpected expenses not covered by other resources.

Proceeds from the Golf Classic help people like Tom, a 75-year-old Peabody resident. Tom has mobility and other health issues and was unable to afford new furniture. Mary Ellen Abodeely, his care manager, used funds raised from the Golf Classic to purchase Tom a new lift/recliner. This proved easier for him to use and allows him to keep his legs elevated, which his doctor recommends for his circulation. Says Mary Ellen, "Tom is incredibly grateful for the assistance he has received. It has made a huge difference in his life."

The 2022 AgeSpan Golf Classic is Tuesday, September 13, at the Haverhill Golf & Country Club. Proceeds from the event will help older adults with financial assistance in emergencies not covered by other resources.



Would you like to be a Golf Classic sponsor? It's great visibility for a great cause! Contact Bonnie Sisson, Golf Event Manager at bsisson@agespan.org or 978-946-1433.

[REGISTER and learn more](#)



Ambulance Billing Expert Panel

June 28, 2022
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Free help on Medicare/Medicaid ambulance billing

Learn from the experts about Medicare and Medicaid payment rules for ambulance transportation in a FREE WEBINAR from the Massachusetts Senior Medicare Patrol on **June 28** from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

What professionals and beneficiaries need to know:

- What is the definition of “medical necessity” for ambulance transportation?
- Isn't ambulance transportation always covered by Medicare?
- What is the “only safe way” to transport/transfer patients to the nearest appropriate medical facility for emergency care?
- What are the rules for ambulance transportation from one facility to another?
- What is an Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN)? Why is it important?
- Medicare now requires prior approval for transportation of End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) patients to and from dialysis treatments. What does this mean?

Nursing and Social Work CEU applications have been submitted.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Register now for the Health Benefits University

Registration is now open for the AgeSpan's SHINE Program Health Benefits University via Zoom. [SHINE](#) stands for Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone on or eligible for Medicare.

Date: Thursday, June 23, 2022

Time: 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Optional Q&A session to follow

The training will include: Medicare Basics, 2022 Medicare Updates, and Public Benefits and Cost Savings Program Information for Medicare Beneficiaries. Two free Social Work CEs will be available upon receipt of a survey you will receive following the Health Benefits University session. When you register, please indicate your request for CEs.

Space is limited. [Click here to register](#) by Friday, June 17.

This program has been approved for 2 Social Work Continuing Education hours for re-licensure, in accordance with 258 CMR. Collaborative of NASW and the Boston College and Simmons Schools of Social Work, Authorization Number D90349

Upcoming Events

JUNE

11th Annual LGBTQ+ Elders in an Ever-Changing World Conference: Friday, June 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year's keynote speaker is award-winning filmmaker Stu Maddux, who will present on “Social Isolation, Loneliness, and Resilience in LGBTQ Older Adults.” For more information and to purchase tickets visit lgbtqeldersconference.org

Ongoing Support Groups

Caregivers Caring for Those with Memory Loss: Day and evening options.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Thursdays (3rd of the month), 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

General Caregiver Support: Thursdays (3rd of the month), 1–2 p.m.

[Click here to learn about caregiver support groups and register.](#)

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For questions or comments, contact us at 800-892-0890 or
communications@agespan.org

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