



ACRONYMS IN AGING

2004



ACRONYMS IN AGING

Organizations, Agencies,
Programs, and Laws

Produced by the AARP Research Information
Center

About This Guide

This guide is intended to identify acronyms and definitions commonly used in the field of aging. Acronyms formed from the first letter of words in a title are frequently used to abbreviate the names of government agencies, legislation, organizations, and programs.

Acronyms in Aging is produced and maintained by the AARP Research Information Center.

Comments may be sent to: info@aarp.org

About AARP

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization dedicated to making life better for people 50 and over. We provide information and resources; engage in legislative, regulatory and legal advocacy; assist members in serving their communities; and offer a wide range of unique benefits, special products, and services for our members. These include AARP The Magazine, published bimonthly; AARP Bulletin, our monthly newspaper; AARP Segunda Juventud, our quarterly newspaper in Spanish; NRTA Live & Learn, our quarterly newsletter for 50+ educators; and our Web site, www.aarp.org We have staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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Acronyms in Aging

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CHANGES IN THE 2004 EDITION

New Entries

ADI (ALZHEIMERS' DISEASE INTERNATIONAL)

IAHSA (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOMES AND SERVICES FOR THE AGING)

MMA (MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG IMPROVEMENT AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2003)

MOAA (MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA)
Formerly TROA

THE ALLIANCE (ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS)
Formerly NCSC

Deleted Entries

EUROLINK AGE

AA

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

225 N. Michigan Avenue, 17th Floor
Chicago, IL 60601
(800) 272-3900
(312) 335-1110 (FAX)
Web site: www.alz.org
E-mail: info@alz.org

The Alzheimer's Association is a national nonprofit organization founded in 1980 by family caregivers. Its objectives are to support research into the prevention, treatment and cure of Alzheimer's disease; to organize chapters in a national network of family support groups; to educate lay people and professionals about the disease; and to advise local and federal government agencies on public policy and legislation. The Association has chapters throughout the United States, offering support and services. It has resources in Spanish, Korean and English, and it publishes a quarterly newsletter, ADVANCES.

AAA

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

AAAs were established by the 1973 amendments to the Older Americans Act. They are public or private nonprofit organizations or units of local government designated by the state and responsible for a specific geographic area. AAAs advocate on behalf of older people within the area and develop community-based plans for services to meet their needs. AAAs also administer federal, state, local, and private funds through contracts with local service providers. Each AAA is required to have a citizen advisory council. AAAs, along with the State Units on Aging and the federal Administration on Aging, comprise the National Network on Aging. There are approximately 670 AAAs nationwide. To find Area Agencies on Aging and Title VI programs across the country, call the toll free Eldercare Locator at (800) 677-1116.

AAGP

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRY

GMHF (GERIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION)
7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1050
Bethesda, MD 20814-3004
(301) 654-7850
(301) 654-4137 (FAX)
Web site: www.aagponline.org
E-mail: main@aagponline.org

Founded in 1978, the AAGP is the national association for the field of geriatric psychiatry. It provides exceptional professional benefits through educational, informational, and interactive

programs for its members. In 2000, the AAGP founded the Geriatric Mental Health Foundation (GMHF) to raise awareness of psychiatric and mental health disorders affecting the elderly. The GMHF focuses on public education targeted to the health care consumer and family caregiver. AAGP publishes the quarterly AMERICAN JOURNAL OF GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRY and the bi-monthly newsletter, GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRY NEWS.

AAHSA

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF HOMES AND SERVICES FOR THE AGING

2519 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.

Washington, DC 20008-1520

(202) 783-2242

(202) 783-2255 (FAX)

Web site: www.aahsa.org

Founded in 1961, AAHSA is the national association dedicated to providing healthy, affordable, and ethical long-term care to older persons. AAHSA represents over 5500 not-for-profit nursing homes, continuing care retirement communities, assisted living and senior housing facilities and community organizations through its interaction with Congress and federal agencies. AAHSA also enhances the professionalism of practitioners and facilities through the national Certification Program for Retirement Housing Professionals, Continuing Care Accreditation Commission, conferences, programs and publications. AAHSA publishes the quarterly BEST PRACTICES as well as the electronic weekly newsletter, WASHINGTON REPORT. AAHSA's former name was the American Association of Homes for the Aging (AAHA).

AARP

601 E Street, NW

Washington, DC 20049

(202) 434-2277

Web site: www.aarp.org

E-mail: member@aarp.org

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization for people 50 and over. It provides information and resources; advocates on legislative, consumer, and legal issues; assists members to serve their communities; and offers a wide range of unique benefits, special products, and services for its members. These benefits include AARP WEBPLACE at www.aarp.org, the AARP lifestyle magazines, the monthly AARP BULLETIN, and a Spanish-language newspaper, SEGUNDA JUVENTUD. Active in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, AARP celebrates the attitude that age is just a number and life is what you make it.

ACHCA

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATORS

300 N. Lee Street, Suite 301

Alexandria, VA 22314

(703) 549-5822
(703) 739-7901 (FAX)
Web site: www.achca.org
E-mail: info@achca.org

Established in 1962, ACHCA represents nearly 4500 administrators in long term care. It offers education, career development through certification, networking opportunities and advocacy. ACHCA administers the Professional Certification Program for Nursing Home (CNHA), Assisted Living (CALA) and sub-acute care (CAS) Administrators through its ACHCA online university. It publishes a monthly newsletter, ACHCA UPDATE.

ACTION

See CNSC (CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE)

ADA

AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975

U. S. Department of Education
Office of Civil Rights, Mary E. Switzer Building
330 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20202
(800) 421-3481
(202) 205-9862
Web site: www.ed.gov/policy/rights/reg/ocr/edlite-34cfr110.html
E-mail: OCR@ed.gov

The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in any program or activity that receives federal financial support if that program is not explicitly aimed at a particular age group. The ADA applies across the age spectrum from young to old. Amendments passed in 1986 further clarified its mandate. The ADA is enforced by the Office for Civil Rights. It does not cover employment discrimination.

ADA

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990

U. S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division, Disability Rights Section - NYAV
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530
(800) 514-0301
Web site: www.ada.gov

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 provides protection to persons of all ages who have disabilities, whether physical or mental. This law provides protections equivalent to those granted minorities under the civil rights acts. The ADA prohibits discrimination in employment,

public services, public accommodations, transportation and telecommunications. On June 22, 1999, the United States Supreme Court issued the Olmstead Decision which interpreted Title II of the ADA and challenged Federal, state and local governments to develop more opportunities for individuals with disabilities through more accessible systems of cost-effective community-based services. The ADA is enforced by the Department of Justice.

ADEA

AGE DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT ACT OF 1967

U. S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
1801 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20507
(202) 663-4900
Web site: www.eeoc.gov/laws

In 1967, the U.S. Congress enacted the ADEA to protect employees and job-seekers from arbitrary age discrimination. The law, as amended in 1986, covers workers age 40 and older who work for employers with 20 or more employees. It promotes employment of people based on their ability rather than age. The Older Worker's Benefit Protection Act amended the ADEA in 1990 to establish the rights of older workers to fair and nondiscriminatory benefits in employment. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) handles age discrimination complaints.

ADEAR

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE EDUCATION AND REFERRAL CENTER

P.O. Box 8250
Silver Spring, MD 20907-8250
(800) 438-4380
Web site: www.alzheimers.org
E-mail: adear@alzheimers.org

The ADEAR Center was established by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) in 1990 as one of its services. It provides information about Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, the impact of these on families and health professionals, and research into possible causes and cures. ADEAR publishes a quarterly newsletter, CONNECTIONS.

ADI

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE INTERNATIONAL

45-46 Lower Marsh
London
SE 1 7RG
UK
+44 20 7620 3011
+44 20 7401 7351 FAX

Web site: www.alz.co.uk
E-mail: info@alz.co.uk

Founded in 1984, Alzheimer's Disease International (ADI) is the umbrella organization of 66 member Alzheimer associations around the world which offer support and information to people with dementia and their caregivers. ADI strengthens the work of its members by providing information and encouraging research. Its Alzheimer University is a training program designed to build organizational capacity. ADI also sponsors a World Alzheimer's Day and annual international conference. Publications include a tri-annual newsletter, GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE and the WORLD ALZHEIMER'S DAY BULLETIN.

AGE

AGE--EUROPEAN OLDER PEOPLE'S PLATFORM

Rue Froissart 111
B-1040 Bruxelles
Belgium
(32) 2 280 1470
(32) 2 280 1522
Web site: www.age-platform.org
E-mail: info@age-platform.org

AGE - European Older People's Platform, established 2001, brought together Eurolink Age, the European Platform of Seniors' Organisations (EPSO), and the Federation Internationale des Associations des Personnes (FIAPA). Its purpose is to promote the interests of older people in the European Union (EU) and to raise awareness of the issues concerning older people. AGE is involved in a range of policy and information activities to put older people's issues on the EU agenda and to support networking among older people's groups. Publications include policy documents and the monthly newsletter, COVERAGE.

AGELINE

AGELINE DATABASE

Research Information Center
AARP
601 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20049
(202) 434-6231
(202) 434-6408 (FAX)
Web site: www.aarp.org/research/ageline.org
E-mail: ageline@aarp.org

AgeLine is an AARP information product. It is a searchable database with over 65,000 summaries of journal articles, books, book chapters, reports and government documents that target the social, economic, psychological, health and policy aspects of aging as well as consumer and personal concerns of older adults. AgeLine is international in scope and includes documents from 1978 to

the present. AgeLine produces the THESAURUS OF AGING TERMINOLOGY (7th edition, 2002). In addition to being available on the AARP WebPlace where the searching is free, AgeLine is distributed through the following commercial online services: DIALOG: www.dialog.com (800-334-2564), OVID: www.ovid.com (800-950-2035), SilverPlatter: www.silverplatter.com (800-343-0064), Cambridge Scientific Abstracts: www.csa.com (800-843-7751), EBSCO Information Services: www.epnet.com (800-653-2726), and NISC USA: www.nisc.com (410-243-0797).

AGHE

ASSOCIATION FOR GERONTOLOGY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

1030 15th Street, NW, Suite 240

Washington, DC 20005-1503

(202) 289-9806

(202) 289-9824 (FAX)

Web site: www.aghe.org

AGHE was established in 1974 for the purpose of advancing gerontology as a field of study within institutions of higher learning. Its membership consists of over 300 institutions in the United States, Canada, and abroad. AGHE promotes the interests of gerontological education through research, conferences, publications, and leadership on policy and legislative issues. Publications include a quarterly newsletter, AGHE EXCHANGE and a national DIRECTORY OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS IN GERONTOLOGY AND GERIATRICS. It also maintains the National Database on Gerontology in Higher Education. In 1999, AGHE became the educational unit of the Gerontological Society of America.

AGS

AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY

Empire State Building

350 Fifth Avenue, Suite 801

New York, NY 10118

(212) 308-1414

(212) 832-8646 (FAX)

Web site: www.americangeriatrics.org

E-mail: info@americangeriatrics.org

Founded in 1942, AGS is an organization of more than 6,000 health care providers dedicated to improving the health and well-being of older adults. The organization provides leadership to health care professionals, policy makers and the public by developing, implementing and advocating programs in patient care, research, professional and public education, and public policy. In 1991, the Council of State Affiliates (COSAR) was formed to strengthen its presence at the grassroots level, and provide a forum for discussing concerns of local practitioners. Publications include the monthly JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY, the quarterly AGS NEWSLETTER, a monthly clinical journal, ANNALS OF LONG-TERM CARE and an annual edition titled GERIATRICS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS available in an online format at

www.geriatricsatyourfingertips.org . In 1999, the AGS established the non-profit Foundation for Health in Aging (FHA). (See FHA)

AHCA

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION

NCAL (NATIONAL CENTER FOR ASSISTED LIVING)

1201 L Street, NW

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 842-4444

(202) 842-3860 (FAX)

Web site: www.ahca.org

The American Health Care Association (AHCA), formed in 1949, is a federation of 51 state health care organizations, together representing nearly 12,000 nonprofit and for-profit assisted living, nursing facility, and sub-acute care providers nationwide. It also serves as a force for change within the long-term care field, providing information, education, and administrative tools that enhance quality at every level. AHCA publishes a monthly magazine, PROVIDER, and a monthly newsletter, ACHA NOTES. AHCA's GAZETTE is a daily electronic newsletter that summarizes latest issues and trends in long term care. The National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL) is the assisted living voice of AHCA. NCAL is located at www.ncal.org.

ALFA

ASSISTED LIVING FEDERATION OF AMERICA

IALF (INTERNATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING FOUNDATION)

11200 Waples Mill Rd., Suite 150

Fairfax, VA 22030

(703) 691-8100

(703) 691-8106 (FAX)

Web site: www.alfa.org

E-mail: Info@alfa.org

This nonprofit organization is a national federation of state associations founded in 1990 in order to work with regulators and legislators on the state level. It represents over 7,000 for-profit and not-for-profit providers of assisted living, continuing care communities and other forms of housing and services. Its primary mission is to promote the interest of assisted living, housing, and care providers dedicated to enhancing consumer choice and quality of life. In 1998, ALFA provided the seed money for the formation of the International Assisted Living Foundation (IALF) whose mission is to support research and disseminate its findings. In 1999, ALFA combined their membership with that of the National Association of Senior Living Industry Executives (NASLIE). ALFA publishes a bimonthly magazine, ASSISTED LIVING TODAY and a members only electronic newsletter, ALFA ADVISOR.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS

See AARP

ANPPM

ASOCIACION NACIONAL PRO PERSONAS MAYORES

234 E. Colorado Blvd., Suite 300

Pasadena, CA 91101

(626) 564-1988

(626) 564-2659 (FAX)

Web site: www.anppm.org

Founded in 1975, ANPPM is a private, nonprofit corporation committed to improving the well-being of the older Hispanic population. It conducts survey research about the Hispanic older persons, produces bilingual information and audio-visuals, provides training and technical assistance in outreach, maintains a national needs assessment of the Hispanic population, and administers Ayuda, a nationwide employment program for low-income older persons. The Association publishes the quarterly ANPPM NEWSLETTER and a quarterly Legislative Bulletin, BOLETIN LEGISLATIVO.

AoA

ADMINISTRATION ON AGING

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Office of Management and Policy

330 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20201

(202) 619-0724

(202) 260-1012 (FAX)

Web site: www.aoa.dhhs.gov

Established in 1965, AoA is the principal federal agency responsible for programs authorized under the Older Americans Act of 1965. AoA and its nine regional offices are the focal point for the aging network, which includes, in addition to AoA, the State Units on Aging (SUAs) and the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs). AoA serves as an advocate for older persons at the national level, advises Congress and federal agencies on the characteristics and needs of older people, and develops programs designed to promote the welfare of the aging. AoA provides advice, funding, and assistance to achieve state administered, community-based systems of comprehensive social services for older people. The Eldercare Locator, a way to find community assistance for seniors, is a public service of the AOA.

ARA

ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS

See The Alliance

ASA

AMERICAN SOCIETY ON AGING

833 Market Street, Suite 511
San Francisco, CA 94103-1824
(415) 974-9600
(415) 974-0300 (FAX)
Web site: www.asaging.org
E-mail: info@asaging.org

ASA is a national professional membership organization founded in 1954. Its members include practitioners, educators, researchers, and lay people working with and on behalf of the aging. It offers a wide variety of programs for continuing education and specialized training in aging. It also works at the national level to influence public policy. Publications include a quarterly journal, GENERATIONS, a bimonthly newspaper, AGING TODAY, an electronic member newsletter, ASA CONNECTION and eight quarterly newsletters by ASA's specialized constituent groups.

ASSISTED LIVING

Group residential facilities, other than licensed nursing homes, that provide protective oversight and personal care on a 24-hour basis for persons who need assistance with activities of daily living. These facilities are similar to board and care homes except that they are often only for private-pay patients.

BOARD AND CARE

A living arrangement in which the resident is provided with a room, meals, help with activities of daily living, and protective supervision. These homes are also called residential care facilities, community care homes, sheltered care facilities, adult foster care, group homes, or boarding homes. Board and care homes may be unlicensed, and some states do very little monitoring.

CAPS

CHILDREN OF AGING PARENTS

P.O. Box 7250
Penndel, PA 19047
(215) 945-6900
(215) 945-8720
Web site: www.caps4caregivers.org
E-mail: CAPS4caregivers@aol.com

Founded in 1977, Children of Aging Parents (CAPS) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to assist caregivers of older adults with current information, referrals, and support, and to increase public awareness of the issues surrounding family caregiving. CAPS provides training and support to affiliated support groups, sends speakers to the workplace through Employee Assistance Programs, and conducts workshops for community organizations. In addition to fact sheets on various topics, CAPS publishes a bimonthly newsletter, CAPSULE.

CCAC

CONTINUING CARE ACCREDITATION COMMISSION

2519 Connecticut Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20008-1520

(202) 783-7286

(202) 220-0022

Web site: www.ccaconline.org

E-mail: info@ccaconline.org

Founded in 1985, the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission (CCAC) is sponsored by the American Association of Homes & Services for the Aging (see AAHSA). It is the nation's only accrediting body for continuing care retirement communities and other retirement communities. The Commission has developed standards and educational tools to advance innovation and foster continuous improvement in organizations serving older adults. The CCAC is not a government agency or regulatory body. Publications include the CCAC List of Accredited Communities published 3 times a year.

CCCS

CENTER FOR COMMUNICATION AND CONSUMER SERVICES

NAIC (NATIONAL AGING INFORMATION CENTER)

330 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 4656

Washington, DC 20201

(202) 619-7501

(202) 401-7620

Web site: www.aoa.gov

E-mail: naic@aoa.gov

The Center for Communication and Consumer Services (CCCS) maintains aging information resources on programs, policies, and services, which it uses to respond to public and staff inquiries. CCCS public inquiries and Aging Information Resource Library units are the successor to the National Aging Information Center (1995-2001). CCCS maintains a searchable bibliographic database - www.aoa.gov/naic/bibinfo.htm - of AoA-funded reports and other aging related products.

CCRC

CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs) provide shelter, social activities, health care, and support services under a contractual arrangement. Most CCRCs offer a full continuum of care so residents can move from one housing choice to another as need determines. They are usually campus-like complexes with most residents living in their own private apartment units. CCRC campuses usually include an assisted living building (and often a skilled nursing home). Typically, a CCRC requires an entrance fee as well as monthly charges, although some are pay-as-you-go arrangements. It may ask potential residents to meet certain age, health, and financial requirements. A CCRC is sometimes called a life care community.

CGA

CATHOLIC GOLDEN AGE

P. O. Box 249

Olyphant, PA 18447

(570) 586-1091

(570) 586-7721

Web site: www.catholicgoldenage.org

E-mail: info@catholicgoldenage.org

CGA is a nationwide membership organization founded in 1974 to serve the interests and needs of Catholics age 50 and over with an emphasis on religion and spirituality. CGA represents its members' interests at the national level, monitors legislation that affects older citizens, and helps fund programs designed to enhance the well-being of older people. It is active at the community level through CGA chapters. CGA provides its members with various consumer discounts, health and life insurance plans, and Medicare supplement plans. Publications include reports on human rights, world peace, health care and social security, and a quarterly magazine, CGA WORLD for its members.

CLPE

COMMISSION ON LEGAL PROBLEMS OF THE ELDERLY

See COLA (COMMISSION ON LAW AND AGING)

CMS

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

Social Security Administration

7500 Security Boulevard

Baltimore, MD 21244

(410) 786-3000

Web site: www.cms.hhs.gov

In 2001, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) was renamed Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Created in 1977, HCFA, now CMS, has oversight of the Medicare and Medicaid programs.
(see Social Security Act, Titles XVIII and XIX).

CNCS

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525
(202) 606-5000
Web site: www.cns.gov

The National & Community Service Trust Act of 1993, signed into law on September 21, 1993, created the CNCS to administer national volunteer service programs. The law combined the existing Commission on National & Community Service and ACTION and reformed their programs into three broad organizations: (1) Learn & Serve America; (2) AmeriCorps, consisting of Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) and the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC); and (3) Senior Service Corps, consisting of the Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), and the Senior Companion Program (SCP).

COLA

COMMISSION ON LAW AND AGING

CLPE (COMMISSION ON LEGAL PROBLEMS OF THE ELDERLY)

American Bar Association
740 15th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-1022
(202) 662-8690
(202) 662-8698
Web site: www.abanet.org/aging
E-mail: abaelderly@abanet.org

Formerly the Commission on Legal Problems of the Elderly (CLPE), the American Bar Association established this 16-member interdisciplinary commission in 1978 to analyze and respond to the legal needs of older people in the United States. The Commission was renamed Commission on Law and Aging (COLA) in September 2002. The Commission's work focuses on health care, housing, long term care, age discrimination, and improving the availability of legal services to older persons. The Commission makes available a number of publications including its quarterly newsletter, BIFOCAL, and the bimonthly BULLETIN.

DI

DISABILITY INSURANCE

See Social Security Act, Title II.

EBRI

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT RESEARCH INSTITUTE

2121 K Street, NW, Suite 600

Washington, DC 20037-1896

(202) 659-0670

(202) 775-6312 (FAX)

Web site: www.ebri.org

E-mail: info@ebri.org

Founded in 1978, EBRI's mission is to advance the knowledge and understanding of employee benefits and their importance to our nation's economy. Through its research, policy forums, workshops, educational publications, and periodicals, EBRI addresses employment-related health, welfare, and retirement issues. It is supported by private corporations, financial institutions, trade associations, insurers, labor unions, and research groups. EBRI publishes EBRI NOTES and EBRI ISSUE BRIEFS, among other publications.

EEOC

U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

1801 L Street, NW

Washington, DC 20507

(202) 663-4900

(800) 669-4000

(202) 663-4912 (FAX)

Web site: www.eeoc.gov

The EEOC was created by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and began operating on July 2, 1965. The purpose of the EEOC is to eliminate discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or age in hiring, promoting, firing, wages, testing, training, apprenticeship, and all other terms and conditions of employment.

ERISA

EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974

Employee Benefits Security Administration

US Department of Labor

200 Constitution Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20210

(202) 219-8776

Web site: www.dol.gov/EBSA

ERISA sets minimum standards for employee pension and welfare plans in the private sector that employers must meet to qualify for tax-favored status. ERISA was enacted in 1974 to protect the interests of plan participants and their beneficiaries; it has been amended many times since. ERISA does not require employers to establish a plan, but it requires those that do to meet certain standards, including those involving vesting, participation, nondiscrimination, insurance, and funding. The law generally does not set specific levels of benefits nor does it address benefit adequacy.

FGP

FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

See CNCS (CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE)

FHA

AGS FOUNDATION FOR HEALTH IN AGING

See Also AGS (AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY)

(212) 755-6810

(212) 832-8646

Web site: www.healthinaging.org

Founded in 1999 by the American Geriatrics Society, the Foundation for Health in Aging is devoted solely to the health care needs of older adults. The aim of the FHA is to build a bridge between research and the practice of geriatrics and the public, and to advocate on behalf of older adults and their special health care needs.

FUSAF

FAMILIES USA FOUNDATION

1334 G Street, NW, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 628-3030

(202) 347-2417 (FAX)

Web site: www.familiesusa.org

E-mail: info@familiesusa.org

Families USA Foundation and its lobbying arm, Families USA, were established in 1981 by the Villers Foundation to serve as advocates for America's families. The Foundation works with a nationwide network of activist community organizations on problems that challenge families, particularly health care, long-term care, and elderly poverty. It seeks to influence the debate on family issues through research, the preparation of reports and media tools, and lobbying at all levels of government. Publications include reports, issue briefs and fact sheets and tools for advocates.

GCM

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL GERIATRIC CARE MANAGERS

1604 North Country Club Road

Tucson, AZ 85716-3102

(520) 881-8008

(520) 325-7925 (FAX)

Web site: www.caremanager.org

E-mail: info@caremanager.org

Founded in 1986, the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers (GCM) is an organization of practitioners whose goal is the advancement of gentle and dignified care for older people and their families. GCM is committed to maximizing the independence and autonomy of older persons, while striving to ensure that the highest quality and most cost-effective health and human services are used when and where appropriate. Publications include the quarterlies INSIDE GCM and GCM JOURNAL.

GMHF

GERIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

See AAGP (AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRY)

GPPF

GRAY PANTHERS PROJECT FUND

733 15th Street, NW, Suite 437

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 737-6637

(202) 737-1160 (FAX)

Web site: www.graypanthers.org

E-mail: info@graypanthers.org

Founded in 1970 by Maggie Kuhn, the Gray Panthers is an intergenerational advocacy organization. Working through local chapters and at the national level, the organization carries out programs of consciousness raising, education, petition drives, lawsuits, congressional testimony, and media monitoring on a variety of aging issues, including national health care, affordable housing, jobs, workers' rights, and Social Security. To ensure that Americans have access to safe, more affordable medicine, the Gray Panthers founded SPAN (Stop Patient Abuse Now) in 2001. SPAN is a coalition of more than 125 organizations representing seniors, consumers and patients, and may be found at www.spancoalition.org.

GSA

GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

1030 15th Street, NW, Suite 250

Washington, DC 20005-1503
(202) 842-1275
(202) 842-1150 (FAX)
Web site: www.geron.org
E-mail: geron@geron.org

Founded in 1945, the GSA is a membership organization of professionals that promotes the study of aging, the exchange of information between researchers and practitioners, and the use of research in forming public policy. Its interdisciplinary membership includes researchers, practitioners, and educators. It holds an annual scientific meeting and publishes two bimonthly journals, THE GERONTOLOGIST and THE JOURNALS OF GERONTOLOGY, plus a monthly newsletter, GERONTOLOGY NEWS. In 1999, the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education became a unit of GSA. The GSA maintains an online job posting, AGEWORK (jobs in aging) - www.agework.com.

GU

GENERATIONS UNITED

1333 H Street, N.W., Suite 500 W
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 289 3979
(202) 289-3952 (FAX)
Web site: www.gu.org
E-mail: gu@gu.org

GU, a non-incorporated cooperative coalition of over 100 national organizations, promotes an intergenerational approach to advocacy and service for young and old and works to enhance the ongoing public policy, public information, and program activities of its member organizations. It accomplishes this in part through conference and workshop speakers, program ideas, and technical assistance on state and local organizing. Publications include a quarterly newsletter, TOGETHER.

HAA

HOSPICE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

NAHC (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR HOME CARE)
228 Seventh Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 546-4759
(202) 547-9559
Web site: www.nahc.org/HAA

The Hospice Association of America is a national organization representing hospices and the caregivers and volunteers who serve terminally ill patients and their families. HAA advocates the industry's interests before Congress, regulatory agencies, the courts, other national organizations, the media, and the public. HAA is an affiliate of the National Association for Home Care (NAHC).

It publishes a quarterly online newsletter, VHN FORUM, for all-volunteer hospices in addition to a regular monthly column, HOSPICE FORUM in NAHC's CARING magazine.

HCFA

HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

See CMS (CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES)

HFA

HOSPICE FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

2001 S Street, NW, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20009

(202) 638-5419

(202) 638-5312

Web site: www.hospicefoundation.org

Chartered in 1982, the Hospice Foundation of America became a national not-for-profit organization in 1990. It provides leadership in the development and application of hospice and its philosophy of care through programs of professional development, research, public education, and information. HFA publishes the monthly newsletter, JOURNEYS.

HHS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

200 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20201

(202) 619-0257

Web site: www.dhhs.gov

HHS is the federal cabinet-level department most concerned with people and most involved with the nation's human concerns. It was created in 1953 and until 1980 was named the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The Secretary of HHS advises the president on the health, welfare, and income security plans, policies, and programs of the federal government.

HI

HOSPITAL INSURANCE

See Social Security Act, Title XVIII.

HIPAA

THE HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (1996)

Web site: www.cms.gov/hipaa

HIPAA is the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. This law, passed by Congress in 1996, helps to protect rights to health coverage during events such as changing or losing jobs, pregnancy, moving, or divorce. It also provides rights and protections for employers when getting and renewing health coverage for their employees. HIPAA is not an insurance policy. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) maintains HIPAA OnLine, an interactive tool to answer questions about rights and protections under HIPAA.

HUD

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

451 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410
(202) 708-1112
Web site: www.hud.gov

Established in 1965, HUD is the principal federal cabinet-level agency responsible for programs concerned with housing needs, fair housing opportunities, and improving and developing the nation's communities. HUD's web site includes special pages for Senior Citizens and Health Care Facilities Providers.

IAG

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GERONTOLOGY

Gerontology Research Center
Simon Fraser University
2800-515 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC Canada V3C 5K3
1(604) 268-7972
1(604) 291-5066
Web site: www.sfu.ca/iag
E-mail: iag@sfu.ca

IAG is an international membership organization founded in 1950. It is composed of national professional societies and associations of geriatrics and/or gerontology, which represent a diversity of scientific disciplines including the biological, behavioral, social, and clinical sciences. It promotes research, training and education, and the exchange of information among its members. IAG holds the World Congress of Gerontology every four years. IAG publishes the AG NEWSLETTER twice yearly. Its official journal, GERONTOLOGY-INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL, CLINICAL AND BEHAVIOURAL GERONTOLOGY, is published bimonthly.

IAHSA

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOMES AND SERVICES FOR THE AGING

2519 Connecticut Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20008-1520

(202) 508-9468

(202) 220-0041(FAX)

Web site: www.iahsa.net

E-mail: iahsa@aahsa.org

IAHSA is an international, not-for-profit educational and charitable organization with a multi-national composition from over 30 countries. Formed in 1994, its mission is that of connecting and supporting care and service providers worldwide to enhance quality of life for the aging. IAHSA has recently been granted Special Consultant status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. IAHSA hosts an annual conference, publishes a bi-monthly e-mail newsletter and the quarterly newsletter, ALLIANCE, for members.

IALF

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING FOUNDATION

See ALFA (ASSISTED LIVING FEDERATION OF AMERICA)

IESC

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE SERVICE CORPS

P. O. Box 10005, 333 Ludlow Street

Stamford, CT 06904-2005

(203) 967-6000

(203) 324-2531 (FAX)

Web site: www.iesc.org

E-mail: iesc@iesc.org

Established in 1964, IESC, a not-for-profit organization, recruits retired U.S executives and technical advisors, who volunteer their experience worldwide. IESC works with private business enterprises primarily, but also with government, educational, and health care organizations. IESC's volunteers help to increase productivity, upgrade skills, and improve basic technologies. The IESC NEWS is the group's quarterly newsletter.

IFA

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING

425 Viger Avenue, West, Suite 520

Montreal, QC, CANADA H2Z 1X2

(514) 396-3358

(514) 396-3378 (FAX)

Web site: www.ifa-fiv.org
E-mail: ifa@citenet.net

Founded in 1973, IFA is a private, non-profit organization linking approximately 151 associations that represent older persons at the grassroots level in nearly 54 nations. It serves as a clearinghouse for information, practical applications, and the common concerns of the aging around the world. It is an advocate for the aging at the international level and has Consultative Status as a non-governmental organization with the WHO (World Health Organization), ILO (International Labour Organization), and UNESCO, and other groups. IFA publishes a bi-monthly newsletter, INTERCOM and a quarterly news journal, GLOBAL AGEING.

ILC-USA

INTERNATIONAL LONGEVITY CENTER-USA

60 East 86th Street
New York, NY 10028
(202) 288-1468
(202) 288-3132
Web site: www.ilcusa.org
E-mail: info@ilcusa.org

The ILC-USA is a not-for-profit research and education organization affiliated with the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City. Its mission is to help societies address longevity and population aging by raising awareness among the public and private sector about the impact of longevity; conducting research and educational programs in health, work, and family; and drawing on the expertise of scholars from multiple disciplines.

ISSA

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY ASSOCIATION

Case Postale 1
CH-1211 Geneva 22
Switzerland
(41) 22 799 66 17
(41) 22 799 85 09 (FAX)
Web site: www.aiss.org
E-mail: issa@ilo.org

The International Social Security Association (ISSA) was founded in 1927 to extend and strengthen sickness insurance. Its activities were soon widened to include old age, chronic illness or disability, and survivors' insurance. In 1944, at the International Labour Conference in Philadelphia, a resolution was adopted to promote cooperation among social security organizations, the regular interchange of information, and the study of common problems in social security. ISSA publishes a quarterly journal, THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY REVIEW and a quarterly newsletter, TRENDS IN SOCIAL SECURITY. ISSA supports Social Security Worldwide (SSW)

covering six different databases on social protection available by subscription on the internet and CD ROM.

JTPA

JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT

The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), enacted in 1982, established a nationwide system of job training programs administered jointly by state and local governments and the private sector. Title IIA authorizes training and services for economically disadvantaged individuals. Overhaul of the JTPA in 1992 established a new older worker set-aside at 5 percent of Title IIA adult worker funds. Dislocated workers receive employment and training help under Title III, the Economic Dislocation and Worker Adjustment Assistance Act.

LCAO

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF AGING ORGANIZATIONS

The LCAO was founded in 1978 as a coalition of national nonprofit organizations concerned with the well-being of older persons. The coalition's purpose is to foster communication and resource sharing among member organizations and to provide leadership and joint advocacy strategies for representing the aging in the federal policy arena. The LCAO is chaired on a rotating basis by a different member organization each year. Some of its members include AARP, ASA, GSA, NCOA, and NARFE.

LTC

LONG-TERM CARE

LTC is the comprehensive range of medical, personal, and social services developed and coordinated to meet the physical, social, and emotional needs of chronically ill and disabled people of all ages. These services are designed to meet needs over a long period of time and may be delivered in an institution, in the community, or in a person's residence.

MEDICAID

See Social Security Act, Title XIX

MEDICARE

See Social Security Act, Title XVIII

MEDIGAP INSURANCE

Health care insurance that pays certain costs not covered by Medicare and that meets minimum standards set by state and federal law.

MMA

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2003

Web site: www.cms.gov

The Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (Pub. L. 108-173) was enacted on December 8, 2003. It amends Title XVIII of the Social Security Act. Its purpose includes providing a voluntary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare program, modernizing the Medicare program, amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction to individuals for amounts contributed to health savings security accounts and health saving accounts, and providing for the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements. The prescription drug coverage begins January 1, 2006. For the text of and updates about MMA, visit the CMS Web site: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov>.

MOAA

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

201 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-2529

(800) 234-6622

(800) 245-8762

(703) 833-8173 (FAX)

Web site: www.moaa.org

E-mail: msc@moaa.org

Formerly The Retired Officers Association (TROA), MOAA is an independent, nonprofit membership organization operated exclusively to benefit current and former commissioned or warrant officers of the U.S. uniformed services, their families and survivors. Founded in 1929, MOAA plays an active role in matters of military personnel and legislation affecting career force, the retired community and veterans of the uniformed services. It offers numerous benefits to its members including employment assistance, benefits counseling, scholarships, survivor assistance, insurance, travel programs and discounts. MOAA publishes a monthly subscription magazine, **MILITARY OFFICER** and the online monthly **TODAY'S OFFICER** that is issued in print quarterly.

N4A

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AREA AGENCIES ON AGING

1730 Rhode Island Ave., NW, Suite 1200

Washington, DC 20036

(202) 872-0888

(202) 872-0057 (FAX)

Web site: www.n4a.org

Founded in 1974, N4A is a private, nonprofit membership organization representing the interests of Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs). It provides advocacy, legislative information, training, and

technical assistance related to the management of AAAs and programs for older persons. It also provides consulting services to employers in the development and implementation of eldercare information and referral services. It administers the Eldercare Locator, a national toll-free telephone database of information and referral services at the state and local level. N4A publishes the NATIONAL DIRECTORY FOR ELDERCARE INFORMATION AND REFERRAL and other publications related to administering local services to older Americans. Its members receive LEGISLATIVE UPDATES, ADVOCACY ALERTS and the newsletter, IN STEP WITH N4A.

NAELA

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ELDER LAW ATTORNEYS

1604 North Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona 85716
(520) 881-4005
(520) 325-7925 (FAX)
Web site: www.naela.org

NAELA was incorporated in 1987 to ensure delivery of quality legal services for older persons to advocate for their rights by promoting technical expertise and education. The academy provides information, education, networking and assistance to those who deal with legal services to the elderly. It also provides information to help select an attorney. Publications include the NAELA QUARTERLY and NAELA NEWS eight times a year.

NAHC

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR HOME CARE

228 7th Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 547-7424
(202) 547-3540 (FAX)
Web site: www.nahc.org
E-mail: info@nahc.org

Founded in 1982, NAHC represents home care agencies, hospices, and home care aide organizations. Its members are corporations and other entities that provide health care and supportive services to persons in their own homes. NAHC offers services to its members, such as providing insurance benefits and information resources, and it represents home care interests before Congress, regulatory agencies, and the media. NAHC administers the Certification for Home Care and Hospice Executives (CHCE), a comprehensive national certification program for credentialing home care and hospice executives. It is also home to the Hospice Association of America (HAA). Publications include the monthly magazine, CARING and the NAHC REPORT, a weekly newsletter on legislative, regulatory, and judicial issues.

NAHOF

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION ON HIV OVER FIFTY

29 Miner Street

Boston, MA 02215

(617) 233-7107

(617) 262-5667

Web site: www.hivoverfifty.org

E-mail: nahof@hivoverfifty.org

Founded in 1995 at the National Conference on AIDS and Aging, NAHOF is a membership organization whose mission is to promote the availability of a full range of educational, prevention, service, and health care programs for persons aged 50 and older affected by HIV. NAHOF serves an advocacy role with legislators, policymakers, and other national organizations to ensure the inclusion of HIV issues in the aging services network. Publications include the quarterly newsletter, NAHOF CONNECTION with monthly updates.

NAIC

NATIONAL AGING INFORMATION CENTER

See CCCS (CENTER FOR COMMUNICATION AND CONSUMER SERVICES)

NAPCA

NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC CENTER ON AGING

Melbourne Tower, Suite 914

1511 3rd Avenue

Seattle, WA 98101-1622

(206) 624-1221

(206) 624-1023 (FAX)

Web site: www.napca.org

Founded in 1979, NAPCA has as its primary purpose the improvement of health and social services for Pacific Island and Asian American older persons. It accomplishes this through research on community support systems, efforts to promote responsive service delivery systems, technical assistance, and the development of a policy agenda at the regional and national levels. NAPCA also operates two federal employment programs for older workers and publishes a quarterly newsletter, ASIAN PACIFIC AFFAIRS.

NARFE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

606 North Washington Street

Alexandria, VA 22314 - 1914

(703) 838-7760

(703) 838-7785

Web site: www.narfe.org

E-mail: hq@narfe.org

NARFE is a membership organization of federal civilian retirees, employees, and their spouses and survivors. Founded in 1921, the Association's primary purpose is to protect the retirement and health benefit programs of present and future federal civilian retirees. It engages in political action through NARFE-PAC. It represents its members' interests before Congress, state legislatures, and regulatory agencies. It assists members in resolving problems with their retirement benefits, and it offers group insurance and other benefits. NARFE publishes a monthly magazine, RETIREMENT LIFE and two quarterly newsletters, RECRUITER'S JOURNAL & QUARTERLY and SERVICE NEWS.

NASLIE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR LIVING INDUSTRY EXECUTIVES

See ALFA (ASSISTED LIVING FEDERATION OF AMERICA)

NASUA

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE UNITS ON AGING

1201 15th Street, N.W., Suite 350

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 898-2578

(202) 898-2583 (FAX)

Web site: www.nasua.org

E-mail: staff@nasua.org

NASUA, founded in 1964, is a national non-profit membership association of the State Units on Aging for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories. The association monitors state and federal legislation, serves as a voice for the state perspective on aging issues at the national level, and provides information, technical assistance, and professional development support to the state units. NASUA is the lead agency for the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA).

NCAL

NATIONAL CENTER FOR ASSISTED LIVING

See AHCA (AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION)

NCBA

NATIONAL CAUCUS AND CENTER ON BLACK AGED, INC.

1220 L Street, NW, Suite 800

Washington, DC 20005
(202) 637-8400
(202) 347-0895 (FAX)
Web site: www.ncba-aged.org
E-mail: info@ncba-aged.org

NCBA, founded in 1970, is the only national organization dedicated exclusively to improving the quality of life for elderly African Americans and low-income minority elders. NCBA's programs include housing sponsorship, technical assistance to housing organizations, the Senior Employment Program (SEP), the Senior Environmental Employment (SEE) program and employment training and placement, as well as legislative and public policy advocacy. The Council of Blacks in Aging Services is an affiliate of the NCBA.

NCCNHR

NATIONAL CITIZENS' COALITION FOR NURSING HOME REFORM

1424 16th Street, NW, Suite 202
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 332-2275
(202) 332-2949 (FAX)
Web site: www.nccnhr.org

Founded in 1975, NCCNHR is a national, nonprofit membership organization of advocacy groups and individuals working to improve the long-term care system and the quality of life for nursing home residents. It operates the NCCNHR Clearinghouse for information on nursing homes, provides leadership on federal and state regulatory activity and policy development, and offers consultation and training for ombudsman programs. Its local groups assist in resolving complaints, support resident and family councils, and promote community involvement in nursing homes. Publications include a bimonthly newsletter, QUALITY CARE ADVOCATE.

NCEA

NATIONAL CENTER ON ELDER ABUSE

NASUA (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE UNITS ON AGING)

Web site: www.elderabusecenter.org
E-mail: ncea@nasua.org

The National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA), begun in 1998, is funded by a grant through the Administration on Aging. NCEA consists of a partnership of six agencies: the National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA), the American Bar Association Commission on Legal Problems of the Elderly (ABA), the Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly (CANE), the Institute on Aging San Francisco Consortium for Elder Abuse Prevention (IOA), the National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators (NAAPSA), and the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA). NCEA compiles and disseminates information, provides technical assistance, consultation and training, and conducts research. It offers access to

the Clearinghouse on Abuse and Neglect of the Elderly (CANE) through the NCEA website, and publishes a biannual compilation of Adult Protective Services data. Publications include the NCEA NEWSLETTER.

NCOA

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE AGING

300 D Street, SW, Suite 801

Washington, DC 20024

(202) 479-1200

(202) 479-0735

Web site: www.ncoa.org

E-mail: info@ncoa.org

Founded in 1950, NCOA is a nonprofit organization of professionals providing service to older persons. It offers policy and legislative advocacy as well as professional development, research, and information resources to its members. NCOA has eleven constituent units: the National Institute of Senior Centers, National Institute on Adult Daycare, National Center on Rural Aging, National Voluntary Organizations for Independent Living for the Aging, National Institute of Senior Housing, National Association of Older Worker Employment Services, National Institute on Community- Based Long-Term Care, the Health Promotion Institute, the National Interfaith Coalition on Aging, the National Institute on Financial Issues and Services for Elders, and the National Center for Voluntary Leadership in Aging. Publications include the quarterly journal, INNOVATIONS, and the weekly electronic newsletter, NCOA WEEK.

NCPSSM

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

10 G Street, NE, Suite 600

Washington, DC 20002

(202) 216-0420

(202) 216-0451 (FAX)

Web site: www.ncpssm.org

E-mail: general@ncpssm.org

Founded in 1982, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare is a national membership organization that works to protect and improve Social Security and Medicare. The committee seeks to educate the public and its members, to respond to members' concerns and questions about Social Security and Medicare, and to influence legislation through lobbying and organizing its membership to respond to legislative proposals. The committee has a legislative alert service and publishes a bimonthly magazine, SECURE RETIREMENT. (Secure Retirement will cease publication in December 2002)

NCSC

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS

See The ALLIANCE (ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS)

NESC

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE SERVICE CORPS

120 Wall Street, 16th Floor

New York, NY 10005

(212) 269-1234

(212) 269-0959 (FAX)

Web site: www.nesc.org

E-mail: info@nesc.org

Established in 1977, NESC is a nonprofit organization that provides management consulting and business advisory services to other nonprofit organizations, public schools, and government agencies. Retired executives and professionals serve as consultants on a volunteer basis. NESC has affiliates in 41 principal U.S. cities. It operates Senior Career Planning and Placement, Inc., an executive search subsidiary that serves nonprofit organizations. NESC publishes a quarterly newsletter, THE EXCHANGE.

NF

NURSING FACILITY

Under Medicaid, a nursing facility is a licensed health care institution that provides services ranging from above the level of room and board to skilled care.

NHCoA

THE NATIONAL HISPANIC COUNCIL ON AGING

2713 Ontario Road, NW

Washington, DC 20009

(202) 265-1288

(202) 745-2522 (FAX)

Web site: www.nhcoa.org

E-mail: nhcoa@nhcoa.org

NHCoA is a nonprofit, membership organization established in 1980 to promote the well-being of Latino older persons with particular emphasis on self and mutual help. Its activities focus on demonstration projects, research, policy analysis, training, and development of educational and informational resources. Membership consists of Hispanic and non-Hispanic individuals, organizations, and agencies. NHCoA publishes a bimonthly newsletter, NOTICIAS, and regular

Legislative Updates on impending legislation. NHCcA has two monthly Spanish Language publications, HEALTH PROMOTION and DISEASE PREVENTION.

NHF

NATIONAL HOSPICE FOUNDATION

See NHPCO (NATIONAL HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE ORGANIZATION)

NHPCO

NATIONAL HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE ORGANIZATION

NHF (NATIONAL HOSPICE FOUNDATION)

1700 Diagonal Road

Alexandria, VA 22314

(703) 516-4928

(703) 837-1233

Web site: www.nhpc.org

Founded in 1978 as the National Hospice Organization, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization is a nonprofit membership organization that represents hospice and palliative care programs, professionals, and organizations. It advocates for the terminally ill and their families, develops public and professional educational programs, convenes frequent meetings on emerging issues, provides technical and informational resources, conducts research, and partners with state hospice programs through the Council of States (COS). Its sister organization, the National Hospice Foundation, was created in 1992 to broaden awareness of hospice to consumers. It is a charitable organization and serves as the research and education arm of NHPCO.

NIA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING

National Institutes of Health

Building 31, Room 5c 27

31 Center Dr., MSC 2292

Bethesda, MD 20892

(301) 496-1752

(301) 496-1072 (FAX)

Web site: www.nih.gov/nia

NIA, a federal government agency within the National Institutes of Health, was established through the Research on Aging Act of 1974. NIA conducts and supports biomedical and behavioral research to increase knowledge of the aging process and associated physical, psychological, and social factors resulting from advanced age. NIA conducts laboratory and clinical research at its clinics and at its Gerontology Research Center in Baltimore, MD. NIA funds research on aging at universities, hospitals, medical centers, and other organizations.

NICOA

NATIONAL INDIAN COUNCIL ON AGING, INC.

10501 Montgomery Blvd NE, Suite 210
Albuquerque, NM 87111-3846
(505) 292-2001
(505) 292-1922 (FAX)
Web site: www.nicoa.org

Established in 1976, NICOA's overall purpose is to improve comprehensive services to American Indian and Alaskan Native older persons. It pursues its objectives through advocacy, information dissemination, employment training and technical assistance, and research. Membership consists of American Indians and Alaskan Natives age 55 and over who serve as communicators between the national organization and the local communities. It publishes a quarterly newsletter, ELDER VISION, as well as conference reports and books.

NIMH

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH

6001 Executive Blvd., Room 8184-MSC 9663
Bethesda, MD 20892-9663
(301) 443-4513
(301) 443-4279
Web site: www.nimh.nih.gov
E-mail: nimhinfo@nih.gov

NIMH, a federal government agency, provides a focus for the national effort to increase knowledge about and advance effective strategies to promote mental health and prevent and treat mental illness. It conducts and supports research and training, collaborates in the development of mental health programs with a wide variety of organizations, and collects, analyzes, and disseminates scientific findings and data. The Mental Disorders of the Aging Research Branch, within NIMH, supports the study of mental health and illness in the aging population.

NRTA

NATIONAL RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

See AARP

NSCLC

NATIONAL SENIOR CITIZENS LAW CENTER

1101 14th Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 289-6976
(202) 289-7224 (DC)

Web site: www.nslc.org

NSCLC, established in 1972, provides litigation support services, legal research, and national policy representation for lawyers and paralegals serving the low income older population. It provides assistance primarily to legal field staff in programs funded by the Legal Services Corporation and the AoA, as well as to private attorneys. NSCLC attorneys specialize in areas such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, nursing home issues, private and public pensions, age discrimination, and protective services. The Center publishes the WASHINGTON WEEKLY newsletter, the quarterly NURSING HOME LAW LETTER, the monthly SOCIAL SECURITY/SSI INFORMATIONAL MAILING, and numerous other materials and manuals.

NURSING HOME REFORM LAW

Congress enacted comprehensive nursing home quality care provisions as part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 (OBRA 87). The legislation requires nursing homes to inform residents of their legal rights, to annually conduct a comprehensive assessment of each resident, to meet specific staffing requirements, and to provide training for nurse aides in specific areas. It requires states to monitor nursing homes and ensure that they comply with the law's provisions.

OAA

OLDER AMERICANS ACT OF 1965

Reauthorized with amendments in 2000, this Act serves millions of older Americans who are as diverse as America's communities. As with previous reauthorizations since 1965, Congress has adjusted the mission and responsibilities of the Act to address the increasing needs of a rapidly expanding aging population. The legislation retains coordination and advocacy as principal responsibilities originally mandated to the aging network under the Act.

The amendments will improve a great number of programs and services under the OAA, including nutrition, transportation, the ombudsman program, legal assistance, grants to Indian tribes, employment of low-income seniors, and many others. Elements of the Act that warrant particular attention include:

- A new program that provides support for family caregiving that involves older persons.
- Cost sharing provisions that permit states to require contributions for certain services.
- New state and local flexibility in administering nutrition and supportive services programs.
- Improved administrative oversight and enforcement tools to ensure program accountability.
- Enhanced involvement of states in the protection of consumer rights and service access.
- Enhanced targeting of services to vulnerable older persons, including persons in rural areas.
- Increased flexibility to promote intergenerational activities.
- Expanded nationwide access to information about services in local areas.
- A new distribution formula for funds under caregiver support, and Titles III and V.
- New provisions in Title V specify when national grants are to be forfeited by current grantees and competed among new bidders.

For more information, go to: www.seniors.gov/legislation/Older-Americans-Act-2000.html

OASDI

OLD AGE, SURVIVORS, AND DISABILITY INSURANCE

See Social Security Act, Title II.

OWL

OLDER WOMEN'S LEAGUE

1750 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 350

Washington, DC 20006

(202) 783-6686

(202) 638-2356 (FAX)

Web site: www.owl-national.org

Founded in 1980, OWL is a national membership organization concerned with improving the lives of middle-aged and older women. OWL promotes advocacy and educational activities at the state and federal levels and through local chapters. Key issues include access to health care, Social Security reform, expanded pension coverage, access to housing, workplace discrimination, and self-sufficiency. OWL publishes a quarterly newspaper, THE OWL OBSERVER, a yearly MOTHER'S DAY REPORT and other reports and educational materials.

PBGC

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

1200 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20005-4026

(202) 326-4000

(202) 326-4001 (FAX)

Web site: www.pbgc.gov

The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation was established by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). PBGC administers insurance programs that guarantee the payment of basic retirement benefits, within limits set by law, to participants of private defined benefit pension plans. PBGC programs are financed by premiums paid by employers sponsoring such pension plans, investment returns on PBGC assets, and recoveries from employers responsible for under funded and terminated plans. Currently the PBGC protects the retirement incomes of about 44 million American workers in more than 35,000 private defined benefit pension plans.

PRC

PENSION RIGHTS CENTER

1140 19th Street, NW, Suite 602

Washington, DC 20036-6608

(202) 296-3776

(202) 833-2472

Web site: www.pensionrights.org
E-mail: PnsnRights@aol.com

The Pension Rights Center is the only consumer advocacy organization dedicated solely to protecting the pension rights of workers, retirees, and their families. As the nation's pension watchdog group, they have taken the lead in targeting pension inequities, proposing realistic reform measures, and helping individuals understand and enforce their pension rights. The Center's pension policy activities focus on ending unfair practices in retirement programs, and expanding pension coverage. The Center's pension help activities are aimed at making sure that people receive the pensions they have earned. The Center's pension publications provide easy-to-understand explanations of complex pension laws.

REA

THE RETIREMENT EQUITY ACT OF 1984

US Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20210
(866) 275-7922
Web site: www.dol.gov/ebsa

The REA, which amended ERISA in 1984, reduced the age at which workers must be allowed to participate in a pension plan, liberalized break-in-service rules for vesting purposes, created spousal rights to pension benefits through qualified domestic relations orders in the event of divorce, and required qualified pension plans to provide automatic survivor benefits unless waived by both spouses. As a result of these and other changes, a larger proportion of workers, especially women, should benefit from private pension plans.

RSVP

RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

See CNCS (CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE)

SCORE

SERVICE CORPS OF RETIRED EXECUTIVES

409 3rd Street, SW, 6th Floor
Washington, DC 20024
(202) 205-6762
(202) 205-7636 (FAX)
Web site: www.score.org
E-mail: contact.score@sba.org

SCORE, established in 1964 by the U.S. Small Business Administration, is a national, nonprofit association. Its network of volunteer business executives and professionals, mainly retirees,

provides small businesses with technical and managerial counseling and training on an individual basis and through workshops. SCORE has counseling chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and Guam. Chapter members receive the monthly newsletter, THE SCORE TODAY.

SCP

SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM

See CNCS (CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE)

SCSEP

SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Division of Older Worker Programs
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-4644
Washington, DC 20210
1 866-487 2365
Web site: www.doleta.gov/seniors

SCSEP is a federally funded employment program designed to promote subsidized part-time employment opportunities for unemployed, low-income people age 55 and older. Clients are usually placed in community service activities at nonprofit or public agencies where they also receive on-the-job training. In addition, the program helps clients find jobs with private or public employers. The program is authorized by Title V of the Older Americans Act and administered by the Department of Labor.

SENIORNET

121 Second Street, 7th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 495-4990
(415) 495-3999 (FAX)
Web site: www.seniornet.org

Founded in 1986, SeniorNet is a nonprofit organization with over 220 Learning Centers nationwide. It provides older adults education and access to computers and the Internet, offers discounts on computer-related products and services, holds regional conferences and collaborates in research on older adults and technology. SeniorNet publishes the quarterly, SENIORNET NEWSLINE updated electronically through the monthly SENIORNET ONLINE. It also hosts SeniorNet Round Tables for discussion and questions.

SMI

SUPPLEMENTAL MEDICAL INSURANCE

See Social Security Act, Title XVIII.

SNF

SKILLED NURSING FACILITY

Under Medicare and Medicaid, a skilled nursing facility is a licensed institution (or a distinct part of an institution) primarily engaged in providing skilled nursing care or rehabilitation services.

SSA

SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

First enacted in 1935, the Social Security Act provides for the general welfare of individuals and families by establishing a wide range of programs. The most well-known programs are insurance for retired and disabled workers, their families, and their survivors; and hospital and medical insurance for aged, disabled, and low-income persons. Other programs include black lung benefits, supplemental security income, unemployment insurance, and various other public assistance and welfare services. See selected titles below.

Title II: Federal Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Benefits (OASDI). Enacted in 1935, Social Security replaces a portion of earned income lost as a result of a worker's retirement, disability, or death. Monthly benefits are paid as a matter of earned right to workers who gain insured status and to their eligible spouses, children, and survivors. Eligibility and benefit amounts are determined by the worker's contributions to Social Security. There is no means test to qualify.

Title XVI: Supplemental Security Income for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (SSI). The SSI program, implemented in 1974, was designed to reduce poverty. It assures a minimum level of income to people who are aged, blind, or disabled and who have limited income and/or resources. The basic federal program is funded through the general revenues. States may choose to administer their own SSI programs and supplement the basic federal benefits with state dollars.

Title XVIII: Health Insurance for the Aged and Disabled (Medicare). The Medicare program was enacted in 1965. It provides health insurance coverage for most persons aged 65 or older, those disabled persons under age 65 who are qualified through entitlement to Social Security or Railroad Retirement benefits, and most persons who have end-stage renal disease. The program consists of two parts: Part A, Hospital Insurance (HI), and Part B, Supplemental Medical Insurance (SMI). The HI program provides basic protection against the costs of hospital and related post-hospital care, some home health services, and hospice care. The SMI program is a voluntary program for which enrollees must pay a monthly premium. Part B helps pay for physician services, outpatient care, certain home health visits, and other medical services. Neither Part A nor Part B pays for outpatient prescription drugs.

In December 2003, Title XVIII was amended by the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA). The purpose of MMA is to provide for a voluntary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare Program among other provisions. For additional information, see the MMA entry. The prescription drug coverage benefit begins January 1, 2006.

Title XIX: Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid). This program became law in 1965. It provides medical assistance for certain low-income individuals and families with low-incomes and assets. It is the largest source of funding for medical services for our country's poorest people. It is financed jointly by state and federal funds. The program varies considerably from state to state.

Title XX: Block Grant to States for Social Services. Added to the Social Security Act in 1975, this capped entitlement program provides federal grants to states to fund such diverse activities as child and adult day care, protective and emergency services for children and adults, home-based services for older persons, staff training, and program planning. Funds are allocated to the states based on population.

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SSA

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

6401 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21235

(800) 772-1213

Web site: www.ssa.gov

SSA administers a national program of contributory social insurance. Employees, employers, and the self-employed pay Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes, which are used to pay current beneficiaries. Money not used for benefits or administration is deposited into the Social Security Trust Fund for future beneficiaries. SSA administers the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), and it is involved with certain aspects of the black lung provisions of the Federal Coal Mine and Safety Act of 1969.

SSI

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME

See Social Security Act, Title XVI

SUA

STATE UNITS ON AGING

Established by the Older Americans Act of 1965, State Units on Aging are agencies of state governments designated by the governor and the state legislature as focal points for all matters relating to the needs of older persons within the state. The SUAs are responsible for planning, coordinating, funding, and evaluating programs for older persons authorized by both state and federal governments. The goal of SUAs is to improve the quality of life for older Americans by advocating on their behalf and by promoting the development of a comprehensive and coordinated system of social and health services.

The ALLIANCE

ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS

888 16th Street, N.W., Suite 520

Washington, D.C. 20006

(202) 974-8222

(202) 974-8256

Web site: www.retiredamericans.org

The Alliance for Retired Americans was launched in January 2001 by a coalition of AFL-CIO affiliated unions and community-based organizations dedicated to economic and social justice. Members include retired members of participating unions and members of the former National Council of Senior Citizens. The Alliance advocates for retirees in both national and state policymaking, and works to protect the health and economic security of older Americans. Publications include the quarterly AGEWISE and a weekly electronic or FAX newsletter, FRIDAY ALERT.

TROA

See MOAA (MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA)

U.S. SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

G-31 Dirksen Building
Washington, DC 20510-6400
(202) 224-5364
(202) 224-9926 (FAX)
Web site: www.senate.gov/~aging

The Special Committee on Aging was established in 1961, and granted permanent status in 1977. The Committee is charged with conducting a continuing study of all issues affecting older people. It conducts hearings and publishes reports on subjects such as Medicare, Social Security, health care, retirement income, employment, housing, energy assistance, and crime. Its findings and recommendations are submitted to the Senate annually in its report, DEVELOPMENTS IN AGING. The Committee also conducts oversight of federal agencies and programs that are designed to assist older people.

USHC

UNITED SENIORS HEALTH COOPERATIVE

409 3rd Street, SW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20024
(202) 479-6973
(202) 479-6660 (FAX)
Web site: www.ushc-online.org
E-mail: ushc@ncoa.org

Founded in 1985, United Seniors Health Cooperative (USHC) is a not-for-profit organization comprising thousands of consumers, advocates, and eldercare professionals throughout the country who are committed to the belief that informed consumers are those best able to help themselves. USHC is a leading source of accurate, unbiased information for "aging network" professionals, older consumers, and family members. Publications include the quarterly newsletter, UNITED SENIORS HEALTH REPORT.

VA

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420
(202) 273-5700
(202) 273-6705 (FAX)
Web site: www.va.gov

Established in 1930, VA is the Cabinet-level department that administers laws authorizing benefits for former members of the Armed Forces and their dependents. These benefits include compensation payments for disabilities or death related to military service, pensions, education, rehabilitation, home loan guaranty, burial, and a comprehensive medical program involving a system of nursing homes, clinics, and medical centers.

VISTA

VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA

See CNCS (CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE)

Web site: www.americorps.org/vista

WW

WOMEN WORK! THE NATIONAL NETWORK FOR WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT

1625 K Street, NW, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20006

(202) 467-6346

(202) 467-5366 (FAX)

Web site: www.womenwork.org

E-mail: womenwork@womenwork.org

Formerly known as THE NATIONAL DISPLACED HOMEMAKERS NETWORK and founded 1979, WOMEN WORK! THE NATIONAL NETWORK FOR WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT is a membership organization dedicated to empowering women and assisting them in achieving economic self sufficiency through training and employment. The NETWORK is committed to ongoing, comprehensive public education to build awareness of the needs of displaced homemakers and other women. The NETWORK collects data, disseminates information, provides training, and attempts to change public policy by working with lawmakers and business leaders to create and strengthen programs and policies for women. Membership includes individuals and organizations that provide direct services to displaced homemakers. The NETWORK publishes a quarterly newsletter, NETWORK NEWS.

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ACTION

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS

CNCS (CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE)

FGP (FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM)

IESC (INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE SERVICE CORPS)

IFA (INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING)

NESC (NATIONAL EXECUTIVE SERVICE CORPS)

RSVP (RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM)

SCORE (SERVICE CORPS OF RETIRED EXECUTIVES)

SCP (SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM)

VISTA (VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA)

Women

OWL (OLDER WOMEN'S LEAGUE)

WW (WOMEN WHO WORK! THE NATIONAL NETWORK FOR WOMEN'S
EMPLOYMENT)

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