



Solutions for Older Adults' Homelessness Virtual Summit

2/20/2026

Welcome!

Molly French

Director of Housing and Services, USAging

About USAging

Our Mission

USAging represents and supports the national network of Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and advocates for the Title VI Native American Aging Programs that help older adults, people with disabilities and family caregivers live with optimal health, well-being, independence and dignity in their homes and communities.



Today's Virtual Summit Is Generously Supported by



DOORS to Housing

FOR OLDER ADULTS

Our Partner



**USAgings's Doors to
Housing Microsite**



Summit Housekeeping

Share Your Takeaways: [#USAgingHomelessSummit](#) and [#Next50](#), and please tag [@theUSAging](#) and [@naehomelessness](#) when you post.

Recording and Slides: Access the recording and slides when we email you the link in the coming days.

Q&A: Submit questions for the speakers at any time. On the Zoom module at the bottom of your screen, click the Q&A icon, type your question in the box and submit.

Chat: Look for our helpful links in the chat. Post your questions or technical issues in the Q&A. (Note: public chat is closed.)

Who Is Here Today?

Which type of organization or role best describes you?

- Aging network or services for older adults
- Homeless services or housing sector
- Advocate or person with lived experience
- Health care or public/behavioral health
- State, regional or local government
- Federal government or national organization
- Other

Agenda: Part I

- Welcome and Opening Remarks
- The Power of We: Scaling Impact Through Shared Purpose
- Why Are We Here: Insights From a Person With Lived Experience
- AAA-CoC Partnerships to Improve Services and Expand Access

—Break—

Agenda: Part II

- Stories as a Resource to Build Connections
- Changing Aging: Remarks From Next50
- Driving Change Through Collaboration
- Call to Action: Where Do We Go From Here?
- Closing

What Is Different About Older Adult Homelessness?

- Fixed incomes
- Disruptions in family caregiving
- Loss of spouse or partner
- Increase in functional difficulties, such as mobility, cooking, bathing and paying bills
- Age-related health conditions and/or poor physical and mental health
- Risk for violent victimization

Source: UCSF Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative, [Toward Dignity: Understanding Older Adult Homelessness](#)

About AAAs and CoCs

Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)

AAAs are the local leaders on aging that help ensure that:

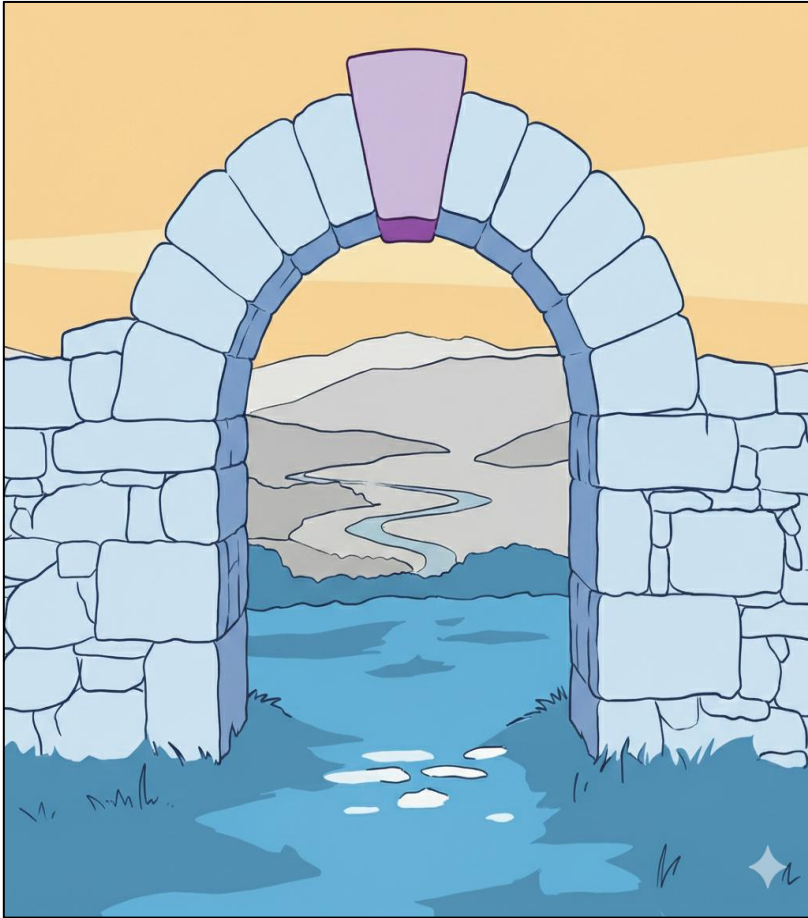
- Older adults can age with optimal health, well-being and independence in their homes and communities, and
- Their caregivers have the support they need.

Continuums of Care (CoCs)

CoCs are regional or local planning bodies that:

- Coordinate homelessness response funding, and
- Bring together stakeholders and partners to create and implement strategies aimed at ending homelessness.

Keystone Organizations



- **Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)** are the keystone of the Aging Network.
- **Continuums of care (CoCs)** are the keystone for the homeless services system.

Together, AAA-CoC partnerships can stimulate community-level innovations that help close gaps and maximize available resources.

Some CoC-AAA Partnership Achievements

- Advocated for new supportive housing and rapid rehousing units
- Coordinated support across systems for individuals with complex situations
- Improved access to
 - Nutrition and transportation
 - Medicaid long-term services and supports
 - Housing navigation services tailored to older adults
- Address the need for assistance in shelters

Zoom Poll Results!

The Power of We: Scaling Impact Through Shared Purpose

Sandy Markwood
CEO, USAging

Ann Oliva
**CEO, National Alliance to End
Homelessness**

Acknowledgments

- AZ
 - City of Tucson CoC
 - Justa Center
 - Pima Council on Aging
 - Region One AAA
- CA
 - Aging and Independence Services of San Diego Co.
 - Regional Task Force on Homelessness
 - San Bernardino Dept. of Aging and Adult Services – Public Guardian
- CO
 - Brothers Redevelopment, Inc.
 - Denver Regional Council of Gov. AAA
- FL
 - AAA of Pasco-Pinellas
 - Alliance for Aging
 - Changing Homelessness
 - Eldersource
 - Homeless Leadership Alliance
 - Miami-Dade Co. Homeless Trust
 - Pinellas Continuum of Care
 - Villa Serena Group

More Acknowledgments

- GA – Atlanta Regional Commission (AAA)
- IL – AgeOptions
 - Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook Co.
- MD – Baltimore City Health Dept., Div. of Aging and Care Services
 - Baltimore Co. Dept. of Aging
- NC – Western Piedmont Council of Gov.
- NJ – Essex Co. Div. of Senior Services
- NY – New York City Dept. for the Aging
- OH – Central Ohio AAA
 - City of Columbus Dept. of Development
- OR – Multnomah Co. Aging, Disability, and Veteran Services Div.
- PA – Allegheny Co. AAA

Even More Acknowledgments

- UT – Salt Lake Co. Aging and Adult Services
- VA – Arlington Co. AAA
 - Arlington Co. CoC
 - Bay Aging
 - Homeward
 - The Planning Council
 - Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia
 - The Span Center
 - Virginia Commonwealth Univ.
- WA – Aging and Long Term Care of Eastern Washington



**What can I do to help
bring change to my
community?**

Why We Are Here: Insights From a Person With Lived Experience

**Lynn Kimball, Executive Director,
Aging & Long Term Care of
Eastern Washington**

**Samantha Rickey, Resident
of Spokane, WA**

Lynn Kimball



AAA-CoC Partnerships to Improve Services and Expand Access

**Charnitta Waters, Chief
Operating Officer, Senior
Services of Southeastern
Virginia**

**Amber Brafford, Homeless
Response Manager, Western
Piedmont Council of
Governments, NC**

**Julie Dixon, Vice President,
Community Planning and
Development, The Planning
Council, VA**

**Tina Miller, Area Agency on
Aging Director, Western
Piedmont Council of
Governments, NC**



**Please enjoy a
stretch break**

Stories as a Resource to Build Connections

Yolanda Stevens
Program and Policy Analyst,
National Alliance to End Homelessness

Michael Larson
Founder, Humans for Housing

No PLACE TO GROW OLD

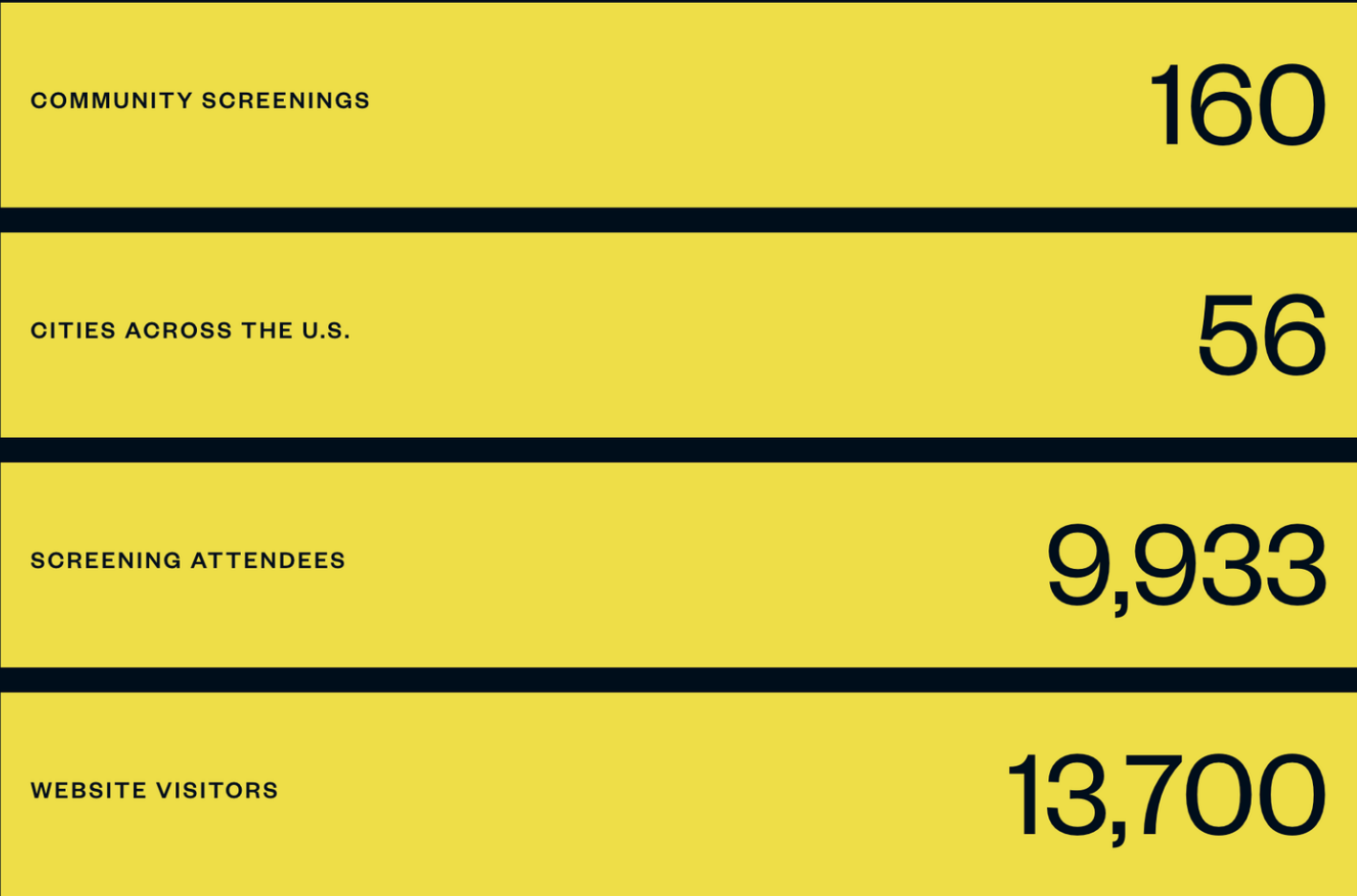
OFFICIAL TRAILER



01

Building Awareness

We believe awareness is the first step toward real change—when more people see and understand the issue, more solutions become possible.



Changing the Narrative

With over 550 anonymous survey responses, we're gaining valuable insight into how our film is shifting perspectives and inspiring people to take action.

85%

of viewers felt better informed about the older adult housing crisis



91%

of viewers said they left with more compassion for those living outside

94%

of viewers said they felt motivated and able to share what they learned with their community



Empowering Local Leaders

So far, over 40 local and national organizations have used the film as a tool to bring awareness to their work and spark community conversations. From screenings under highway bridges to the halls of the Senate, this film is being used as a powerful tool for change.



“The stories captured in No Place to Grow Old bring this issue to life in such a personal way...his project does more than expose the crisis—it offers a vision of hope.”

JOHN TAPOGNA

President Emeritus at ECONorthwest



INTERESTED IN HOSTING A SCREENING?



NOPLACETOGROWOLD.COM/HOST-A-SCREENING

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



HOST A SCREENING

noplacetogrowold.com/host-a-screening

FOLLOW OUR JOURNEY

Join our newsletter and follow us on social media to stay updated.

SHARE THIS WITH YOUR COMMUNITIES

If hosting a screening doesn't feel like a good fit for you but you know someone who might feel free to share widely.



THANK YOU!

Changing Aging: Remarks From Next50

Sydney Byer
Director, Advocacy & Strategic Initiatives
Next50

Driving Change Through Collaboration

Denver Panelists

- **Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Area Agency on Aging Director, Denver Regional Council of Governments, CO**
- **Jeff Martinez, President, Brothers Redevelopment, Inc., CO**

San Diego Panelists

- **Tamera Kohler, CEO, Regional Task Force on Homelessness, CA**
- **Kristen Smith, Chief, Agency Operations, Aging & Independence Services of San Diego County, CA**

Call to Action: Where Do We Go From Here?

Connor Kelly
Research Associate, USAging

Yolanda Stevens
**Program and Policy Analyst, National
Alliance to End Homelessness**

Commit to Change!

Tell Us:

What
changes
are most
needed in
your
community

**What
you plan
to do**

What
support
you need



<https://tinyurl.com/doorscommittochange>

Powering Your Journey

Action Guide and More

Partnership Action Guide

- **Each stage has short summaries of current AAA-CoC partnerships**

Key Concepts and Resource List

Case studies on AAAs' partnerships to prevent homelessness



On-Demand Training

**Short Trainings to Orient Your Staff
— Coming in April! —**

**Aging Network
Basics** for Homeless
Response Systems
Wanting to Partner

**Homeless Response
Systems Basics** for
Aging Network and
Partnership
Opportunities

Connect to Services for Older Adults and Their Families



800.677.1116

eldercare.acl.gov

Connecting You to Community Services

Additional Resources

National Alliance to End Homelessness

<https://endhomelessness.org>

Housing and Service Resource Center

<https://acl.gov/HousingAndServices>

Reaching Us

Molly French

Director of Housing and Services

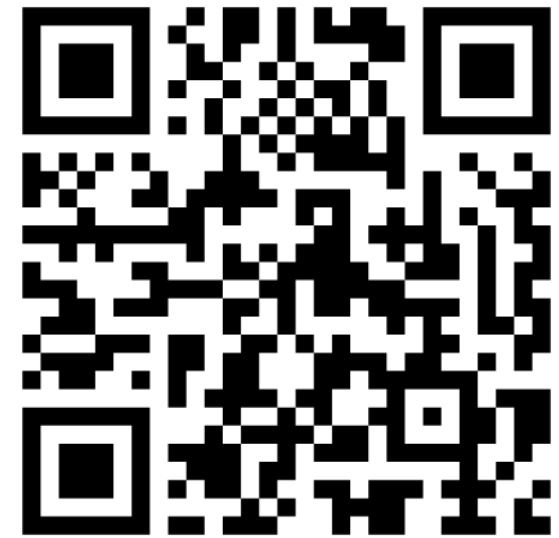
mfrench@usaging.org

Connor Kelly

Research Associate

ckelly@usaging.org

Commitment to
Change



<https://tinyurl.com/doorscommittochange>