



Advocacy. Action. Answers on Aging.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 18, 2011

Contact: Joannetta Bolden, 202.872.0888
jbolden@n4a.org

n4a Awards Local Aging Programs for Innovations in Addressing the Needs of Older Adults and Their Caregivers

Despite Economic Challenges, Local Aging Services Continue to Build Capacity to Support Our America's Aging Population

Washington, DC—The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) today honored 48 aging programs from across the U.S. for developing initiatives to help older Americans remain independent in their homes and communities.

n4a announced the 2011 recipients of its prestigious *Aging Innovations and Achievement Awards* at its annual Conference, held this year in Washington, DC. The program, sponsored by CST *your* Link to Life (CST-LTL), recognizes Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and Title VI Native American aging programs that have developed innovative programs to support older adults and their caregivers. In addition to receiving their award, honorees presented highlights of their programs to their peers at the Conference, where over 500 representatives of the Aging Network gathered to discuss the key issues facing America's rapidly aging population.

“Given the extremely challenging economic times we are facing right now, the work that these organizations are doing is extraordinary,” said Sandy Markwood. “The programs honored today represent the kind of innovative spirit, leadership and ‘can-do’ attitude we need nationwide to prepare our communities for the rapidly aging population. These programs are true models for the entire Aging Network, and we congratulate and thank them for all that they are doing to help older adults remain living independently.”

(More)

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging

1730 Rhode Island Ave., NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20036 T. 202.872.0888 F. 202.872.0057 www.n4a.org

Thirty-five (35) programs received ***Aging Achievement Awards*** and thirteen (13) top-ranking programs were honored with ***Aging Innovations Awards***. In addition, the three programs with the highest scores in the review process received **Monetary Awards**:

- \$2,500—Local Food Partners for Enhanced Senior Nutrition (Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont / **Saint Johnsbury, VT**)
- \$1,500—Make Medicare Work Coalition (AgeOptions / **Oak Park, IL**)
- \$1,000—Inde Pendant Program (Area Agency on Aging 1-B / **Southfield, MI**)

In presenting the awards Jeffery Prough, President and CEO of CST-LTL said, “Year after year, the creativity and dedication we find not only in those who win the Aging Innovations Awards, but within all of the programs who apply for awards is aligned with a singular mission: keeping our older adults safe and independent. In this spirit, CST your Link to Life is honored to help recognize these outstanding and innovative programs and the forward-thinking individuals who turn good ideas into life-saving and impactful services.”

All n4a members can submit nominations for the ***Aging Innovations and Achievement Awards*** Program. To qualify for an award, programs must be operational for at least one year, receive minimal assistance from outside experts and, most critically, demonstrate innovative approaches in either offering new services or improving existing services. Award criteria include demonstration of measurable results, e.g., cost savings, improved client service and enhanced staff productivity.

The 13 ***2011 Aging Innovations Awards***, the highest honor, were presented to:

- Visual Medication Management Program Northwest Georgia Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging / / **Rome, Georgia**
- Seattle-King County Aging & Disability Services / King County Care Partners **Seattle, WA**
- Marin County Division of Aging & Adult Services / Project Independence / **San Rafael, CA**
- Peninsula Agency on Aging, Inc. / SOS (Senior Outreach to Services) / **Newport News, VA**
- Mid-East Area Agency on Aging / Meal Runner Program / **St. Louis, MO**
- AgeOptions / Make Medicare Work Coalition / **Oak Park, IL**

(More)

- ElderSource / Dining with Dignity / **Jacksonville, FL**
- Heritage Area Agency on Aging / Heritage Pet Assistance Program / **Cedar Rapids, IA**
- Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont / Local Food Partners for Enhanced Senior Nutrition / **Saint Johnsbury, VT**
- Area Agency on Aging 1-B / Inde Pendant Program / **Southfield, MI**
- Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc. / Faith Works / **Big Stone Gap, VA**
- Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services / Protective Money Management / **Culpeper, VA**
- Atlanta Regional Commission, Area Agency on Aging / Atlanta Community Transitions Program / **Atlanta, GA**

In addition, the 2011 ***Aging Achievement Awards*** were given to 35 programs in 11 categories that included Caregiving, Community Planning/Livable Communities, Elder Abuse Prevention, Healthy Aging, Home/Community-Based Care, Information & Referral, Nutrition, Technology, Transportation and volunteerism/civic engagement. The list of *Aging Achievement Award* recipients is attached.

n4a is the leading voice on aging issues for Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and a champion in our nation's capital for Title VI Native American aging programs. Through advocacy, training and technical assistance, n4a supports the national network of 629 AAAs and 246 Title VI programs. The fundamental mission of the AAAs and Title VI aging programs is to provide services that make it possible for older individuals to remain in their homes, thereby preserving their independence and dignity. These agencies coordinate and support a wide range of home and community-based services, including information and referral, home-delivered and congregate meals, transportation, employment services, senior centers, adult day care and long-term care ombudsman programs. (www.n4a.org / www.facebook.com/n4Aaction)

2011 n4a AGING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

n4a awarded the following programs with 2011 *Aging Achievement Awards* for their notable contributions to the quality of life of older adults and their caregivers:

Caregiving

Caregiver Wellness Day / Heritage Area Agency on Aging / **Cedar Rapids, IA**

Caring for a Loved One at Home / NACOG-Area Agency on Aging / **Flagstaff, AZ**

Eagle Shield Center Family Caregiver Support / Blackfeet Tribe / **Browning, MT**

Community Planning/Livable Communities

Age-Friendly Philadelphia / Philadelphia Corporation for Aging / **Philadelphia, PA**

Disability Awareness / Generations, Area 13 Agency on Aging / **Vincennes, IN**

Elder Abuse Prevention

Be Aware, Be Alert, Be Safe / ElderSource / **Jacksonville, FL**

Fair Lending Project for Seniors / Council on Aging Silicon Valley / **San Jose, CA**

Senior Expo: Protect Yourself & Your Wallet / Aging & Independence Services / **San Diego, CA**

Ethnic/Cultural Diversity

Old & Bold Coalition / North Shore Elder Services, Inc. / **Danvers, MA**

Healthy Aging

Age Strong! Live Long! Walk On! / Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging / **Waterloo, IA**

CareLink Dancing with the Seniors Contest / CareLink / **North Little Rock, AR**

Local Currency Initiative / Jefferson Area Board for Aging / **Charlottesville, VA**

Mercy Medical Center Partnership / Heritage Area Agency on Aging / **Cedar Rapids, IA**

Peer Support Program / Central Plains Area Agency on Aging / **Wichita, KS**

Reducing Health Outcome Disparities / Alliance for Aging, Inc. / **Miami, FL**

SeniorFit / Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging / **Kansas City, KS**

The CELL / Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging / **Waterloo, IA**

Home & Community-Based Care

SOS (Solution Options for Seniors) Program / Southwest 8 Senior Services / Council Bluffs, IA

Nutrition

Priority Meals Program / Coastline Elderly Services, Inc. / New Bedford, MA

Technology

VAPR / ElderSource / Jacksonville, FL

Wired: An Elder Empowerment Initiative / Alliance for Aging, Inc. / Miami, FL

Volunteerism/Civic Engagement

AngelWorx Build a Basket / Generations, Area 13 Agency on Aging / Vincennes, IN

At Your Side Medical Advocacy Program / North Shore Elder Services, Inc. / Danvers, MA

County Taskforces / Heritage Area Agency on Aging / Cedar Rapids, IA

Green Valley Sahuarita Volunteer Clearinghouse (GVSVC) / Pima Council on Aging / Tucson, AZ

You Name It!

A Senior Center Without Walls / Central Plains Area Agency on Aging / Wichita, KA

Animeals / Spectrum Generations / Augusta, ME

Elder Community Care / BayPath Elder Services / Marlborough, MA

GenPhilly / Philadelphia Corporation for Aging / Philadelphia, PA

Institutional Bias Campaign / Heritage Area Agency on Aging / Cedar Rapids, IA

Path to Home, Sowing the Seeds of Culture Change / Triangle J Area Agency on Aging / Research Triangle Park, NC

Powerful Partnerships to Better Health for Elders / Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc. / Lawrence, MA

Senior Center Behavioral Health Program / Delaware County Office of Services for the Aging / Eddystone, PA

Sunshine Club / Generations, Area 13 Agency on Aging / Vincennes, IN

You & Me / Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging / Front Royal, VA

###

