



2024 Conference Agenda

Monday, September 30, 2024

4:00 - 8:00 p.m. **Vendor Set-Up**
(Lobby)

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

7:00 – 8:00 a.m. **Vendor Set-Up**

7:30 – 8:00 a.m. **Registration**
Silent Auction Opens

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. **Welcome**
William A. Cole, Mayor, City of Billings
Trevor Tangen, Interim Senior & Long Term Care Division Administrator, MT DPHHS

Presentation of Flags

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. **Keynote: Healthy Aging and the Brain-Body Connection**
Sarah Lenz Lock, J.D., Senior Vice President for Policy and Brain Health, AARP and
Executive Director, Global Council on Brain Health

10:00-10:15 a.m. **Break**

10:15 – 11:45 p.m. **Break-Out Sessions**

Navigating State Programs: **Streamlining Medicaid Programs for Those that are Aged or Disabled**
Jennifer Fox, Medicaid Policy Bureau Chief, MT DPHHS
Theresa Broad, Medicaid Program Supervisor, MT DPHHS

Optimizing Health & Wellness: **Fighting Back Against Parkinson’s Disease**
Jonathan Waterfall, Owner/Instructor of Rock Solid Martial Arts

Empowering Caregivers: **Hospice Benefit and Palliative Care**
William Phillips, DO, Hospice Medical Director, Stillwater
Nathan Bates, DO, Medical Director Supportive & Palliative Care,
Billings Clinic, Medical Director, Riverstone Hospice

Simplifying Legal & Financial Issues: **Topic Coming**

- 11:45 – 1:30 p.m. **Centenarian Luncheon (Sponsored by Wish of a Lifetime from AARP)**
 Welcome
 Bob Meyers, Chair, Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging
 Caitlin Shepherd, Field Manager Mountain West, Denver, Colorado
- 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. **Don’t Be Fooled: Shielding Yourself Against Scams**
 Cryptocurrency Scams: Ryan Sullivan, Securities Investigator/Examiner, Montana State Auditor Office
 Rebecca Leary, Community Outreach Specialist, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- 3:00 – 3:15 p.m. Break
- 3:15 – 4:45 p.m. Break-Out Sessions
- Navigating State Programs: **Older Americans Act New Regulations**
 Courtney Hoskins
- Optimizing Health & Wellness: **Exercise Your Way to Healthy Aging: Interactive Session**
 Melissa Dale, MPH, Arthritis and Falls Prevention Program, MT DPHHS
 Erin Bley, Arthritis Program, MT DPHHS
- Empowering Caregivers: **Recharge and Renew: A Discussion on Respite for Caregivers**
- Simplifying Legal & Financial Issues: **Estate Planning and Probate**
 Katy Lovell, Legal Services Developer, MT DPHHS
 Susan Gecho Gobbs, Contract Attorney for MT Legal Developer Program, MT DPHHS

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

- 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. **Registration**
- 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. **Keynote: A National Perspective on Aging Policy, Programs and Trends!**
 Amy E. Gotwals, Chief, Public Policy and External Affairs, USAging
- 10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:15 – 11:45 p.m. **Empowering and Supporting Older Montanans to Age Well: Montana Area Agencies on Aging in Action**
Moderator: Heather Handran, Director, Area I Agency on Aging, Action for Eastern Montana
 Marcy Brookie, Executive Director, Area II Agency on Aging
 Jim Marks, Program Director, Rocky’s Agency on Aging (Area IV)
 Lisa Sheppard, CEO, Missoula Aging Services (Area VII)
- 11:45 – 1:30 p.m. **Luncheon**
 Welcome and Awarding of Mini Grants

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Break-Out Sessions

Navigating State Programs: **Big Sky Waiver, Home Health, and Hospice**
Christina Rees, Program Manager for Big Sky Waiver, Home Health and Hospice, MT DPHHS

Optimizing Health & Wellness: **Brain Health and Living Well with Dementia**
Melanie Williams, Executive Director, Alzheimer's Association Montana Chapter
Kyla Rock, BOLD Grant Project Manager, MT DPHHS

Empowering Caregivers: **Caring for the Caregiver**
Lindsey Niemeier, TCARE President

Simplifying Legal & Financial Issues: **Social Security 101**
David Baier, Public Affairs Specialist, Social Security Admin.

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. Break

3:15 – 4:45 p.m. Break-Out Sessions

Navigating State Programs: **Evolving from Nursing Home Care to Community Life**
April Staudinger, MFP Project Director, MT DPHHS
Stephanie Goetz, Nursing Facility Section Supervisor, MT DPHHS

Optimizing Health & Wellness: **Granting Dreams: Celebrating Older Adults with Wish of a Lifetime**
Caitlin Shepherd, Senior Regional Field Manager, Wish of a Lifetime from AARP

Empowering Caregivers: **Work With Me – Navigating with Those Who Have Dementia**
Becky Meisenheimer, CDP®, CMDCP®, Owner, R.X.F. Dementia Care Services and Dementia Friendly Coordinator, Big Sky Senior Services

Simplifying Legal & Financial Issues: **Navigating Guardianship: A Panel Discussion**
Jody McCampbell, APS Region One Supervisor, MT DPHHS
Katy Lovell, Legal Services Developer, MT DPHHS
Tyler Amundson, Executive Director, Big Sky Senior Services

Thursday October 3, 2024

7:30 – 8:00 a.m. **Registration**

8:00 – 9:30 a.m. **The Care Network: Your Roadmap to Support**
Mark Robinson – Home Health Care (A+ Plus Health Care)
Miranda Meunier, Vice President of Care Services, Greater Good Health
Tyler Amundson, Executive Director, Big Sky Senior Services
Jenn Prunty, Aging in Place Specialist, National Association of Homebuilders, Co-Founder and Board Chair of My Glacier Village

9:30 – 9:45 a.m. Break
Silent Auction Closes

9:45 – 11:15 a.m. Break-Out Sessions

Navigating State Programs:

Medicare and SMP 101

Janet Stellmon, SHIP Director, MT DPHHS

Renee Labrie-Shanks, SMP Director, Missoula Aging Services

MurrayLou McElveen, SHIP Coordinator, Area II Agency on Aging

Optimizing Health & Wellness:

Adaptive Technology

Liz Kuehn, MonTECH Eastern Clinic Coordinator

Empowering Caregivers:

Unintentional Abuse and Neglect

Susan Lubke, Owner, Seasons Senior Services, LLC

Simplifying Legal & Financial Issues

Topic Coming

11:15 – 12:15 p.m.

Keynote: Riding the Big Sky One Mile at a Time

Ron Brevik

12:15- 12:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Pick Up Silent Auction Items (pay by cash, check or credit card)

**Travel Safely!
See you Next Year!**