



*Advocacy. Action. Answers on Aging.*

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## National Association of Area Agencies on Aging

1730 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Suite 1200 / Washington, DC 20036 / Tel: 202-872-0888 / Fax: 202-872-0057 / [www.n4a.org](http://www.n4a.org)

### n4a Announces

#### **2009 Aging Innovations and Achievement Award Recipients**

*Recognizing innovative and successful aging services programs that serve older adults in communities across the country*

**Washington, D.C.** (July 21, 2009) – The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) announced the recipients of the 2009 n4a *Aging Innovations and Achievement Awards* today at its annual conference in Minneapolis, MN. This awards program recognizes n4a members and showcases innovative and successful aging services programs that assist older adults and caregivers in communities across the country. The need for successful cost-effective aging services programs is especially important in light of our rapidly growing aging population.

Fifty-three programs received *Aging Achievement Awards*, of which 16 were honored with *Aging Innovations Awards*. In addition, the four programs that scored the highest in the review process received monetary awards. Jeffrey Prough, President and CEO of Critical Signal Technologies (CST), sponsor of the awards program, announced the following monetary awards: \$2,500 to Tarrant County Area Agencies on Aging (Ft. Worth, TX) for **Diabetes Identification and Management Program**, a partnership with the local Meals on Wheels program that enables diabetic seniors to receive monthly diabetic education in their homes; \$1,500 to Region IV Area Agency on Aging (St. Joseph, MI) for **Custom Care—Care Connections of Southwest Michigan**, a private pay options to help AAAs respond to customers who are able to pay for customized attention to their needs; \$1,500 to the Oklahoma Association of Area Agencies on Aging (Shawnee, OK) for **O4A Masonic Assistance Program for Seniors**, a program that leverages local resources to fund direct assistance that help older adults maintain their independence; and \$1,000 to the Central Plains Area Agency on Aging (Wichita, KS) for **Client Assessment Program for Seniors (CAPS)**, a program that offers free professional in-home mental health assessment and counseling.

“As a company that believes in innovations, CST is thrilled to be involved with the *Aging Innovations and Achievement Awards* program because we know that the solutions to the aging services needs and challenges all lie in the innovation initiatives at the local level,” Prough said.

The *Aging Innovations Awards* recognize ground-breaking programs that are innovative and bring fresh ideas to aging programs. The honored programs serve as models for other agencies looking for new approaches to serve the older population within their own communities.

“Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and Title VI Native American aging programs are the trusted resources for assistance to older adults and caregivers in their communities. These organizations are the lifeline that provide critical resources that help older adults remain in their homes and stay active and contributing members of their communities as long as possible,” stated Sandy Markwood, n4a CEO.

Sixteen *Aging Innovations Awards*, the highest honor, were presented to the following:

- Alliance for Aging, Inc./Miami, FL for ***Team Miami: A Community Partnership for Evidence-Based Solutions to Improving Elders' Health*** – (a collaborative initiative that addresses the issues of elder Hispanic health disparities)
- Central Plains Area Agency on Aging/Wichita, KS for ***Client Assessment Program for Seniors (CAPS)*** – (a program that offers free professional in-home mental health assessment and counseling to eligible participants)
- Tarrant County Area Agency on Aging/Ft. Worth, TX for ***Diabetes Identification and Management Program*** – (a partnership with the local Meals on Wheels program that enables diabetic seniors to receive monthly diabetic education in their homes)
- Region IV Area Agency on Aging/St. Joseph, MI for ***Custom Care—Care Connections of Southwest Michigan*** – (a private pay option to help AAAs respond to customers who are able to pay for customized attention to their needs)
- Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley/Lawrence, MA for ***Enhanced Supportive Homemaker Program*** – (a program that increases the capability of homemakers to work with elders who have difficult behaviors)
- REAL Services, Inc./Area 2 Agency on Agency/South Bend, IN for ***Options Counseling and Pre-Screening*** – (a program that offer long-tem care information and education about options to nursing home care)
- Aging & Disability Resource Center of Broward County/Sunrise, FL for ***Senior Intervention and Education Program (SIEP)*** – (an outreach initiative that evaluates the independent living environment of homebound and isolated seniors)
- Southern Maine Agency on Aging/Scarborough, ME for ***Community Links*** – (this program offers assistance to older adults being discharged back into the community with unmet physical and social needs)
- Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach/Treasure Coast, Inc./West Palm Beach, FL for ***Jupiter HeadStart Godparent Program*** – (volunteer godparents provide resources and assistance to children from low-income families)
- InterTribal Council of Arizona, Inc.—Area Agency on Aging/Phoenix, AZ for ***ITCA-AAA Public Benefits Outreach Project*** – (a program that educates and counsels tribal elders and individuals with disabilities about Medicare and public benefits)
- Generations, Area 13 Agency on Aging/Vincennes, IN for ***Long Term Care Team*** – (Case managers work to insure resources and referrals for older discharged patients)
- Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio/Toledo, OH for ***Expedited Meal Delivery for Our Seniors*** – (program utilizes UPS expertise to delivery nutrition meals to homebound seniors)
- Bergen County Division of Senior Services/Hackensack, NJ for ***Outreach Volunteer Associates Program*** – (this program advocates for Asian-American seniors and helps them learn about and access available resources)
- Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging/Front Royal, VA for ***At Home*** – (a program that provide chronic disease management and support to rural homebound seniors)
- Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging/St. Paul, MN for ***Dementia Care Project*** – (a systems change initiative to increase the detection, diagnosis and care management of dementia)
- Oklahoma Association of Area Agencies on Aging/Shawnee, OK for ***O4A Masonic Assistance Programs for Seniors*** – (a program that leverages local resources to fund direct assistance that help older adults maintain their independence)

In addition, the 2009 *Aging Achievement Awards* were given to 37 programs in 14 categories that included caregiving, community planning, ethnic and cultural diversity, elder abuse, healthy

aging, intergenerational programs, nutrition, technology, transportation and volunteerism/civic engagement. The list of *Aging Achievement Award* recipients is attached.

The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) is the umbrella organization for 629 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and a voice for the 246 Title VI Native American aging programs in the U.S. 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 a long-term care ombudsman program. ([www.n4a.org](http://www.n4a.org))

## Achievement Award Winners:

- Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc./Big Stone Gap, VA
  1. Appalachian Memories
  2. Medicaid Waiver
- Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan/Grand Rapids, MI  
Caregiver Resource Network
- New York City Department for the Aging/New York City, NY  
Grandparent Empowerment Training
- Missoula Aging Services/ Missoula, MT  
Extended Counseling Services
- ElderSource, Area Agency on Aging for Northeast Florida/Jacksonville, FL
  1. Informed Eldercare.com
  2. GIS Mapping to Help Targeting
  3. Senior to Senior Fund
- Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging/Waterloo, IA
  1. A Community for All Ages: Livable Communities
  2. Person-Centered Funding
  3. Inclement Weather Shelf Stable Meals Program
- Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services/Mt. Vernon, NY
  1. Livable Community Village Approach
  2. Gerontechnology
  3. Building Livable Communities
- Generations, Area 13 Agency on Aging/Vincennes, IN
  1. Shepherd Community (Linton NNORC)
  2. AngelWorx Color for a Cause
- Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut, Inc./New Haven, CT  
Project H.O.P.E.
- Madison County Office for the Aging, Inc./Canastota, NY  
Teaching Tolerance – Age Simulation Program
- Area VI Agency on Aging/Idaho Falls, ID  
VOICE: Volunteer Ombudsman Improving Care for Our Elders
- Southeastern Minnesota Area Agency on Aging  
Eat Better & Move More
- Essex County Division of Senior Services/East Orange, NJ  
Legacies Writing Contest
- LOA Area Agency on Aging, Inc./Roanoke, VA  
Roanoke Wellness Day Model
- Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach/Treasure Coast, Inc./West Palm Beach, FL
  1. Senior Wellness Program
  2. We Care Programs
- Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging/Lexington, KY
  1. AAA Home Care & UK Sciences & Medical Project
  2. Generations Film Festival
- Middle Georgia Area Agency on Aging  
Assessment and Referral Team
- Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency/Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living
  1. KIPDA In-Home Emergency Services Program

2. KIPD Professional Training Program
  - Atlanta Regional Commission/Area Agency on Aging
    1. LINKAGE: Aging in Place in High Rise Housing
    2. Volunteer Engagement Teams
  - Area Agency on Aging of Southeast Arkansas, Inc./Pine Bluff, AR  
Prescription Assistance
  - Johnson County Area Agency on Aging/Olathe, KS  
CHAMPSS
  - Central Plains Area Agency on Aging/Wichita, KS  
Sedgwick County Transportation
  - Dauphine County Area Agency on Aging  
Meals on Wheels Volunteer Program
  - Senior Service of Southeastern Virginia  
The Center for Aging Affiliates Program
  - Senior Resources of West Michigan/Muskegon, MI  
The Tanglewood Park Collaborative

## **Contacts:**

- **Helen Eltzeroth**  
202.872.0888, [heltzeroth@n4a.org](mailto:heltzeroth@n4a.org)
- **Joanetta Bolden**, [jbalden@n4a.org](mailto:jbalden@n4a.org)  
202.872.0888