



Elder News

Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs (GOEA)

Summer 2022

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WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

Building Strong Support for Elders

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The aging network joined the world in celebrating Elderly Abuse Awareness month June 2022 and Elder Abuse Awareness Day June 15, 2022. Elderly Protective Services (EPS) is a department within the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs (GOEA). We believe that elder abuse is significantly under-reported, in part because so many of our communities lack the social supports that would make it easier for those who experience abuse to report it. GOEA has launched a statewide campaign, thanks to funding through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, to educate agencies, businesses and the general public on how to spot and report elder abuse. It is against the law in Louisiana to abuse an elder. Thanks to Governor Edwards for proclaiming June 2022 Elder Abuse Awareness Month and actually starring in a PSA announcement for Elder Abuse Awareness Month that has been posted to social media outlets. The PSA link is <https://la.box.com/s/3six4q2swoembll96x0lvtcecd0i5050>

Louisiana's Adult Protective Services Act (RS 15:1500-15: 1511) states that the purpose of adult protective services is "to protect adults who cannot physically or mentally protect themselves and who are harmed or threatened with harm through action or inaction by themselves or by the individuals responsible for their care or by other parties, by requiring mandatory reporting of suspected cases of abuse or neglect by any person having reasonable cause to believe that such a case exists. It is intended that, as a result of such reports, protective services shall be provided by the adult protection agency. Such services shall be available as needed without regard to income." The Act defines abuse as "the infliction of physical or mental injury, or actions which may reasonably be expected to inflict physical injury,

on an adult by other parties, including but not limited to such means as sexual abuse, abandonment, isolation, exploitation, or extortion of funds or other things of value.” There are two adult protective service agencies in Louisiana.

- The Office of Elderly Affairs, Office of the Governor, for any individual sixty years of age or older in need of adult protective services.
- The Office of Aging and Adult Services with the Louisiana Department of Health for any individuals between eighteen and fifty nine years of age.

Mandatory reporting is required if elder abuse is suspected. There is also an immunity provision for “good faith” reporting of elder abuse and a penalty for not reporting. RS 15:1504 states that “A. Any person, including but not limited to a health, mental health, and social service practitioner, having cause to believe that an adult's physical or mental health or welfare has been or may be further adversely affected by abuse, neglect, or exploitation shall report in accordance with R.S. 15:1505. B. No cause of action shall exist against any person who in good faith makes a report, cooperates in an investigation by an adult protective agency, or participates in judicial proceedings authorized under the provisions of this Chapter, or any adult protective services caseworker who in good faith conducts an investigation or makes an investigative judgment ...” R.S. 403:2 (A) states “Any person, who under R.S. 15:1504(A), is required to report the abuse or neglect of an adult and knowingly and willfully fails to so report shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.”

You don’t have to prove abuse to report it. If you suspect an older person is targeted with financial, physical, verbal abuse or neglect, we ask you to call our hotline. Reports can be made anonymously.” The Elderly Protective Services hotline is **(833) 577-6532**. Calls are free.

Don't stand by,
stand up against
elder abuse!

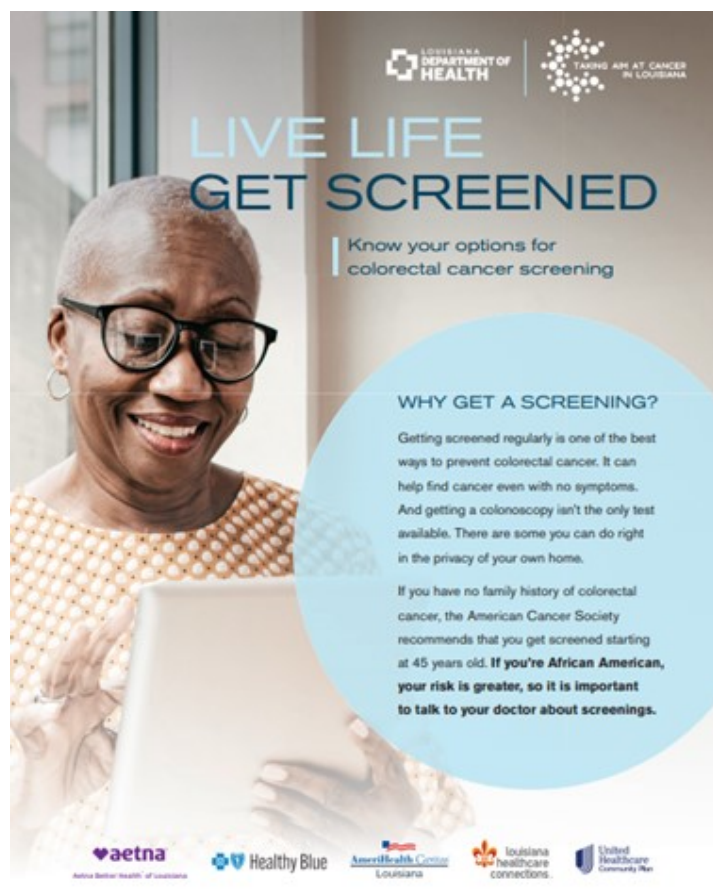


#WEAAD

NCEA
National Center on Elder Abuse

HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD SCHEDULE YOUR COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING

Colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of cancer-related deaths in men and in women in the United States. Screening rates are lower and mortality rates are higher for Louisianans than national averages. Incidence and mortality rates are higher for Black Louisianans than white residents. **The Louisiana Department of Health aims to increase colorectal screenings by 2 percentage points in 2022.**



LIVE LIFE GET SCREENED

Know your options for colorectal cancer screening

WHY GET A SCREENING?

Getting screened regularly is one of the best ways to prevent colorectal cancer. It can help find cancer even with no symptoms. And getting a colonoscopy isn't the only test available. There are some you can do right in the privacy of your own home.

If you have no family history of colorectal cancer, the American Cancer Society recommends that you get screened starting at 45 years old. **If you're African American, your risk is greater, so it is important to talk to your doctor about screenings.**

Logos: aetna, Healthy Blue, AmeriHealth Louisiana, Louisiana healthcare connections, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan

YOUR HEALTH YOUR WAY

You may be eligible for any of the preventive screening tests below at no cost with an in-network provider.

1	3	5	10
EVERY YEAR	EVERY 3 YEARS	EVERY 5 YEARS	EVERY 10 YEARS
FIT Stool Test <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detects hidden blood in the stool Done at home Risk-free No prep required If test is positive, colonoscopy is recommended 	Stool DNA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detects cancer and precancerous cells Done at home No prep required Can occasionally return false positive or false negative results If test is positive, colonoscopy is recommended 	Flexible Sigmoidoscopy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doctor looks for and removes polyps in rectum and lower colon Special diet and bowel prep required Quick, safe, and does not require sedation Can miss small polyps 	Colonoscopy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doctor looks for and removes polyps in rectum and entire colon Special diet and bowel prep required Sedation is likely, so you'll need a ride home Best test for preventing colorectal cancer

*A colon polyp is a small clump of cells that forms on the lining of the colon.

Talk to your doctor today to decide which test is right for you.

Who Should Get Screened?

Everyone between the ages of **45** and **75** should get a colorectal cancer screening.

Cases per 100,000



In Louisiana In the United States

Louisiana Tumor Registry, CDC

Mortality



In Louisiana In the United States

Louisiana Tumor Registry, CDC

The Louisiana Executive Board on Aging

The next scheduled quarterly LEBA meeting will be held on

September 21, 2022 @ 11am

The Board members are listed below:

Johnny Berthelot

Huey Beverly

Terry Courville

Worlita Jackson

Leslie Keen—Chairwoman

Ann Keene

Gerard Landry



Willie Lewis

Donald Mallet

Heather Prejean

Charles “Buddy” Pugh

Ricco Thomas

Emily Tilley

Blanche Wilks

Are You Prepared?

Hurricane Season is here! Make preparations now and stay informed. Check out the LA Get A Game Plan App. It's available for Apple & Android devices.

For tips on getting prepared visit:

<https://getagameplan.org/> or <https://www.ready.gov/>





In the Spotlight



Ascension Council on Aging (ACOA):

Held their Easter celebration on April 14th, which included music from a live band and Easter hat contest!



On May 13th, in celebration of Older Americans Month, ACOA held a picnic at the Donaldsonville location. Seniors were treated to snowballs, popcorn, fried fish and sides.



Avoyelles Council on Aging:

Grandparent and grandchildren Easter Egg Hunt!



Marksville Senior Center dyeing Easter eggs!



Avoyelles Parish Seniors playing Bingo!



Mansura Easter Bonnet Parade!



Caldwell Parish Council on Aging:

The new III-D Geriatrics Program is up and running and the seniors love it!



Franklin Council on Aging:

Davis Park (Picnic in the Park) May 20th



Patriotic Ladies from
Crowville



Pictures taken
from a video
based on the song
Uptown Funk by
Bruno Mars



East Baton Rouge Council on Aging:

On Thursday, May 5, 2022, the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging (EBRCOA) hosted a fun-filled event for the senior citizens of EBR Parish called the “Senior Skip Day – Spring Fling 2022” from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Greater Baton Rouge Fairgrounds (16072 Airline Hwy.).

Due to the Global COVID-19 Pandemic, the agency was restricted from hosting large indoor and outdoor gatherings to protect our seniors and staff for the past two years. This event was an opportunity for seniors to “skip” their senior center for the day and fellowship with their peers whom they may not have seen in a long time. When seniors stay active and engage with other individuals of common interests, it creates several great benefits and improves their overall quality of life.

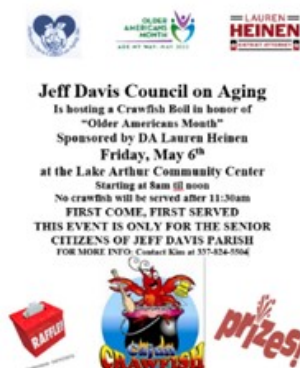
During the Senior Skip Day event, seniors indulged in a wide array of food such as crawfish with all of the fixings, tacos, nachos, fried chicken by Chicken Shack, and fried fish by Chief Carl Dunn. In addition to the delicious food, there were tents set up with fun and engaging games seniors could play with the opportunity to win great prizes. Seniors showed off their best moves on the dance floor with live music from the Rusty Yates Band, N'Tune, and DJ Kicks. Senior Skip Day was not all fun and games. Seniors also gained valuable health information from guest speaker Secretary Dr. Courtney N. Phillips of the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH).

The EBRCOA would like to thank our vendors, sponsors, and volunteers for the Senior Skip Day: Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), People's Health, CareSouth Medical and Dental, Healthy Blue, UnitedHealthcare, Pelican Federal Credit Union, the Office of the Attorney General, S.A.L.T. and the Ladies of Distinction. With your continuous support and generosity Senior Skip Day – Spring Fling 2022 was a huge success. We look forward to hosting this event again next year!



Jefferson Davis Council on Aging:

Celebrated Older Americans Month by hosting a crawfish boil!



New Orleans Council on Aging:

On May 19, 2022 the New Orleans Council on Aging celebrated the completion of A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns about Falls Prevention Class and Awareness Class at the Pontchartrain Park Community Center. Eleven participated received certificates of completion due to attending five classes or more. Three participants received perfect attendance by attending eight classes. Members of the class ranged in age from 60 to 93 years young!!!!



St. John Council on Aging:

Seniors participated in a Health Fair. The vendors provided seniors with helpful information, provided blood pressure checks, Covid-19 updates and gave out door prizes. Participants: Lori Ellis (blood pressure), St. John Sheriff Department, Southeast Legal Services, St. John District Attorney Office, and Louisiana Federal Credit Union.



June Birthdays



July Birthdays



August Birthdays



Celebrating birthdays for seniors 90 and older!



Elder Law Boot Camp

The Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs, in partnership with CENLA Area Agency on Aging and the Louisiana Elder Law Task Force hosted an Elder Law Boot Camp on May 27, 2022 at the Pineville Convention Center. This free education seminar covered legal topics such as Estate Planning, Powers of Attorney, Wills, Public Benefits such as Medicaid for nursing home care, Social Security Spousal Benefits, Scams and Elder Abuse. There were approximately 150 persons in attendance.



Join us in welcoming our new team members!

Olivia Dinwiddie ~ Contract Grants Reviewer

Cathy LeBeauf ~ Title V Receptionist

Rosemary Moses ~ Human Resources Analyst

Amanda Sweet ~ Elderly Protective Services

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