



Florida Association of
Aging Services Providers

Florida Association of Aging Services Providers e-Newsletter

Volume 60: July/August 2017

Guest Editors: Randy Hunt, Senior Resource Alliance
Tourea Robinson, Aging True

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Message from the President by Andrea Busada, Broward County Elderly and Veterans Services



Dear FASP Members:

The 2017 Florida Conference on Aging was a wonderful success. Each year, I say to myself, "it was even better than last year's conference." The 2017 Conference was no exception! I would like to extend my gratitude to all of you who attended - your presence enriches the experience for everyone.

I would like to especially extend my gratitude to our management firm, Margaret Lynn Duggar and Associates, for yet another Herculean effort and a great success - I honestly can not imagine the time, effort and perseverance involved in putting this conference together each year. Please know that FASP members statewide are grateful for everything you do!

FASP's intensive "*Budgets & Block Grants—What is Next for the Aging Network?*" was very well attended and the panel members were excellent. Read more about it further in this issue.

THIS ISSUE SPONSORED BY:



Our partnership with FCOA continues to provide opportunities to strategize and unite behind some of the most pressing issues facing the elders we serve.

Unfortunately, Hurricane Irma exposed some of those most pressing issues and we will most likely be called upon in the future to weigh in on these issues. I hope and pray that everyone reading this survived the storm and that your family and friends did as well. As we get through the next few weeks of recovery, please take note of any successes, failures, barriers, best practices, and after-action items and share them with your colleagues around the state.

These emergency events tend to expose the best and worst of everyone involved and I am confident that the aging network will continue to be a shining beacon of the best efforts we as providers can bring to support our fellow Floridians.

Sincerely,
Andrea Busada

So, Who Knows What is Going to Happen on the Federal Level with Long Term Care Funding?

Margaret Lynn Duggar, FASP Executive Director

As we were planning the 2017 Aging Network Conference months in advance, we were certain Congress would have decided by the end of August what to do about Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act and other federal long term care funding. What level of cuts would be anticipated? Would there be block grants? If yes, how would they work? (In fairness to us -- and we always want to be fair to us... I'll bet some in Congress thought the same thing. And, by now, most powerful people in Washington wish we had been right!)

So, we structured the FASP Intensive around the impacts of federal long term care funding on Florida's elders. We recruited an excellent panel: they were knowledgeable; diverse in their perspectives; respectful of their colleagues; and passionate! Panelists were: LuMarie Polivka-West representing the Pepper Center at FSU; Thair Phillips of RetireSafe in Washington, D.C.; and Anne Swerlick of the Florida Policy Center, based in Orlando, whose stated goal is 'Prosperity for all Floridians'.

Download their excellent policy report **Federal Medicaid "Per Capita Caps" Would Trigger Significant Cuts to Health Care Services for Low-Income Children, Women, Seniors and People with Disabilities and Shift Billions in Costs to Florida** or visit their other resources at **www.fpi.institute**.

In a context of health care reform, Thair outlined the status of the health care debate with particular emphasis on Medicaid, including the potential for Medicaid being block granted. RetireSafe supports block grants.

LuMarie followed with a wide-ranging presentation on the direct impacts of potential block grants and other Medicaid changes for the Florida Aging Network and their clients, in particular. She added useful comparisons between Florida's position, due to Legislative policy and budget decisions over the years, and the positions of several other states who had taken different paths. *(MLD note: Decisions have consequences, whether or not Legislators are aware of them or intending them at the time the decisions are made. We are currently living with a number of those consequences from previous years' decisions implementing tax reductions. You will hear a great deal more about this through FASP and FCOA as we deal with budgets in the 2018 Legislative Session.)*

The Intensive was one month ago. Anne said that Repeal and Replace of the Affordable Care Act was dormant, but not dead. She was spot on. As I began writing this article days ago, it was once again on the Congressional agenda for a possible vote this week. Before I could finish this article, it was pulled from a vote. Is it once again dormant, or is it now dead -- at least for a while? Rather than pulling out just some of the Policy Institute's most informative yet alarming facts, I urge you to read their report for yourselves. I learned a lot of new information from reading it before the Intensive and then hearing Anne speak.

Participants rated the overall session a 3.35 out of 4 possible points (4 was excellent; 3 was good). The two areas rated highest were: speakers responsiveness to participants, 3.83 and knowledge of the speakers, 3.78. Of the 10 written evaluation comments, 4 were complaints about the temperature and seating arrangements of the room. The other comments were:

- ~ Anne Swerlick presented peer reviewed stats and research. She also provided resources we could review after the workshop. The other speakers did not.
- ~ Too much political talk.
- ~ Great program with multiple perspectives.
- ~ It is unfortunate that Larry Polivka could not attend. Anne's presentation was very balanced.
- ~ This session was not what I expected.
- ~ Very informative.

Disaster Preparedness

The Florida Department of Elder Affairs' Emergency Coordinating Officer coordinates with the Florida Division of Emergency Management on emergency preparedness issues and post-disaster response. The Department ensures that the Area Agencies on Aging and local service providers have all-hazards Disaster and Continuity of Operations Plans to be implemented during a threat of imminent disaster.

Your safety in a disaster depends heavily on your own actions, and developing a survival plan is the first and most important step.

Disaster Preparedness Guide for Elders

Click on the link below to view the Disaster Preparedness Guide for Elders in English or Spanish.

[2017 Disaster Preparedness Guide for Elders - English](#) (PDF 2.58 MB)

[2017 Guía de Preparación para Casos de Desastres - Spanish](#) (PDF 1.91 MB)

Be Prepared by Planning Ahead

[Family Disaster Plan](#) - Review your individual or family disaster plan. Your family or close friends need to know how to locate each other in the event of a disaster.

[Disaster Supply Kit](#) - Contains a recommended supply list for you, your family and your pets.

Disaster Online Library

"Preparedness Resources and Planning Considerations Supporting Vulnerable Populations" Satellite Broadcast

The learning objectives for this broadcast include: gaining the ability to locate planning resources addressing vulnerable population preparedness; understanding how to best utilize the tools and resources demonstrated to prepare for vulnerable populations in an all-hazard event; and identifying planning considerations to increase prepared communities.

- [Rapid Needs Assessment Form](#) (PDF 28 KB)
- [Standard Operating Procedures for Completing the Form](#) (PDF 36 KB)
- [Standard Operating Procedures for Deployment of Multiagency Response Teams for Special Needs Shelter Discharge Planning](#) (PDF 270 KB)
- [Discharge Planning Resource Guide - 2012](#), Department of Health (PDF 20.6 MB)
- [Federal Alliance for Safe Homes \(FLASH\)](#) -- <http://www.flash.org>
- [Florida Initiative Against Homeland Terrorism](#) (PDF 73 KB)
- [Disaster Preparedness and the Deaf Community Guide](#) (PDF 702KB)
Published by the Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross & the Rochester Institute of Technology

Useful Links and Information

As always, stay tuned to normal lines of communications such as local TV and radio stations.

Below are websites you can refer to for valuable information.

<http://www.floridadisaster.org>

<http://www.redcross.org>

<http://www.fema.org>

For more information, please contact:

Jacqueline "Page" Merkison, Emergency Coordinating Officer and Lease Manager
Florida Department of Elder Affairs
4040 Esplanade Way, Suite 215F
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Phone: 850-414-2324 or 850-414-2000
Fax: 888-521-0189 / doeafax0189@elderaffairs.org
Email: merkisonj@elderaffairs.org
Disaster Related Emails: doeadisaster@elderaffairs.org

Planned Giving...Creating a Legacy for Giving

Tourea Robinson, Aging True

As nonprofit organizations we all rely on philanthropic donations from individuals, corporations and foundations in our communities to assist us with continuing to provide compassionate care and resources for seniors in need. For most agencies, finding and maintaining sources of funding can be difficult and time consuming, especially where there is no full time or dedicated fundraising professional on staff. This often leads to exhausting resources that could be utilized in other areas.



Take a moment to explore the various ways donors can support your organization and help you achieve your financial and philanthropic goals without overextending your already stretched staff. There are many giving options available, one in particular that organizations who serve seniors and their families often overlook but should actively focus on is **planned giving**.



A planned gift includes a bequest designated in a will, charitable trust or annuity or property, including art and other valuables. Developing a strategy to pursue planned gifts can literally change your agency's financial landscape, providing more secure long-term footing for the journey ahead. According to PlannedGiving.com, planned giving donations are among the largest gifts a nonprofit will receive, often 200 to

300 times that of annual gifts. So, if you don't have a planned giving program, you could be losing out on a significant amount of gifts.

Donors who make planned gifts demonstrate their confidence in your organization to continue to serve the mission and make a difference in the lives of seniors. Not to mention, there are substantial financial benefits and tax savings for donors.

It is strongly recommended that your agency enlist the assistance of financial professionals such as tax, legal and accounting advisors to guide the planning process. Also, consider including the donor's family members well. By doing so, you ensure that all parties involved are protected and that they all are in agreement with how their family member's legacy will be carried out by your agency.



Remember, every gift of any size helps but planned giving can be the perfect solution that allows for donors to have a greater financial impact and makes a meaningful difference for seniors in your area.

FASP Award

Congratulations to Ed Gines of Elder Care Services on his recent selection as the 2017 Minotty Eye Foundation Aging Services Providers Best Direct Service Employee of the Year.

This distinction is bestowed to those who have:

- Demonstrated added value to the service they deliver to benefit elders,
- Gone above and beyond job requirements to provide customer service and ensure customer satisfaction,
- Developed community resources and support to the services being provided and demonstrated a high level of personal or organizational commitment to excellence.

Here's what Mark Baldino had to say about him:

"Ed Gines is a real hero who epitomizes the meaning behind being a humanitarian. True humanitarians share the same attributes – a genuine concern for or helping to improve the welfare and happiness of others. Ed has a generous spirit and is always mindful of how and when to lend a helping hand. Every day he works tirelessly to improve the quality of life for seniors in need and their caregivers.



L-R: Dr. Paul Minotty, Minotty Eye Foundation; Ed Gines, Elder Care Services, and Andrea Busada, FASP President

He has worked at Elder Care Services for five years as our Information & Referral Support Specialist. Ed is the first point of contact for seniors in crisis and is a staunch advocate for their most critical needs. He demonstrates a keen ability to connect with those in need and does an amazing job of helping them through some of the most difficult situations imaginable. He is constantly looking for ways to help our senior's age in place with dignity, while remaining safe and secure in their homes.

He organizes fundraisers to keep our emergency food pantry open and helped broker a deal with yellow cab to discount rides for low income seniors to the doctor, the pharmacy and the grocery store. And he also manages the redistribution of donated and gently used equipment like walkers, bedside commodes, shower chairs, lift chairs and wheel chairs. By doing so, you can literally see the sense of fulfillment he receives from helping others. He genuinely loves helping people, works hard to achieve the best possible outcome's for our seniors and always tries to lift the spirits of everyone around him. Those in the Tallahassee community know they can always count on Ed just as we do at Elder Care."



Call for Seniors to Interview

The summer intern for Wisdom Tooth Project has been tasked with finding sensational seniors that are living an active, healthy lifestyle to the fullest. Oral Health America is looking for these seniors to have a short interview over the phone and then be featured in our Wisdom Tooth Insider.

If you know any sensational seniors that would be interested in this opportunity, please have them contact:

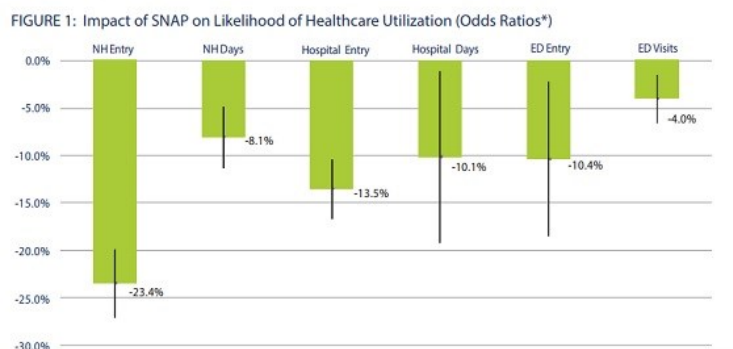
Andie Kyros, Wisdom Tooth Project Coordinator
Oral Health America
180 N. Michigan Ave. Ste 1150
Chicago, IL 60601
312-836-9900
Andie.kyros@oralhealthamerica.org



Food Stamps Can Cut Seniors' Health Costs, But Most Aren't Using Them.

A new study suggests governments are missing out on cost savings by not enrolling enough people in their programs.

By J.B. Wogan—Governing The States and Localities



*NOTE: Effect sizes and medical cost savings are only estimates, as peer review process is ongoing, and final results may change before publication.

Source: Benefits Data Trust



Judy Martin, who has diabetes, said she relies on Social Security and Medicare and has difficulty sleeping at night because she's worried about how she'll pay for her medical and living expenses. (AP/Duke Kang)

Click below to read the full article:

<http://www.governing.com/topics/health-human-services/gov-study-food-stamps-medical-costs-health.html>



ACL Releases First Ever National Data on Adult Maltreatment

At the National Adult Protective Services Association conference, ACL released the first consistently, systematically and nationally collected data on the abuse of older adults and adults with disabilities.

This report is the first of a series based on data from the first year of the National Adult Maltreatment Reporting System (NAMRS). NAMRS is a voluntary data reporting system collecting data from state and local Adult Protective Services systems.

Fifty-four of 56 states and territories contributed data to NAMRS in its first year. This high level of voluntary participation reflects the value that leaders in the field of adult maltreatment see in this data.

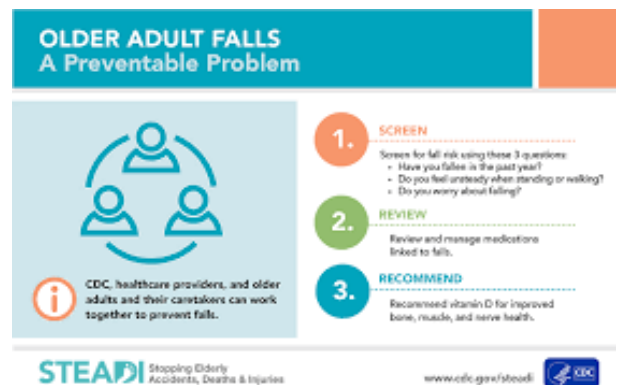
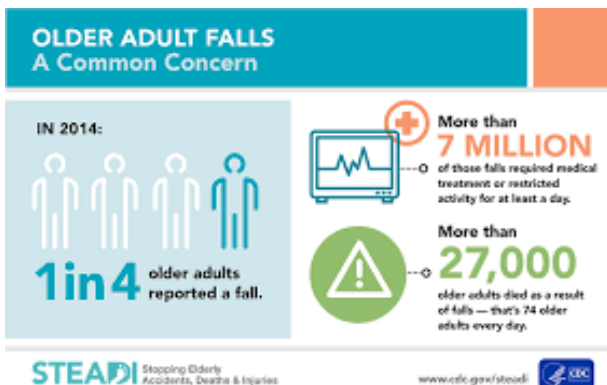
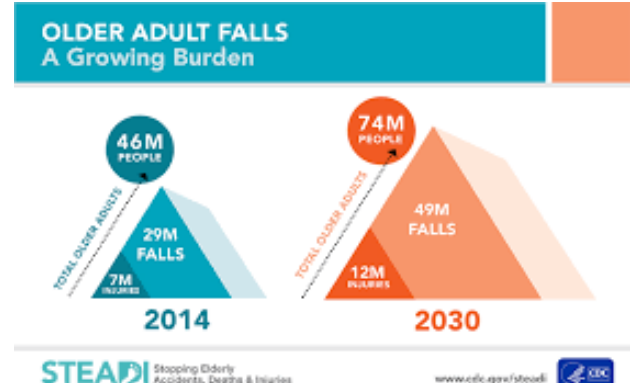
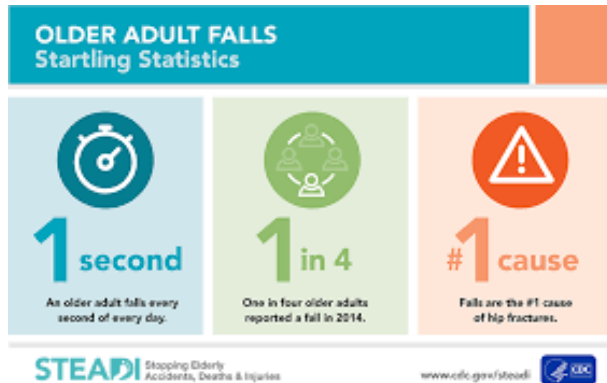
While NAMRS is still in its infancy, the information it will provide in the years to come will directly inform prevention and intervention practices at all levels of the adult maltreatment field. It will provide a better understanding of the characteristics of those experiencing, and perpetrating, abuse and identify system gaps for responding to maltreatment and preventing repeat maltreatment. As states and territories will continue to improve information systems, add data elements, train staff on new data collection methods, and report additional data, NAMRS data will become an extremely valuable tool.

Data collected by NAMRS includes APS staff and case-load, response and response time, intake and investigation practices, maltreatment type, victim characteristics, and perpetrator characteristics. For example, 44 states and territories reported opening investigations for over 877,000 clients.

Many in the adult maltreatment field, including the federal Elder Justice Coordinating Council, have recognized the need for national data on adult maltreatment. After the passage and funding of the Elder Justice Act, ACL awarded the first-ever federal grants to enhance Adult Protective Services. These grants were used by many states to build data systems and align them with NAMRS.

[View the first NAMRS report.](#)

2017 Falls Prevention Webinar



Join the STEADI (Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries) Toolkit Implementation for Health Care Providers Webinar

Friday, September 29th, 9:00-10:30 am, EST

Register: attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/873167920983408592130

Webinar ID: 929-480-227

Participants can use their telephone or computer mic & speakers (VoIP)

United States (Toll-free): 1 (866) 952-8437

United States: +1 (914) 614-3426

Only 1,000 participants allowed in webinar

Free Continuing Education Credit Available!

Hosted By:

Florida Department of Health and Florida Department of Elder Affairs

For more information: contact Jasmine.Hulin@flhealth.gov, 850-558-9658.

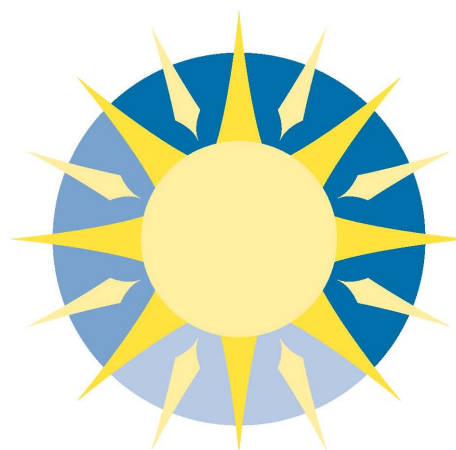


Register Today!

Florida State Capitol
Wednesday, January 24, 2018
10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Hosted by:

Department of
ELDER AFFAIRS
STATE OF FLORIDA



FLORIDA Senior Day

Strength in Numbers,
Strength in Action!

Schedule of Events

Reception

January 23 • 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Exhibitor Booths

January 24 • 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Town Hall Meeting at City Hall
January 24 • 10:00 a.m.

Florida Senior Day Luncheon
January 24 • 11:15 a.m.

Noon Program
January 24 • 12:15 p.m.

Entertainment
January 24 • 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Join us at the State Capitol to celebrate Florida's seniors



FloridaSeniorDay.org

850.222.3868
info@floridaseniorday.org

FASP is on Facebook - Are You?



Do you or does your organization have a Facebook or Twitter account?
We would love to “like” “Friend” and/or “follow” you too.

FASP - Florida Association of Aging Services Providers Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/FASP-Florida-Association-of-Aging-Services-Providers/186392068069967>

FASP - Florida Association of Aging Services Providers Twitter

<http://twitter.com/1FASP>



DOEA - Florida Department of Elder Affairs Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Florida-Department-of-Elder-Affairs/128604923878650?sk=wall>

FCOA - Florida Council on Aging Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Florida-Council-on-Aging/74320166787>

FCOA - Florida Council on Aging Twitter

<http://twitter.com/#!/FCOA1>

Resources

[Legal Resources for Seniors](#)

[Disaster Preparedness for Seniors](#)

[Veterans Benefits for Seniors](#)

[Keeping Seniors Safe with While Remodeling](#)

[Making the Move to Assisted Living](#)

[Home Accommodations for Seniors](#)

[Advanced Care Planning](#)

[Elder Care Resources](#)

[Tips for Seniors to Declutter and Organize their Home](#)



September 2017

September 29th—9:00-10:30 AM EST—Join the STEADI (Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries) Toolkit Implementation for Health Care Providers Webinar—Register: at-tendee.gotowebinar.com/register/873167920983408592130 Webinar Id: 929-480-227

Past Sponsors



www.marionseniorservices.org/



Real Possibilities

<http://www.aarp.org>



www.friendshipcenters.org



<http://www.coawfla.org/>



<http://caresfl.org/>



Hillsborough County
Florida

<https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/government/departments/aging>



United
HOMECARE

There's just no place like home.

<http://www.theresidencesuhc.com/>



Washington County Council on Aging

<https://www.washcocoa.org/>

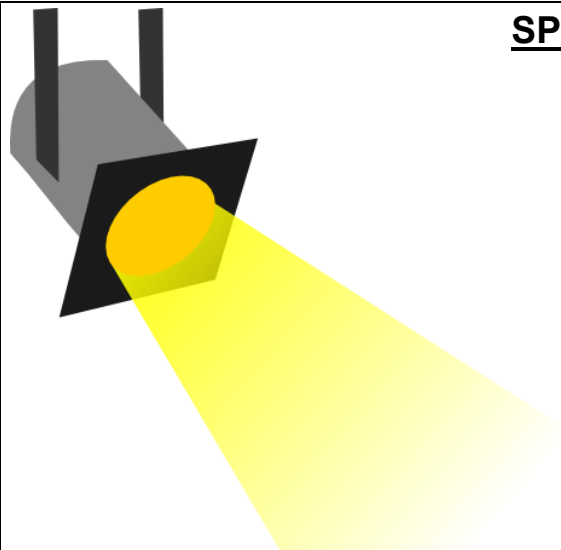


www.newvisioneyecenter.com



<http://www.volencenter.com>

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Real Possibilities in

Florida

<http://www.aarp.org/fl>



<http://agingtrue.org/>



<http://www.seniorresourcealliance.org/>



The intent of the FASP Newsletter is to keep you informed about program updates and information relating to aging services providers. If you have any comments about the newsletter, suggestions on ways to improve it and/or items you would like included, please contact FASP by e-mail at moreinfo@fasp.net or by phone at (850) 222-3524.

FASP's Mission: Supporting older adults and the providers that serve them through information, connection, and resources.