

Age-Friendly PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS

Every day, 10,000 Americans turn 65. The public health sector's focus on prevention has had a profound impact on longevity in the U.S., and yet, historically and pre-pandemic, public health has not embraced efforts to improve the health and well-being of older adults. As the demographics of our population continue to shift, public health should elevate healthy aging as a core public health function, with a foundational focus on equity.

6Cs Framework: To facilitate this transformation, Trust for America's Health (TFAH), in partnership with The John A. Hartford Foundation, developed the Framework for Creating Age-Friendly Public Health Systems (AFPHS). This Framework is based on 6Cs that outline six areas of age-friendly public health activities:



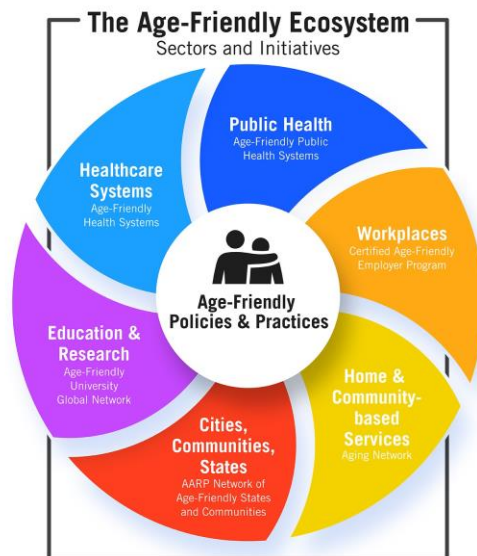
In the States: TFAH successfully completed an AFPHS pilot in Florida and has worked with many other state and local health departments to expand their roles in healthy aging, including Michigan, Mississippi, New York, and Washington. Additional information on the accomplishments of the health departments engaged in the AFPHS initiative can be found on the AFPHS website under “Our Network”.

Resources: As part of the AFPHS work, TFAH serves as a national content expert, hosts an [AFPHS Website](#), and offers monthly [AFPHS trainings](#) to build the capacity of public health practitioners and others. (www.afphs.org)

Recognizing Engagement: To further incentivize the adoption of healthy aging as a core public health function, TFAH developed an [AFPHS Recognition Program](#) that aims to honor engagement in healthy aging at both the individual and departmental levels. TFAH welcomes all state, territorial, Tribal, and local health departments to enroll.

Department of Health Recognition	Public Health Organization Recognition	Individual Recognition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading policy and systems change • Enhancing data collection on older adults • Coordinating healthy aging activities across sectors • Coordinating efforts to improve health equity among older adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading policy and systems change • Collaborating with state and local health departments • Implementing healthy aging strategies • Coordinating with other age-friendly initiatives to advance healthy aging policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becoming a healthy aging expert • Engaging in partnerships to advance healthy aging • Sharing opportunities for supporting older adult health and well-being • Communicating the importance of addressing ageism

Age-Friendly Ecosystem: TFAH engages with numerous age-friendly initiatives and is working to better align and coordinate these efforts, including Age-Friendly Health Systems, Age-Friendly States and Communities, Dementia Friendly Communities, and the many facets of the aging services network. Each of these national efforts operates independently, but we're all working to improve the health and well-being of older people across the country. Public health departments can serve as a convener to identify common objectives and develop multi-sector partnerships to meet these objectives.



Contact us: For more information or technical assistance, please contact the AFPHS team at afphs@tfah.org.