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Older Americans Month (OAM) 2010 Theme: *Age Strong! Live Long!*

To view and download the OAM 2010 logo, poster and other materials, please visit: http://www.aoa.gov/AoAroot/Press_Room/Observances/oam/oam.aspx

Top Story

Older Americans Month 2010

Message from Assistant Secretary Kathy Greenlee

I join President Obama in celebrating Older Americans Month. For 47 years, our nation has set the month of May aside to honor older Americans and acknowledge their continued contributions to our nation. Our theme for this year is "Age Strong! Live Long!" which recognizes the diversity and vitality of today's older Americans and highlights the importance of staying healthy throughout our lives.

To salute all older Americans and send a message about the importance of staying healthy and as independent as possible, AoA is sponsoring a festive and fun one-mile walk and low-impact tai chi session with local older Americans in Washington, D.C on May 27. Other communities across the country will be holding similar events throughout the month. We have also conducted a national "My Recipe for Strength" contest which invites Americans to share what they are doing to age strong. Winning entries will be selected in three categories: video, photography, and poetry/prose. I'd like to personally encourage everyone to take time to celebrate older Americans Month during May. We owe so much to our elders, and this is a great opportunity to thank them for what they have done for us.

I also would like to thank AoA's many partners at the federal, state and tribal level and our national network of community-based organizations who work on a daily basis to improve the health and quality of life for our nation's older population.

To read President Obama's proclamation, please visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/presidential-proclamation-older-americans-month>

To learn more about Older Americans Month, please visit http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/Observances/oam/oam.aspx

May Is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Message from Assistant Secretary Kathy Greenlee

I join President Obama in celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. The nation's salute to the men and women of Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage dates back to 1978 when it was a weekly

celebration. 2010 marks the 20th year since the entire month of May was set aside to honor the numerous contributions they have made to our country.

The nation's approximately 1.3 million older Asian, Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders are 3.4% of America's older population. It is projected that number will grow to over 7.6 million by 2050 to total 8.6 percent of the older population.

To read President Obama's proclamation, please visit

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/presidential-proclamation-asian-american-and-pacific-islander-heritage-month>

AoA News

Assistant Secretary Greenlee "On the Go" in May

Assistant Secretary Greenlee continues her busy schedule during May. After addressing the International Federation of Ageing's Annual Conference in Melbourne, Australia in early May, she will address the American Geriatrics Society Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida on May 14, participate in a Maryland Department on Aging Health Care Forum with Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) on May 17, participate in an Intergenerational site visit at the Easter Seals Weinberg Inter-Generational Center in Silver Spring, Maryland and attend the Department of Health and Human Services' Community Living Initiative Stakeholder meeting in Boston, Massachusetts on May 27.

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Padilla Making the Rounds in May

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Cindy Padilla will address the AoA-sponsored "Circles of Care: Providing Choices to Elders and Families" long term care conference for elders in Indian Country on May 5 in Phoenix, Arizona. She will then speak at the 2010 Montana Governor's Conference on Aging which will take place in Polson, Lewistown and Miles City, Montana from May 10 to May 13. On May 18 and 19, she will address the Michigan Association of Area Agencies on Aging Conference in Lansing, Michigan, and on May 25 will address the AIRS 2010 in Focus: I & R Excellence Annual Training and Education Conference in Rochester, New York.

AoA to Sponsor Walk on the National Mall in Celebration of Older Americans Month

In celebration of Older Americans Month (OAM), the Administration on Aging (AoA) will sponsor a one-mile *Age Strong! Live Long!* Walk on the National Mall in Washington, DC. The Walk, to be held rain or shine, will kick-off from the Health and Human Services Humphrey Building at 10:15 a.m. Prior to the

Walk, participants will have an opportunity to visit information booths, take part in physical fitness demonstrations and warm-up exercises, and receive from invited guests remarks on the importance of physical activity to health aging. The one-mile Walk should take most walkers about 25 minutes to complete. Participants who choose not to walk can participate in a Tai Chi demonstration. Local CBS news anchor JC Hayward will MC the event.

To register for the Walk and to see the route, please go to <http://olderamericansmonth.org/>

Other HHS News

CDC Report Addresses Trends in Older Men's Health Status

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recent report, *Trends in Health Status and Health Care Use among Older Men*, presents trends in older men's health status, functional status, mortality, health care utilization, and health care expenditures. It complements a previous CDC report, *Trends in Health Status and Health Care Use among Older Women* on the health status and health care use of older women.

To read the complete report, please go to <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/ahcd/agingtrends/07olderwomen.pdf>

New CDC Report Gives Guidance to States on Effective Strategies to Reduce Smoking

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recent report, *Tobacco Control State Highlights 2010*, provides tobacco control programs and decision-makers with state-specific data and information about the high-impact strategies that work to reduce tobacco use.

To learn more and to access the complete report, please go to http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/state_data/state_highlights/2010/index.htm

Treating High Cholesterol: A Guide for Adults

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) recently published *Treating High Cholesterol: A Guide for Adults* to provide consumers with information on cholesterol and treatments for high cholesterol. The guide describes in everyday language research findings on how medicines work, their benefits and risk, and their side effects.

To access *Treating High Cholesterol: A Guide for Adults*, please go to <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/ehc/products/11/351/Lipids%20consumers.pdf>

To find other consumer guides from AHRQ's Effective Health Care Program, please go to <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/guides-for-patients-and-consumers/>

AHRQ Releases Reports on the Quality of Healthcare

Two recent Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) reports, the *2009 National Healthcare Disparities Report* and the *National Healthcare Quality Report*, conclude that while some racial differences in lack of insurance have narrowed in the past decade, disparities related to ethnicity, income, and education remain large. Both reports also found that among the most prevailing disparity was the lack of preventive care.

Both reports can be downloaded at <http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/qdr09.htm>

AHRQ Health Literacy Universal Precautions Toolkit

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) recently announced the publication of the *Health Literacy Universal Precautions Toolkit*. The toolkit is based on the principles of universal precautions, or specific actions that providers can take to make health information more understandable for all patients. It is designed to be used by all levels of staff in practices providing primary care for adults and/or pediatric patients.

To download a copy of the *Health Literacy Universal Precautions Toolkit*, please go to <http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/literacy/> or <http://www.nchealthliteracy.org/toolkit>

Federal Funding Opportunities

SAMHSA is Accepting Grant Applications to Prevent and Reduce Substance Abuse and HIV/AIDS among At-Risk Minority College Students

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is accepting grant applications to prevent the onset of substance abuse and the spread of HIV/AIDS among at-risk racial/ethnic minority young adults, ages 18-24, including minority college students.

A total of \$40 million is available to engage colleges, universities, and community-level domestic public and private non-profit organizations in an array of capacity building activities, HIV testing, and direct services using

evidence-based HIV and substance abuse prevention practices targeting at-risk minority young adults.

Up to 27 grant awards for up to \$300,000 per year per grantee are projected to be available for up to five years. Annual continuation awards will depend on the availability of funds, grantee progress in meeting project goals and objectives, timely submission of required data and reports, and compliance with all terms and conditions of awards.

The application deadline is May 17, 2010.

To learn more about this funding opportunity and to download an application, please go to <http://www.samhsa.gov/Grants/2010/SP-10-004.aspx>

The application can also be accessed at <http://www.grants.gov/>

USDA Funding Opportunity

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) will invest in pilot projects to increase access and participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly the Food Stamp Program, among low-income seniors. Award grants totaling approximately \$8 million will allow State agencies to pursue innovative outreach and delivery pilot projects.

The deadline to submit grant proposal applications is June 30, 2010.

Interested State agencies may obtain grant applications at <http://www.grants.gov> or <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap>

More News

Applications Are Being Accepted for the 2010 National Family Caregiving Awards Program

The National Alliance for Caregiving and MetLife Foundation are accepting applications for the 2010 National Family Caregiving Awards Program.

Now in its fifth and final year, the program is intended to improve the quality of life of family caregivers by recognizing and supporting the important work of community agencies and other organizations that support family caregivers as a significant part of their mission. Each award will carry a cash value of \$20,000 that will be designated for use in the awardee's caregiver program.

To learn more about the program and to access an application, please go to <http://web.raffa.com/nac/caregiver%5Fawards/>

The application deadline is Friday, May 7.

OWL to Release Its Mother's Day Report, *End-of-Life Choices: Who Decides?*

The OWL (Older Women's League) 2010 Mother's Day Report, *End-of-Life Choices: Who Decides?*, will be the subject of a May 13 panel discussion hosted by Congressman Earl Blumenauer and Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin in Washington, DC. A Q&A session will follow the three panelist presentations. The initial release of the report will also follow the discussion.

For more information on this event and to RSVP, please telephone Anne Bollinger at 202-719-0725 or email her at abollinger@owl-national.org

To learn more about OWL, please go to <http://www.owl-national.org/Welcome.html>

Financial Literacy and Education Commission Launches New MyMoney Web Site

The US Department of Treasury Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC) recently announced the launch of its redesigned financial literacy education website, MyMoney. The website is designed to help Americans find free, reliable and unbiased information that can help inform their daily financial decisions and plan for the future.

To learn more about this resource, please go to <http://www.MyMoney.gov>

New Report on Public & Private Sector Employee Compensation

An original analysis of data from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, by the Center for State and Local Government Excellence and the National Institute on Retirement Security showed that the pay gap between public and private sector employees has widened in recent years. The report, *Out of Balance? Comparing Public and Private Sector Compensation Over 20 Years*, was released late last month.

To read the complete study, please go to http://www.nirsonline.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=396&Itemid=61
or http://www.slge.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7B22748FDE-C3B8-4E10-83D0-959386E5C1A4%7D&DE=%7BBBD1EB9E6-79DA-42C7-A47E-5D4FA1280C0B%7D

To learn more about the Center for State and Local Government Excellence, please go to <http://www.slge.org/>

To learn more about the National Institute on Retirement Security, please go to <http://www.nirsonline.org/>

New AICPA “360 Degrees of Financial Literacy” Website Debuts

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) recently debuted their 360 Degrees of Financial Literacy website to provide Americans with personalized tools and information to better manage their finances and make intelligent financial decisions.

The site features the “My 360” tool, which allows registered users to create a customizable dashboard featuring articles and resources to help them make informed financial decisions based on their responses to questions pertaining to their life stage and employment status. By registering with the site, individuals can sign up to receive monthly newsletters, consumer alerts and weekly tips and learn about financial literacy events organized by their state CPA society.

To learn more about the website, please go to <http://www.360financialliteracy.org>

To learn more about your state CPA society, please go to <http://www.aicpa.org/yellow/ypascpa.htm>

American Foundation for the Blind Puts Spotlight on SMP

The Administration on Aging’s (AoA) Senior Medicare Patrol Program (SMP) is the Month of May spotlight partner for the American Foundation for the Blind’s AFB Senior Site®.

To read the entire article, please go to <http://www.afb.org/seniorsite.asp?SectionID=64&TopicID=441&SubTopicID=213>

May 23-29 Is Older Americans’ Mental Health Week

Older Americans’ Mental Health Week is an annual opportunity to spread the message that mental illness is not a normal part of aging.

One in four American adults have a diagnosable mental illness, but less than one-quarter of older adults with mental illness get any type of mental health

attention, let alone appropriate treatment. Undiagnosed and untreated mental illness has serious implications for older adults and their loved ones.

To become a partner in Older Americans' Mental Health Week, please contact OWL (Older Women's League) at owlinfo@owl-national.org

To learn about activities you can plan to promote Older Americans' Mental health Week and to request a toolkit (available May 7th), please go to <http://www.mentalhealthweek.org/>

Submit a Story!

Do you have a story aboutClick on the link below to share your story with us, and it may appear on our website or in this enewsletter!

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/For_The_Press/medadv/Share_Story.aspx

Conferences

Stay up to date with the latest aging meetings and conferences by visiting the AoA events calendar at:

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/events/events_List_Day.aspx#title

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