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National Association of Area Agencies on Aging

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—April 27, 2017

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Senate Committee Explores Consequences of Social Isolation on Older Adults *n4a Member Mark Clark to Testify*

Washington, DC— This morning at 9:45 a.m. ET, the Senate Special Committee on Aging will hold a hearing on the negative health effects of social isolation and loneliness on older adults. A [live stream](#) will be available on the Committee's [website](#).

n4a is pleased that an Arizona Area Agency on Aging director will testify at the hearing entitled “Aging Without Community: The Consequences of Isolation and Loneliness.” W. Mark Clark, President & CEO of [Pima Council On Aging](#) (PCOA) in Tucson, Arizona, will discuss his organization’s efforts to reduce isolation among the thousands of older adults and caregivers they serve every year.

“Expanding public awareness of and response to the epidemic of social isolation among older adults is a top n4a priority. We appreciate the Committee’s interest in this critical issue and appreciate the inclusion of an Area Agency on Aging perspective in the selection of Mark Clark to be a witness,” said n4a CEO Sandy Markwood.

“Our members are on the ground in communities across the country, providing home and community-based services to enable older adults to age successfully in the setting of their choice. Like Mark and his staff at PCOA, all our members understand the root causes and consequences of social isolation, and deploy traditional and innovative solutions to combat this public health problem,” continued Markwood.

In 2016, n4a’s annual [Eldercare Locator](#) “Home for the Holidays” campaign focused on social isolation and featured a consumer brochure entitled “Expand Your Circles: Prevent Isolation and Loneliness As You Age,” which was widely used by Area Agencies on Aging and other local aging groups to elevate their outreach and education. This effort was funded by the [Administration for Community Living](#) and done in partnership with AARP Foundation’s [Connect2Affect](#) social isolation efforts.

To order your free copy of the “Expand Your Circles” brochure, visit <https://www.n4a.org/consumerbrochures> or call the Eldercare Locator at 800.677.1116.

About n4a

The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) is a 501c(3) membership association representing America's national network of 622 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and providing a voice in the nation's capital for the 256 Title VI Native American aging programs. The mission of n4a is to build the capacity of its members so they can better help older adults and people with disabilities live with dignity and choices in their homes and communities for as long as possible.

Learn more about the [Aging Services](#) provided by AAAs and Title VI programs. Find the [AAA and/or Title VI program](#) in your area.

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