Changing the Conversation on Aging

Changing attitudes towards aging will help advance age-inclusive policies to support us all as we age, and each of us can contribute! But how? The National Center team has been working hard to spread awareness of how we can all change the conversation on aging, and our discussions in the field have helped us accumulate and share resources.

We are pleased to announce, the Changing the Conversation Toolkit is now available. This new toolkit from the National Center provides new and existing audiences with an introduction to the principles of reframing aging and how to apply them to popular topics including nursing home care, day to day activities, DEI, and intergenerational work.

Contents of this toolkit include webinars, YouTube videos, resource guides, and tip sheets. Access the toolkit here and join us in changing the conversation on aging!

Poll Review

According to research from CoGenerate most people believe that intergenerational work enriches our lives and produces better solutions for our communities. However, participants from this research also reported the primary barrier to engaging in intergenerational work is not knowing how to get started. We reached out to the Caravan to find out how many folks are aware of intergenerational program
opportunities in their community. Consistent with findings from CoGenerate, 70% of the Caravan reported they are unaware of intergenerational opportunities in their community.

One way we can all begin to change the conversation on aging is creating and spreading awareness of intergenerational opportunities. Here are a few ideas Caravan readers shared:

- Cooking and gardening with friends and family
- Church events
- Events at local community centers, like concerts in the park or theater performances including Stages of the Range Players theater company.
- S.A.G.E. Intergenerational Mentoring Program
- Elders Climate Action
- Programs hosted by groups in your area, such as Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh
- For All Ages Intergenerational Programs

Learn more about the impact of intergenerational connections in the movement to reframe aging with these tips created in collaboration with CoGenerate and the recording of the final webinar of the Changing the Conversation Webinar Series, Igniting a Multigenerational Movement.

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Conference Corner

The National Center team was thrilled to see many familiar and new faces at USAging 2023! We look forward to continuing to spread the word about the power of reframe the American Psychological Association (APA), Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging (SE4A) and Advancing States’ Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) conferences in August.

Click on the tiles below to learn more about the team’s activities at these conferences this Summer:

USAGing 2023

Exhibiting August 28th - August 30th

Intersecting Identities in Late Life: Age, Race and Ethnicity, and Sexuality and Gender

Saturday, August 5th at 8:00 AM

Reframe Aging: Harnessing the Power of Words for Age-inclusive Policies

HCBS Conference Home Community Based Services

Wednesday, August 30 at 1:15 PM

Please reach out to our team at reframeaging@geron.org if you plan on attending these conferences and would like to meet up!

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Updates from the National Center to Reframe Aging

- The team is pleased to share two newly updated resources, one with the E4 Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Disparities in Aging at Rush University and another with the FrameWorks Institute.
- The Changing the Conversation Q&A series is a four-part series now available! This series expands on the questions raised during the Changing the Conversation Webinar Series. Watch the series on YouTube and don’t forget to subscribe to the National Center’s YouTube channel to stay up to date on the latest videos!
The National Center team is thrilled to share 3 new success stories from our partners across the country. Learn more from organizations and advocates at the local, state, and national level who are using the tools of the National Center to Reframe Aging to change the way they communicate about aging. If we follow their lead and use better frames to tell stories about aging, we can create better systems that lead to better outcomes for all of us as we age. Click the tiles below to learn more:

What We Are Reading on Changing the Conversation Across Sectors

The movement to reframe aging is not limited to the field of aging, it is impacting many sectors. Click on the tiles below to see this month’s featured articles and learn more about opportunities to reframe aging as related to artificial intelligence, Hollywood, multigenerational efforts, the 2024 elections, university work, and our healthcare:

Click here to stay up to date on what we’re reading!

Tell us where you have been reframing to be featured in the next issue of Caravan!
Frame Focus

The extension of human life is one of the greatest accomplishments in history. Language that emphasizes the opportunities inherent in longer and healthier lives inspires support for solutions that address the challenges of longer lives.