



Florida Association of
Aging Services Providers

Florida Association of Aging Services Providers e-Newsletter

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Guest Editor: Nina Corsi, Home for Life Design

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Council on Aging
of St. Lucie, Inc.



Message from the President
by Andrea Busada, Broward County Elderly and
Veterans Services

Dear FASP Members:

I hope this newsletter finds all of you enjoying the summer months and all they have to offer. Of course, this is also the time of year when we wrap up the "old" fiscal year and start a new cycle. I hope all of you are tackling the new grant year with the same enthusiasm as always.

We are so fortunate to be able to utilize all of our skills and professional experience to help others! I especially want to thank all of you who contributed so much of your time and resources to advocacy this past year. While we will never have enough funding to serve everyone in need, it is gratifying to know that the State Legislature and the Governor recognize the good work that we do and recognize that it benefits all Florida residents in some way or another.

While we did not get the increases we had hoped for, our advocacy efforts were not in vain. Seeing the direct results of our efforts, I am energized to do even more this coming year!

Please make sure that your county government officials include your programs in their annual state and federal legislative platforms. Please encourage seniors, caregivers and volunteers to call upon their representatives to provide first-hand knowledge of the program benefits.

If possible, visit the Capitol during session and meet with your delegation to impress upon them the importance of these programs. I was able to do that for

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Home Modifications and Going Mobile: A New Way to Reduce Falls

By Carolyn Sithong, MS, OTR/L, SCEM, CAPS

As Home and Community Based Services continue to develop with changes in healthcare and state budgets, service providers are trying to find effective strategies to care for older adults and enable their caregivers. Keeping older adults safely in their home and community, while providing support services to those that care for them, is critical for economic and financial reasons. In order to address safety, reducing the occurrence of falls among the elderly continues to be at the forefront of not only Senior Service Agencies, but Home Health Care. Recent discussions at the White House Conference on Aging in Tampa, made safety and aging in place in the home a main subject, suggesting technology can be an important way to help not only create healthy homes but centralize data, measure outcomes, enhance interventions and facilitate best practice to reduce falls.

Home modifications are a proven to reduce caregiver burden and falls. Evidence-based fall prevention programs include home modifications, exercise, medication screening and vision screening. Unfortunately, home modifications are commonly avoided due to lack of support services, not knowing vetted installers and high cost. One way to ensure you have an effective home modification service, is to choose the best home assessment to determine the hazards in the home that may cause a fall. The assessment of the environment is a critical component to maximizing Person-Environment-Occupation fit (Law et al., 1996).

Unlike hazard checklists or audits commonly used, an assessment is performed by a trained assessor, an expert in the area of home modifications. Secondly, using experts like occupational therapists (OT) can be an important addition to your program to help find vetted installers, determine the safety of the home and suggest the most appropriate, and cost- effective modification solutions. OTs have the capacity to analyze the environment and person, assess the occupational behavior of the person in the environment and recommend environmental features that are necessary in supporting independence and safety (Siebert, et. al, 2014).

Recently the White House Conference on Aging (WHCOA) in an answer to the 73 million Baby Boomers about to enter the long-term care continuum issued the *“Long-Term Care Services and Support Policy Brief.”* This document addresses the lack of long-term care support services that prolong activities in daily living (ADL) participation in the home, stating, “technologies hold promise for assisting older adults” in the areas of fall prevention and detection, and mobility impairments (p.8). In addition, the WHCOA’s *Healthy Aging Policy Brief*, stated 1 in 3 people over 65 will fall; therefore, the Center for Disease Control is striving “to increase the level of engagement of, and partnership with, the medical community to integrate falls screening, assessments, and interventions into the clinical setting” (p. 3).

Recently, Home for Life Design launched a mobile application named, “Home for Life Home Assessment,” that connects home assessors with the products and solutions they need to help older adults live safely in the home (Sherman, 2015). Based on the best practices of occupational therapy and years of research in the home modification industry this solution now helps to centralize data, measure safety outcomes before and after modifications, and provide important information for products in the home. This solution helps to ensure that the home modification piece is easily imbedded into current fall prevention models.

The goal in development was to help take the burden out of the home assessment process by finding effective solutions for common barriers in the home. Web-based platforms and mobile tools like these also help users to stay connected with other providers and update solutions and service delivery models at a proficient rate.

Current time lapses due to wait lists can be unfavorable for older adults looking to transition home quickly from a hospital or rehab clinic and for those who may benefit from a grab bar installation

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Filing an Amended Tax Return

Have you filed your federal tax return and then discovered a mistake? You might need to file an amended tax return. Then again, you might not. Here's what you need to know.

Claiming an Elderly Parent as a Dependent

Are you taking care of an elderly parent or relative? You may be able to claim him or her as a dependent on your tax return as long as you meet certain criteria. Keep reading to learn more.

Starting a Business? Five Things You Must Know

Deciding to start a business is an exciting time in your life, but there is more to it than simply writing a business plan. It also means filing the proper state and federal forms that make your business a legal entity and allow you to hire and pay your employees. Here's a quick look at what you need to do first.

Tax Tips

[Start Planning Now for Next Year's Taxes](#)

[Changes Affecting your 2015 Premium Tax Credit](#)

[The Facts: Medical and Dental Expenses](#)

[Education Tax Credits Help You Pay for College](#)

QuickBooks Tips

[Preventing Data Theft in QuickBooks](#)

[Click here](#) to read the rest of the newsletter.

Please call us at (850)222-1608 if you have any questions.

Sanders, Holloway & Ryan—2878 Mahan Drive—Tallahassee, FL 32308—www.shrcpa.com



President's Message

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the first time this year and it was an incredible experience. If possible, team up with representatives from other counties to present a united front to legislators. I was fortunate to be able to join my colleagues from Miami-Dade County this past year – I attended their legislative delegation public hearing and joined forces with them during our visit to the Capitol. We were able to accomplish much more together than we would have separately.

I hope I will see all of you at the Florida Conference on Aging in Orlando on August 10 – 12, 2015. There are so many opportunities to learn and to network with your peers from around the state. There are excellent speakers scheduled and **we will be holding our annual membership meeting during the General Session on Tuesday, August 11th at 8:30AM** and I hope to see all of you there! Let's help the Florida Council on Aging celebrate their 60th anniversary and let's celebrate our pride in and commitment to the work we do every day.

"I am impelled, not to squeak like a grateful and apologetic mouse, but to roar like a lion out of pride in my profession."

John Steinbeck

Sincerely,
Andrea Busada

Florida Trend Welcomes FCOA Director and Trustee to Discuss Aging in Florida

Florida Council on Aging Trustee Jeff Johnson and Executive Director Margaret Lynn Duggar visited the Florida Trend office in June to discuss aging issues with Florida Trend - Florida's most influential business executives, government officials and local leaders.

Margaret Lynn Duggar was interviewed for Florida Trend's "Viewpoints" series. To view the video, click on the link below.

Viewpoints video with Margaret Lynn Duggar of the Florida Council on Aging

<http://www.floridatrend.com/article/18687/viewpoints--aging-in-florida-concerns-and-considerations>



UPDATES

Now Available: ADA Social Media Toolkit from Disability.gov

Throughout the month of July, Disability.gov will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on social media using the hashtag #DgovADA25. Their newly released [social media toolkit](#) helps you join in the celebration with sample tweets and Facebook posts, social media graphics and a blog post you can share and re-tweet. In addition, [Disability Blog](#) will feature special guest posts from individuals who played a role in the ADA's history, as well as those who continue to champion it today.

For even more on the 25th anniversary of the ADA, check out [highlights from ACL's recent Community Living for All celebration](#) and follow ACL on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



The [14th report of recommendations](#) of the [Advisory Committee on Tax Exempt and Government Entities \(ACT\)](#) addresses five issues:

1. **Employee Plans:** Analysis and Recommendations Regarding 403 (b) Plans
2. **Exempt Organizations:** The Redesigned Form 990 - Recommendations for Improving its Effectiveness as a Reporting Tool and Source of Data for the Exempt Organization Community
3. **Federal, State and Local Governments:** FSLG Education and Outreach - Review and Recommendations
4. **Indian Tribal Governments:** Report on Recommendations for Outreach and Training - A Revision to the Indian Tax Desk Guide
5. **Tax Exempt Bonds:** Doing More With Less – Balancing Resources and Needs.

The 20 members of the ACT presented their report to the IRS in a public meeting in Washington, DC on June 17, 2015.

Help Detect and Report Health Care Fraud with Florida Senior Medicare Patrol

Health care fraud and abuse are real. Every year, American taxpayers lose nearly \$60 billion to outright scams, improper payments, and other illegal practices that drain money from health care programs that provide vital health care services to millions of seniors—including Medicare and Medicaid. This does not include the money that seniors lose to fraudsters, draining their life savings.



With your help, Medicare and other health care programs can be protected. At the Florida Senior Medical Patrol, we are showing seniors and other Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries how to detect and report suspected fraud, scams, and abuse.

The Florida SMP is funded by the Administration for Community Living and provides an opportunity for seniors at the local level to become a part of the solution by making an impact in the fight against fraud. The dedicated corps of SMP volunteers educates Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, family members and caregivers to actively protect themselves against fraudulent, wasteful and abusive health care practices.

SMP Volunteers use their time and experience to help their peers protect their identity, read their Medicare Summary Notices and avoid getting taken by scammers. They work one-on-one with beneficiaries, give presentations to groups and/or represent the SMP at events. They are also on the lookout for frauds and scams.

Below are some recent examples of scams reported to Senior Medicare Patrol.

SCAM: Beneficiaries are approached at their residences and offered money to go to a health facility, where they socialize, play bingo, or cards. They are asked to sign a form that asks for their Medicare numbers. Medicare is then billed.

FACT: Seniors should never sign a form without understanding its contents or knowing its source. Always read and keep a copy of any document or agreement that asks for a signature. Always protect your Medicare number as you would your credit card.

SCAM: Medicare beneficiaries received phone calls from people claiming to be from Medicare or Social Security. The beneficiary is then asked to provide their Medicare number (which may be their Social Security number!)

FACT: Medicare and Social Security DOES NOT CALL! Also, they do not make house calls. Ask the caller for their information, and then hang up. Provide this information to the Senior Medicare Patrol.

SCAM: Beneficiaries are surveyed in the parking lot at their doctor's offices and asked if they have diabetes, or if they needed help with housekeeping chores. The beneficiary signs their form that asks for their Medicare number.

FACT: Beware of providers who offer non-medical services, transportation or housekeeping. Do not accept services without obtaining a recommendation from your doctor first.

JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST MEDICARE FRAUD: The future integrity of the health care system depends upon you. Join the effort to help save our precious health care dollars for the care that you may someday need. They don't do it alone. SMP's prepare volunteers for this important work with seminars, personalized help and information they can take home to study.

Join the fight and contact the Florida SMP Program today: 1-866-357-6677

U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20233

Millennials Outnumber Baby Boomers and Are Far More Diverse

Millennials, or America's youth born between 1982 and 2000, now number 83.1 million and represent more than one quarter of the nation's population. Their size exceeds that of the 75.4 million baby boomers, according to new U.S. Census Bureau estimates released today. Overall, millennials are more diverse than the generations that preceded them, with 44.2 percent being part of a minority race or ethnic group (that is, a group other than non-Hispanic, single-race white). These latest population estimates examine changes among groups by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin nationally, as well as in all states and counties, between April 1, 2010, and July 1, 2014.

Even more diverse than millennials are the youngest Americans: those younger than 5 years old. In 2014, this group became majority-minority for the first time, with 50.2 percent being part of a minority race or ethnic group. Reflecting these younger age groups, the population as a whole has become more racially and ethnically diverse in just the last decade, with the percentage minority climbing from 32.9 percent in 2004 to 37.9 percent in 2014.

Other highlights from the estimates:

The 65-and-older population

- The nation's 65-and-older population grew from 44.7 million in 2013 to 46.2 million in 2014. This group, which now contains the oldest four years of the baby boom generation (born between 1946 and 1964), is 21.7 percent minority, less diverse than younger age groups.
- Florida had the highest percentage of its population age 65 and older among states in 2014 (19.1 percent), followed by Maine (18.3 percent). Alaska had the lowest percentage (9.4 percent), followed by Utah (10.0 percent).

Some states and counties become younger - In contrast to most states, five experienced a decline in median age between July 1, 2013, and July 1, 2014: North Dakota, Hawaii, Montana, Wyoming and Iowa.

States with more males than females (and vice versa) - There were only 10 states where males made up a majority of the population in 2014. Alaska had the highest male percentage (52.6 percent), followed by North Dakota (51.3 percent).

- The District of Columbia had the highest percentage of females of any state or equivalent (52.6 percent), followed by Delaware (51.6 percent).

Births versus deaths - All race and ethnic groups except single-race, non-Hispanic whites had more births than deaths between 2013 and 2014. This group had 61,841 more deaths than births.

Hispanics - The nation's Hispanic population totaled 55.4 million as of July 1, 2014, up by 1.2 million, or 2.1 percent, since July 1, 2013.

Blacks - The nation's black or African-American population totaled 45.7 million as of July 1, 2014, up by 578,000, or 1.3 percent, since July 1, 2013.

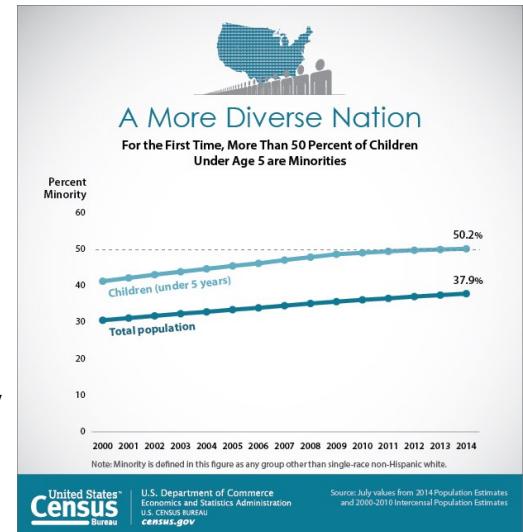
Asians - The nation's Asian population totaled 20.3 million as of July 1, 2014, up by 631,000, or 3.2 percent, since July 1, 2013.

American Indians and Alaska Natives - The nation's American Indian and Alaska Native population totaled 6.5 million as of July 1, 2014, up by 93,000, or 1.4 percent, since July 1, 2013.

Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders - The nation's Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander population totaled 1.5 million as of July 1, 2014, up by 33,000, or 2.3 percent, since July 1, 2013.

Non-Hispanic white alone - The nation's non-Hispanic white alone population totaled 197.9 million in 2014, up by 94,000, or 0.5 percent, since 2013.

Unless otherwise specified, the statistics refer to the population who reported a race alone or in combination with one or more races. The detailed tables show statistics for the resident population by "race alone" and "race alone or in combination." The sum of the populations for the five "race alone or in combination" groups adds to more than the total population because individuals may report more than one race.





Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. (FTRI) is a private, statewide nonprofit 501(c) 3 organization that administers the Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program for citizens of Florida who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind and Speech Impaired. FTRI is also responsible for the education and promotion of the Florida Relay Service (7-1-1).

The Florida Legislature passed the [Telecommunications Access System Act](#) (TASA F.S. 427) in 1991. The intent of TASA is to provide access to basic telecommunications services for Hard of Hearing, Deaf, Deaf/Blind, and Speech Challenged individuals, in the most cost effective way possible. The amplified telephones and ring signaling devices are loaned to all qualified permanent Florida residents for as long as they need it, **at no charge**.

Funding: FTRI is funded through a TASA mandated 11 cent surcharge on all landline telephone customers in the State of Florida.

Distribution: FTRI contracts with 29 non-profit organizations statewide to serve as regional distribution centers (RDC). The RDCs conduct presentations, distribute equipment and train clients on equipment use as well as other related services.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Florida resident
- Over the age of three years old
- Certified as being Hard of Hearing, Deaf, Deaf/Blind, or Speech Challenged
- Have landline

Client Certification: The following professionals can certify a client as being Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind or Speech Impaired:

- Deaf Service Center Director
- Hearing Healthcare Professional
- Audiologist
- Licensed Physician
- Speech Pathologist
- Appropriate State/Federal Agency Representative
- State Certified Teacher for the Hearing Impaired or Visually Impaired



FTRI Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How many people in Florida are Deaf or Hard of Hearing?

A: An estimated 3 million people in Florida are Deaf or Hard of Hearing - approximately 16% of the population. (Source: *2011 Report to the Governor, Legislature and the Supreme Court of Florida*, Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.)

Q: How many clients has FTRI served since its inception in 1991?

A: More than 527,435 clients.

Q: How many amplified telephones or ring signaling devices have been distributed since FTRI's inception in 1991?

A: 1,028,814 pieces of equipment.

Q: What are FTRI's client age demographics?

A: During fiscal year 2013/2014 FTRI served 13,671 new qualified client

	Age 4-19	Age 20-39	Age 40-59	Age 60-79	Age 80+
New Clients 2013/2014	25	90	722	5,741	7,093

Q: What is the Florida Relay Service?

A: A confidential communications assistant service that connects specialized phone users (Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind, or Speech Challenged) to standard telephone users and vice versa. 7-1-1 is the national relay number.

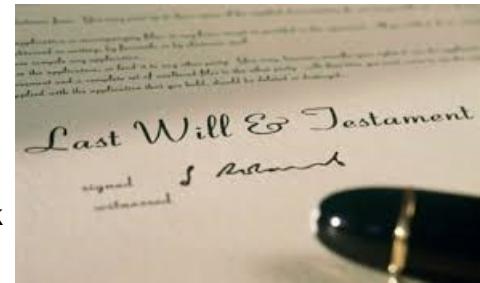
The following is an example of how the specialized telephone equipment and relay service works.



FASP Pre-Conference Intensive

Where There's A Will...You Want To Be In It: A practical look at planned gift fund raising and how you can start a planned giving program in your small shop!

Planned giving is more important than ever in a comprehensive development program, but few small shops have the expertise or the time to invest in it...or so they think! Come hear how planned giving is shaping the future of development programs and how your organization can position itself to receive the impending trillion dollar transfer of wealth. You will leave this workshop with practical tips and easily implemented tools that you can take back and put to use immediately.



Cost to attend the Intensive: \$50 FASP Members - \$60 FASP NonMembers

Robin Hicks Nunley, CFRE is a 20+ year veteran in the non-profit arena, having worked in numerous organizations in Washington, D.C. and Florida ranging from human services to arts and culture interests. A Certified Fund Raising Executive for more than 18 years, Hicks Nunley has held high visibility positions in the community, including eight years as President/CEO of the Elliott Museum/Historical Society and four years as the former Chief Operating Officer of the Council on Aging. In 2011, she founded RHC Consulting serving local and regional non-profit organizations.

Robin has a successful track record raising millions of dollars in the organizations for which she has worked thru annual gifts, special events, planned gifts, major gifts and capital campaigns. Under her management, the Elliott Museum secured the largest gift in its 50-year history and raised \$14 million dollars in their capital campaign.

In addition to her active professional career, Robin is actively involved in many community initiatives and has served on numerous boards including Stuart Mainstreet, the Stuart/Martin Chamber of Commerce, the Stuart City Commission-appointed Stuart Community Advisory Board and Community Re-development Board. A trained and successful public speaker on fund raising topics, Hicks Nunley has addressed audiences at the International Conference on Fundraising, the Florida Association of Museums Conference, and many Association of Fundraising Professionals chapter conferences and workshops. A native Floridian, Hicks Nunley received her bachelor's degree in communications from

Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida. ***Register for Intensive [on-line](#)***

Home Modifications and Going Mobile: A New Way to Reduce Falls Continued from Page 2

and bath modification during in their 30-day home health benefit. Home assessments combined with technology can empower service providers by offering real-time home modification solutions and reducing the amount of time and paperwork. Working with trained assessors or OTs can ensure the most appropriate and cost-effective solution. Using technology can also help achieve a larger impact, especially if intervention outcomes occur through re-evaluations of the home upon completion of the modification.

Measuring how safe someone feels in their home as well as capturing the accessibility score of important occupations that give meaning to the homeowner before and after. This can result in a positive light on programming that offers effective and professional home modification interventions.

To learn more about this solution, the benefits of working with an OT or how to train your current fall prevention team on home modifications visit: www.homeforlifedesign.com

Resources

Why So Many Boomers Have Been Bitten By The Nostalgia Bug

Many boomers have been bitten by the nostalgia bug. In response, many marketers are using nostalgia to sell everything from whiskey to perfume and cars to sneakers. Let's take a closer look at the concept of nostalgia, and learn how the power of the past can spell good business in the present. [click here for full article](#)

House LHHS subcommittee approves \$3.365 billion for LIHEAP

On June 17, 2015, the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Related Agencies voted to fund LIHEAP at \$3.36 billion for FY 2016. This is slightly less than 2015 funding, which is \$3.39 billion.

"We'll continue to fight to stem the tide of declining LIHEAP funding. The inability of four out of five eligible households to be served is putting more Americans at risk during severe winters and scorching summers. In several regions of the U.S. we've experienced record breaking heat and cold since 2010 when LIHEAP funding began to decline from its high of \$5.1 billion," commented John Rich, president of the National Energy and Affordability Coalition.

LIHEAP advocates have asked funding to be restored to the level of \$4.7 billion. This August, NEUAC members will make another push in Congressional district offices across the U.S. The effort will focus on continuing to inform and educate members of Congress and their staff about the value that LIHEAP funding plays in helping vulnerable households, such as those with seniors, young children, our nation's veterans and those with disabilities. As LIHEAP funding continues through the budget approval process over the next several weeks, you can help by calling your Congressional Representatives and Senators to ask for funding up to \$4.7 billion. Please consider calling or emailing to those in your state or states. Click on the links for Representatives and Senators by state:

Full House of Representatives Appropriations Committee

<http://appropriations.house.gov/about/members/>

U.S. Senate subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies

<http://www.appropriations.senate.gov/subcommittee/labor-health-and-human-services-education-and-related-agencies>



July 2015

July 23-25, 2015: Orlando, FL Florida State Guardianship Association Conference.

<http://www.floridaguardians.com/education/conference/>

July 27-28, 2015: Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC. 2015 Healthy Aging Summit.

<http://www.2015healthyagingsummit.org/>

August 2015

August 1-2, 2015: Disney's Yacht and Beach Club Resort, Orlando, FL. Florida Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting and Educational Symposium. <http://www.floridageriatricssociety.org/annual.html>

August 10-12, 2015: The Caribe Royale, Orlando, FL. Florida Conference on Aging.

<http://www.fcoa.org/conference.html>

FASP is on Facebook - Are You?

Do you or does your organization have a Facebook or Twitter account?
We would love to "like" "Friend" and/or "follow" you too.



FASP - Florida Association of Aging Services Providers Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/FASP-Florida-Association-of-Aging-Services-Providers/186392068069967>

FASP - Florida Association of Aging Services Providers Twitter

<http://twitter.com/FLAgingServProv>

follow us on
twitter

DOEA - Florida Department of Elder Affairs Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Florida-Department-of-Elder-Affairs/128604923878650?sk=wall>

FCOA - Florida Council on Aging Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Florida-Council-on-Aging/74320166787>

FCOA - Florida Council on Aging Twitter

<http://twitter.com/#!/FCOA1>



Real Possibilities

<http://www.aarp.org>



Washington County Council on Aging

<http://www.washcocoa.com>



Community Senior Services

<http://www.agingtrue.org>



<http://www.bmbinc.com>



www.newvisioneyecenter.com

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<http://www.coasl.com>



<http://www.volencenter.com>

The intent of the FASP Newsletter is to keep you informed about program updates and information relating to aging services providers. If you have any comments about the newsletter, suggestions on ways to improve it and/or items you would like included, please contact FASP by e-mail at moreinfo@fasp.net or by phone at (850) 222-3524.

FASP's Mission: Supporting older adults and the providers that serve them through information, connection, and resources.

JOIN US FOR THE 2015
FLORIDA CONFERENCE ON AGING!

AUGUST 10-12, 2015

The Caribe Royale
Orlando, Florida

Conference Registration [on-line](#)

