

NJ Foundation for Aging (NJFA) Overview

www.njfoundationforaging.org *Aging Insights:* www.njfoundationforaging.org/aging-insights/ 609-421-0206

NJFA was established in 1998 as a public charity 501.c. 3 to promote services that enable older adults to live in the community with independence and dignity through grant making to address unmet needs and through increasing society's awareness to influence public policy. NJFA serves more than 500,000 persons annually.

Public-private partnerships to support aging issues and services in New Jersey

- Small statewide grant awards from 2000-2013: 44 grants serving more than 25,000 persons
- Statewide professional development conferences – **19th Annual Conference** was held on June 6, 2017
- Policy research and social action – 5 in depth research and policy reports listed below
- Public awareness, multi-media PR and public education: Now in its 24th year **Renaissance Magazine** with 100,000 readers; **75 Aging Insights TV programs** with 400,000 viewers & on NJFA's website & NJFA's YouTube channel. The program is broadcast more than 320 times a month over 70 stations.
- Social Networking: Website, Facebook, Twitter account, Plus a Blog. See Blog listings on page 2.

Policy Sessions & Research

- Convening Housing Stakeholders in 2017 to explore **affordable housing** for low-income seniors
- Co-convenor of three regional NJ Forums on the White House Conference on Aging in 2015
- Elder Economics and Senior Hunger Session for policy makers in NJ in 2011
- Affordable Housing Advocacy with Fight Poverty with Faith in 2012
- Co-convenor of the Anti Poverty Network of NJ in 2012
- NJ Elder Economic Summit and three Regional Sessions, April through Sept 2011
- 2010 Stakeholder Sessions on the Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, Proceedings
- **2014 Update Elder Index Data, 2012 NJ Elder Economic Index Update Project** a research Index Report that provides a county by county analysis of the actual living costs for seniors and county demographics including gender race and housing status of seniors living on the edge of poverty. A companion recommendation section looks at the ways seniors can close the widening gap between their income and expenses. These materials are tools for policy makers, aging advocates and others to develop policies to help seniors age with dignity by promoting their economic security through a multi-pronged approach that includes organizing, advocacy and research. **In 2015 the NJ Legislature passed a law requiring the NJ Department of Human Services to update the Elder Index Data annually in order use it as a basis for State Aging Policy.**
- **"Safe Mobility at Any Age"** -stakeholder sessions in 2004-2005, report* was released in February 2005 Policy sessions were hosted with Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University to bring together stakeholders from local, state and federal transportation planning organizations with representatives from community transportation, health and senior programs to focus on at-risk senior driver issues. **Work on promoting more community transportation options continues.**
 - *Medical Transportation (2002)*
 - *Family Caregiving- Helping Caregivers to Care (2003)*
 - *Mature Workers As Untapped Resources*, seminar & policy session (2000)

Professional Development

The 19th Annual Professional Conference was held on June 6, 2017 at the National Conference Center, East Windsor, NJ. Sessions on skills building CEU program for 250 aging network professionals including psychologists, nurses, social workers, activities specialists; AAA, senior center & housing staff & community service staff at the municipal and county levels.

20th Annual Professional Conference will be held in June 2018.

Aging Insights is a 30-minute TV program which is broadcast 320 times a month on more than 70 stations to a residential area with *more than 6 million residents*. All these shows may be viewed in their entirety at the NJFA's website, www.njfoundationforaging.org/aging-insights or on YouTube. The goal of ***Aging Insights*** is to connect caregivers, boomers and seniors with community programs that promote aging well.

Program topics have included:

Elder Economics and SNAP- Oct 2011
Creativity- Nov 2011
Fitness at Any Age- Dec 2011
Transportation Solutions- Jan 2012
Social Security and Medicare- Feb 2012
Assistive Devices- March 2012
Financial Planning Tools- April 2012
County Offices on Aging- May 2012
State Advocates for Aging Services- June 2012
Navigating Elder Care- July 2012
Affordable Housing: National, State & Local Perspectives- August 2012
Foreclosure Prevention, Credit and Debt Help- Sept 2012
Healthy Pets, Healthy People- Oct 2012
Medicare Open Enrollment and Savings Programs- Nov 2012
Plug into Utility Assistance- Dec 2012
Encore- Elder Index and SNAP- Jan 2013
Wisdom on the Wheel and Older Drivers- Feb 2013
Caregiver Resources and Paid Family Leave Insurance- March 2013
Downsizing, Organizing and Bill Paying Programs- April 2013
Calling NJ 211 and Aging and Disability Connections/ AAAs- May 2013
Benefits of Music Therapy - June 2013
SNAP and Senior Farmer Market Nutrition Program- July 2013
Disaster Preparedness- August 2013
Falls Prevention - Sept 2013
NJ Rate Counsel & Utility Help -Oct 2013
Veterans Services -Nov 2013
NJFA -Dec 2013
Stroke Awareness- Jan 2014
Food Program Benefits - Feb 2014
Tax Relief –Mar 2014
Addiction and Gambling- April 2014
Financial Exploitation & Senior Scams -May 2014
Senior Centers –June 2014
Spotlight on Intergenerational Programs- July 2014
Encore Financial Planning-Aug 2014

NJFA Blog topics have addressed but are not limited to:

NJFA specific info: Conference, Aging Insights, Elder Index Data
Finances:

- Reverse mortgage
- Tax help
- Frauds/scams
- Identity theft
- Retirement planning

Health:

- Mental Health
- Healthy Aging
- Hepatitis C, Flu, Preventive Services
- Heat warnings
- Falls prevention
- Medicaid and Medicare: Billing issues, Fraud, DME
- Social Security: Go Direct, General info/FAQ's

- Oral Health- Sept 2014
- Falls Prevention –Oct 2014
- Medicare Open Enrollment & Fraud Nov 2014
- Senior Travel Tips- Dec 2014
- Investigating Financial Exploitation- Jan 2015
- Elder Economics and Housing- Feb. 2015
- Assistive Devices & Home Modifications- March 2015
- Driver Fitness- April 2015
- Stay Active- Volunteer! - May 2015
- Defining Senior Services- June 2015
- Stress and Happiness- July 2015
- Senior Olympics- August 2015
- Social Security Boot Camp- Sept 2015
- Medicare- Oct 2015
- Open Enrollment and Medicare Fraud- Nov 2015
- Senior Corps Programs- Dec 2015
- Accessing ADRC NJ and NJ211 Resources- Jan 2016
- Coping with Dementia- Feb 2016
- Financial Planning- Mar 2016 [Encore]
- Drug Disposal-April 2016
- Housing Options-May 2016
- Caregiving and Creative Outlets- June 2016
- Managing Type II Diabetes- July 2016
- Quit Smoking- August 2016
- Senior Centers- Sept 2016
- Medicare Open Enrollment – Oct 2016
- Downsizing and Organizing – November 2016
- Hearing Loss- December 2016
- Senior Arts- January 2017
- Stop Identity Theft- Feb 2017
- Importance of Sleep and how to get it- Mar 2017
- Food and Nutrition Programs- April 2017
- Utilities Assistance- May 2017
- Affordable Housing - June 2017
- Coping with Vision Loss- July 2017
- Emergency Preparedness and NJ 2-1-1 Aug 2017
- Long-term Care Ombudsman- Sept 2017
- Medicare open Enrollment & Scams- Oct 2017
- ADA Rights, Nov 2017; Acupuncture, etc. Dec 2017

Guest blogs: Grantees, Adult Day Care, Gambling, FQHCs.

- Housing, NJFA op-ed, Homelessness
- Technology and Communication
- SNAP and Nutrition
- Advance Directives

Programs & Services:

- Property Tax Reimbursement
- Intergenerational programs
- Foreclosure assistance
- Weatherization, Utility/energy assistance