



# 2025 Governor's 56<sup>th</sup> Conference on Aging

*Flip the Script*

## Agenda

**Monday, September 15, 2025**

**Meeting Montana's Long-Term Challenges Summit**

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| 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.   | <b>Vendor Set-Up</b>   |
| 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.   | <b>Registration</b>  |
| 9:00 – 9:30 a.m.   | <b>Introduction and Understanding the Crisis and Demographic Pressures</b>   |
| 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.  | <b>Pillar #1: Communication</b><br>Help us explore how we can build more transparent, consistent, and collaborative systems for sharing information across agencies, providers, and communities.         |
| 10:15 – 10:30 a.m. | <b>Break</b>   |
| 10:30 – 11:00 a.m. | <b>Pillar #1: Communication Continued</b>  |
| 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. | <b>Conclusion of Pillar #1 (tangible outcomes identified)</b>  |
| 11:30 – 12:00 p.m. | <b>Pillar #2: Access to Care</b><br>Share your insights on bridging service gaps in rural and frontier areas, supporting aging in place, and using technology to connect people with the care they need. |
| 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.  | <b>Lunch on Your Own</b>   |
| 1:00 – 1:30 p.m.   | <b>Pillar #2: Access to Care Continued</b>   |
| 1:30 – 2:00 p.m.   | <b>Conclusion of Pillar #2 (tangible outcomes identified)</b>  |
| 2:00 – 2:15 p.m.   | <b>Break</b>   |
| 2:15 – 3:45 p.m.   | <b>Pillar #3: Funding</b><br>Join the conversation on how we can address financial barriers, improve reimbursement models, and ensure long-term sustainability for providers and consumers alike.        |
| 3:45 – 4:00 p.m.   | <b>Conclusion of Pillar #3 (tangible outcomes identified)</b>  |
| 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.   | <b>Closing and Recap of Tangible Outcomes</b>  |
| 4:30 – 5:00 p.m.   | <b>Conclusion</b>  |

# Tuesday, September 16, 2025

7:00 – 8:00 a.m.      **Vendor Set-Up**

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.      **Registration**  
*Registration Table*

**Silent Auction Opens**

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.      **Welcome**  
Wilmot Collins, Mayor of Helena  
Lindsey Carter, Interim Senior and Long-Term Care Division Administrator, MT DPHHS

**Presentation of Flags**

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.      **Keynote: Current Trends in Social Security and the SSA**  
Will Phillips, AARP Regional Vice President, AARP

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.      **Break**

10:30 – 11:45 a.m.      **Advocacy – How to Work with Your Legislature**  
Kristin Page-Nei, AARP Montana Lobbyist

11:45 – 12:15 p.m.      **Break**

12:15 – 1:45 p.m.      **Centenarian Luncheon**  
Welcome  
Bob Meyers, Chair, Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

1:45 – 3:00 p.m.      **Voices of Experience: Perspectives from Older Adults**

3:00 – 3:30 p.m.      **Break**

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.      **Break-Out Sessions**

Track Name:      **Medicaid Topics**  
Medicaid Program, MT DPHHS

Track Name      **Understanding Hoarding in the Aging Population: Challenges and Communication Strategies**  
Karin E. Fried, CPC, EMT-B, CTACC, Advanced Hoarding Specialist

Track Name:      **Emergency Preparedness**  
Montana Disaster and Emergency Services

# Wednesday, September 17, 2025

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.	<b>Registration</b>
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	<b>The Heart of the Community: A Senior Center Panel Discussion</b> Beth Hunt, Executive Director, Meagher County Senior Center Don DeJarnett, Nutrition Program Manager, South Side Center Senior, Billings Gerri Backes, Board President, Kalispell Senior Center Mindy Diehl, Senior Nutrition & Transportation Director, Rocky Mountain Development Council
9:30 – 10:00 a.m.	<b>Break</b>
10:00 – 11:30 p.m.	<b>Break-Out Sessions</b>
Track Name	<b>Aging in Place</b> Dan Koltz, Assistant Professor, Gerontology Specialist, MT Caregiver Respite Retreat Program Director, and MT Kinship Navigator Program Director, MSU Extension
Track Name	<b>Suicide Prevention</b> Karl Rosston, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, MT DPHHS
Track Name	<b>Common Conditions Later in Life</b> Miranda Meunier, GNP-BC, Vice President of Care Services, Greater Good Health
11:30 – 1:00 p.m.	<b>Luncheon</b> Welcome and Awarding of Mini Grants Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
1:00 p.m.	<b>Silent Auction Closes</b> (Winners can pick up items and pay by cash, check, or credit card)
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	<b>Break-Out Sessions</b>
Track Name	<b>Community of the Go: Collaborative Approaches to Senior Mobility</b> Adam Kraft, Transit Supervisory, MT Department of Transportation Marcy Brookie, Director, Area II Agency on Aging Cathy Orr, Executive Director, Ravalli County Council on Aging
Track Name	<b>Planning for Peace: Legal, Emotional, and Medical Guidance for End-of-Life</b> LiElla Kelly, End-of-Life Doula and Educator, Leaving Well Heather Bassett, Community Care Coordinator, Headwaters Hospice and Palliative Care Contract Attorney, MT DPHHS
Track Name	<b>2025 Montana Legislative Session Breakdown</b> Kristin Page-Nei – AARP Montana Lobbyist
2:30 – 4:00 p.m.	<b>Volunteerism/Civic Duty</b> Nancy Andersen, Volunteer, AARP Montana
4:00 – 4:15 p.m.	<b>Closing Remarks</b>

Travel Safely!