



AFFINITY GROUP ON AGING NETWORK

September 30, 2020 3:00 to 5:10 PM

Social Isolation & Loneliness Forum **Virtual with Ring Central Link**

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1498459725>
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Meeting ID: 149 845 9725

PROGRAM

I. 3:00 – 3:10 p.m. Welcome from Cathy Brill

Attendee Introductions posted through Chat Room

II. Featured Presentations:

A. 3:10 – 3:30 p.m.

Thomas Cudjoe, MD MPH, Geriatrician, Assistant Professor Johns Hopkins University, Department of Medicine, Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology: *Connecting, COVID-19, and Aging: Challenges and Opportunities*

- Discuss the state of the evidence regarding social connections and health
- Discuss the intersection and opportunities associated with social connection, COVID-19, and Aging

B. 3:30 – 3:50 p.m.

Tim Carpenter, Founder/CEO, engAGE
Overcoming the Challenges of COVID

- Discuss EngAGE programs that connect elders and battle isolation and loneliness.
- Discuss pathways to connectivity by increasing food delivery, creating online/virtual programming and added tech support and phone check-ins.

C. 3:50 – 4:00 p.m.

Amy Greensfelder, LMSW, Executive Director Pro Bono Counseling Project
Baltimore Neighbors Network-Connecting our Neighbors to Community

- Intro to BNN/Origin/How project got started
- Overview of statistics and case examples of how project is addressing social isolation

D. 4:00 – 4:20 p.m.

Scott Kaiser, MD, Chief Innovator Officer, Director of Geriatric Cognitive Health at Pacific Brain Health Center

“Loneliness and Social Isolation: A Crisis We Can Solve Together”

Dr. Kaiser will share key insights from the work of Motion Picture & Television Fund (MPTF) —a nonprofit organization supporting members of the entertainment industry community—to address loneliness and social isolation. Along with key learnings derived from developing and deploying programs designed to support members of the entertainment community in living and aging well, Dr. Kaiser will highlight their innovative approaches to assisting other nonprofit organizations in efforts to create meaningful connections and build resilient communities.

E. 4:20 – 4:30 p.m.

Kelly Hodge-Williams, Director PCs for People
Overcoming the Digital Divide for Older Adults

The reliance on technology during the COVID-19 pandemic has brought the “digital divide” to the fore as we have now been forced to rely heavily on technology to engage in most aspect of our lives. The impact on older adults who do not have digital access is significant – they are often unable to access necessary benefits, they forgo medical care, and they experience even greater social isolation. PCs for People is a national nonprofit that is working to closing the digital divide and address these issues by providing low or no cost computers, mobile internet, digital skills training and tech support to low-income, under-resourced people and nonprofits serving vulnerable populations.

F. 4:30 – 4:50 p.m.

Patrick Arbore, Founder of Institute on Aging Friendship Line and Director and Founder of the Center for Elderly Suicide Prevention and Grief Related Services
Friendship Line, an Alternative to the Traditional Suicide Prevention Hotline Model,

-- Discuss expansion during COVID-19, the California State Department of Aging has provided a generous grant to make the Friendship Line more visible throughout the 58 California counties.

-- Discuss pilot project to support Humana Health Care’s older members who may be experiencing loneliness and social isolation.

III. 4:50 – 5:00 p.m.

Q & A and Information Sharing through Chat Room

IV. 5:00 – 5:10 p.m.

Earl Millett and Liz Briscoe, *Conclusion – Appreciation and Final Words*

Next Meetings- *Seniors and Housing Collaborative: Serving our LGBTQ Elders*–
November 5, 2020 at 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

Affinity on Aging –*Transforming Older Adults Lives through Better Transit*
December 7, 2020 at 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.