



Press Release

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Contact: Christina Marneris
Direct Line: 360-735-5728

AAADSW Receives The John A. Hartford Foundation 2021 Business Innovation Award Honorable Mention

VANCOUVER, WA—Today, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging’s (n4a) Aging and Disability Business Institute presented the Area Agency on Aging and Disabilities of Southwest Washington (AAADSW) with The John A. Hartford Foundation 2021 Business Innovation Award Honorable Mention for its Community Paramedicine program. The award was presented at n4a’s 46th Annual Conference and Tradeshow.

In collaboration with 14 community partners, AAADSW’s Community Paramedicine program supports individuals with complex health and social needs by delivering the right services at the right place and time. The Community Paramedicine program addresses the needs of individuals with high rates of hospital admissions and emergency medical service usage and helps address barriers to transitioning from the hospital to the home. Individuals are referred to the program by PeaceHealth, a longtime AAADSW partner. Once referred, a Community Paramedicine nurse conducts an in-person risk assessment to identify unmet needs and connect individuals to services and supports delivered by AAADSW’s community partners. These services maximize the individual’s independence and quality of life in their home and community.

“The Community Paramedicine program illustrates the benefits of health care and community-based organizations partnering to improve care,” said AAADSW Executive Director Mike Reardon. “We look forward to further cultivating our partnerships and improving care. Being awarded The John A. Hartford Foundation 2021 Business Innovation Award Honorable Mention is a great honor and testament to our dedicated innovative staff and community partners.”

This relatively new program has already made a real impact in the community – reducing hospital readmissions while improving medical outcomes and quality of care for older adults. The program’s Emergency Medical Services partners have noticed a marked reduction of non-emergent calls, allowing first responders to attend to other calls in the community that require a higher level of service.

“n4a’s Aging and Disability Business Institute is proud to recognize organizations [that] are advancing the field of integrated care with innovative cross-sector partnerships that reduce health care costs and improve the well-being of older adults and people with disabilities,” said n4a CEO Sandy Markwood. “Each organization recognized today has demonstrated remarkable dedication to addressing the holistic needs of older adults and people with disabilities at the community level.”

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201 NE 73rd Street, Suite 201 | Vancouver, WA 98665 | 360-735-5720 | Toll Free: 888-637-6060

About The John A. Hartford Foundation

The John A. Hartford Foundation, based in New York City, is a private, nonpartisan, national philanthropy dedicated to improving the care of older adults. The leader in the field of aging and health, the Foundation has three priority areas: creating age-friendly health systems, supporting family caregivers and improving serious illness and end-of-life care. For more information, visit johnahartford.org and follow @johnahartford.

About AAADSW

At the Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities, we believe every adult deserves to live with dignity. We connect seniors, adults with disabilities and family caregivers to a full range of community resources designed to offer choice, improve quality of life and respect independence.

From our Aging and Disability Resource Network, Family Caregiver Support Program, Senior Transportation Services, and Health and Wellness Programs, we are committed to helping our community's adults live and age well. We serve adults in Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Skamania and Klickitat counties.

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