



Carol Haig & Patrick Shandrick | A publication of [Village Movement California](#) | SEPTEMBER 2023

September ushers in Rosh Hashanah, the New Year for our Jewish members and volunteers. May it be sweet! It's also time to celebrate the histories and cultures of Latino Californians who contribute greatly to our state's economy and caregiving system. Villages are, by definition, rooted in community and culture and we are strengthened by the identities our members and volunteers bring to our movement.

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From the Executive Director, Charlotte Dickson



Our advocacy campaign kicked off this summer with three workshops aimed at building the sustainability of our villages. The first was held at our annual conference in June and set the stage for the work we need to do together to elevate our villages in aging services and their funding streams. The second workshop covered "Area Agencies on Aging 101". We had a great turn out and have solid interest from many AAAs in partnering with villages. Let's seize the moment by setting up meetings with the regional AAA directors and explore ways to work and partner together!

The AAAs are expecting your calls. Below is information from our recent workshop on contacting and partnering with your local AAA.

Resources: [Slides](#) , [Video-Recording of AAA 101](#) , [Tips and materials](#), [Post meeting survey](#)

From the Executive Director continued: Our third workshop focused on the state’s Department of Aging’s new RFA for the [Local Aging and Disability Planning Grant](#). Applications are due Monday, October 2. I encourage villages to check out the RFA’s purpose and requirements and explore joining other aging and disability organizations in your locale in a joint proposal. Being a partner in the grant program is an excellent investment in your village’s future sustainability.

Resources : [Video recording](#)_RFA: <https://mpa.aging.ca.gov/LocalMPAGrantProgram/Index>

Our village advocacy campaign will continue through 2024 at the local and state level. I’ll be reaching out this fall with an invitation to connect with your state legislators over their fall recess. Implementation of the Master Plan for Aging opens an opportunity for us to take a seat at the aging table. Our website says, “***Together we can accomplish so much more than we can alone.***” The advocacy campaign is the perfect opportunity for us to work together for the growth, impact, and sustainability of our movement.

A Community of Support: Behavioral Health



Since 2019, the State of California has embarked on massive investments and policy reforms to re-envision how the state treats mental health and substance use disorders, collectively known as the behavioral health system.

Older adults’ behavioral health needs are being considered with the [announcement of \\$50 million for services](#) for our population. The epidemic of social isolation and loneliness is a top risk factor to be addressed by the new funding.

The need for culturally and linguistically tailored services is a high priority, as is building community capacity to deliver services.

We know that villages have a lengthy track record addressing social isolation and loneliness through programming, volunteering, resources, and referrals.

Village Movement California is closely following news about \$50 million funding opportunity. For now, we are submitting comments to the the Department of Aging. Once the RFA is open, we will convene interested villages to discuss how they might apply.

Tales From the Village

Meet Jennifer Hanley, Carquinez Village's New Executive Director

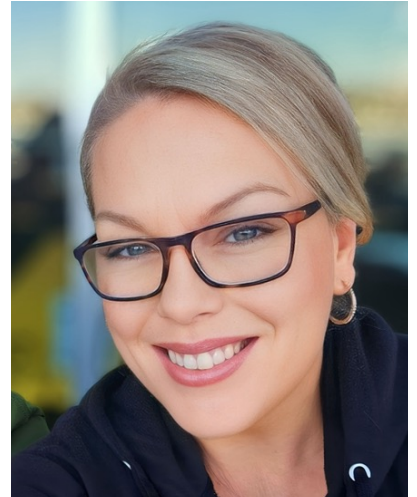
Carquinez Village began in 2015 and was officially formed in 2017.

They currently have 150 members and over 50 volunteers.

Tell us about your background in working with older adults and community-based organizations. I'm new to the older adult space!

However, I was raised in the spirit of community and public service. I've always been an active volunteer for organizations in Benicia and Vallejo.

Having grown up in this area, I know our multi-generational community well.



What other experience informs your work? I've worked in local politics, managing the successful campaigns for both Benicia's mayor (2020), and vice mayor (2022). My role as executive director is not all that different. Fundraising, marketing, public relations, volunteer coordination, and a lot of strategic planning. I've also been able to establish a broad local network which will be useful as I work hard to promote and build our village.

What made you want to join a village? I've always been happiest and most successful in roles that made a difference in my community. Moving into the non-profit space seemed like a natural fit.

What makes Carquinez Village special? Our founding members have put an incredible amount of thought, time, and work into Carquinez Village. We are lucky to have such talented and passionate working board and volunteers. Their dedication is inspiring and motivates me to help the village realize its fullest potential

Where is Carquinez? Carquinez is named after the "Carquinez Straits"; the waterway that connects the Sacramento river to the San Francisco bay. Our village serves two cities (Benicia and Vallejo), both of which are located along the strait. I have lived in Benicia for 33 years. I love everything about the Bay Area! In my free time, I enjoy camping with my family, listening to live music, sharing a cold beer with friends at local microbreweries, and most importantly, cheering on my 11 year old son's little league team at the ball field.



Remembering founder of SLO Village and Friend of Village Movement California

Tauria Linala (1955 - 2023), Founding Board Member, Friend to SLO Village, and Supporter of Village Movement California.

From the SLO Village newsletter: SLO Village has lost a wonderful friend and advocate in the passing of Tauria Linala. Tauria was instrumental in the developmental stage of SLO Village. She was a founding Board Member and continued representing SLO Village within the community. We are grateful for her numerous contributions and associations to promote social connection and care for the aging population. Her enthusiasm, warmth, and dedication will be sincerely missed. In memory of Tauria's love for supporting others and nature, we encourage SLO Village members and volunteers to take a nice walk outside or share kindness with one another.

Charlotte adds: From the beginning, Tauria was an enthusiastic supporter of Village Movement California. She never hesitated to answer my questions about serving the LGBT community, or designing Village Movement California's diversity, equity, and inclusion programming. She was an accomplished advocate for older adults and shared her connections and advice for raising villages' profile within the California legislature. Tauria was generous with her financial contributions. I am going to miss Tauria's wisdom and deep commitment to our movement.

Village News

Volunteers start medical equipment loan service in San Mateo County

More than 1,000 pieces of equipment have been loaned since inception. The Medical Equipment Loan Project is a collaborative between the Belmont-Redwood Shores and San Carlos Rotary clubs and the Villages of San Mateo County. [Read more in the San Mateo Daily Journal.](#)

New handyman service helps seniors age in place

From hanging pictures to installing pergolas, Hassett Ace Hardware teams up with Avenidas to tackle projects big and small at discounted rates. [Read more in Palo Alto Online.](#)

Upcoming Events

September 15 through October 15

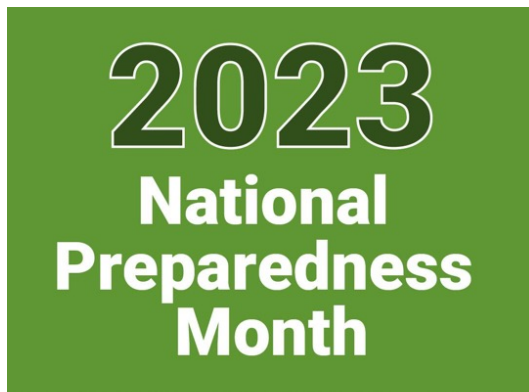
National Hispanic Heritage Month

This year, we focus on the themes of prosperity, power, and progress, recognizing the significant strides of Hispanic/Latinos in the economic, political, and social growth.



Today, adults of Hispanic/Latino identity comprise 20% of California’s “Forgotten Middle” population. By 2033, the year when the oldest baby boomers turn 85, comprising 29% of California’s “Forgotten Middle” population.

Village Movement California is committed to villages and the village model reaching Hispanic/Latino communities. We are supporting and learning from a Latino/Anglo community currently participating in the Village Incubator. Village Movement California’s Diversity Equity and Inclusion page features “[A Conversation with Latinos About Race](#).” Join us in celebrating [National Hispanic Heritage Month](#) and the Latino Californians who contribute greatly to our state’s economy and caregiving system.



September is National Preparedness Month

This September, we raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. Older adults face greater risks when it comes to extreme weather events and emergencies; especially if living alone, have low-income, a disability, or live in rural areas.

Villages help to build communities that are climate-friendly by serving as neighborhood hubs for education and communication about disaster and emergency preparedness and response. When climate emergencies occur, villages make it easier to conduct outreach, deploy resources, and enable older adults to access emergency centers.

National Preparedness Month continued: For resources on becoming a more prepared community connect with; [Listos California](#) and [Ready.gov](#). Also, this September, Cal OES will hold eight Regional Disaster Ready Summits throughout the state. [Pre-Registration](#)

Tackling ageism this October 7th

Lets raise awareness about ageism and its harm on Ageism Awareness Day.

Evidence shows ageism is widespread in society and can be found from our workplaces and health systems to stereotypes in advertising and media – even to how we feel about ourselves as aging people. Ageism is a widespread and socially accepted form of prejudice – causing real harm to the health, longevity, and financial wellbeing of older adults.

- Older individuals with more positive self-perceptions of aging live 7.5 years longer than those with a less positive self-perception of aging.
- AARP estimated \$850 billion is lost gains in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) due to involuntary retirement, underemployment, and unemployment for older workers.
- Ageism intersects and exacerbates all other “isms,” including racism, sexism, ableism—compounding effects of ageism on individuals’ health and well-being.

Visit [The American Society on Aging](#) for tools to share with your village members as we combat the impact of ageism in our communities.

Upcoming Village Events

September 27, 1– 2 pm

Village Executive Director Roundtable: Village Executive Directors (paid and volunteer) are invited to a regular gathering with EDs of fellow villages. To participate at the Roundtable email Katie Brandon, Executive Director, Pasadena Village: katie@pasadenavillage.org to participate.



Upcoming Village Events continued:

October 3 – 4 & 17

2023 National Virtual Village Gathering & In-Person Village to Village Network/WAVE Gathering:

This year's conference will be a little different than in years past. VtVN will host a virtual conference on October 3 & 4, then will have an in-person conference, hosted jointly with Washington Area Villages Exchange in Silver Spring, Maryland on October 17. [Details here.](#)

On October 4, 1:45 – 3:00 pm Eastern Time (10:45 – 12:00 Pacific Time) Village Movement California and Pasadena Village will share their specific strategies and activities to advance Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging at VtVN's virtual conference.

October 12, 10 – 10:45 am

Independent Living Centers 101 with Brett Eisenberg, Executive Director of the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers. Brett will share information about the Independent Living Center network and its resources for older adults living with ability challenges. [Register Here](#)

[Join Village Movement CA](#)

Notices

Have an upcoming event you'd like to open to other villages? Send the information to the newsletter editor: carolhaig@earthlink.net. All articles and notices published here are available for use in your village newsletter. Please include this citation: *Reprinted with permission, Village Movement California.*

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