



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

The change of seasons brings us closer to the holidays and time for gatherings – opportunities to engage, connect, and celebrate. This is also when our legislatures return home from the state capital for winter recess. October marks the annual open enrollment for Medicare benefits as well. These seasonal rhythms help to guide our personal and collective work.

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From the Executive Director, Charlotte Dickson



As many of you know, I am on medical leave through early 2024.

I am confident that the work of Village Movement California will continue to build momentum; launching new villages in the Incubator program, helping existing villages to become stronger and more sustainable in our soon-to-be-launched Village Accelerator, and continuing to advocate for villages in Sacramento and across the state. We remain committed to fulfilling our part of the state's Master Plan for Aging!

While I am away, Carolyn Ross will act as Interim Executive Director. The board and I have great confidence in her. Please reach Carolyn at 714-874-4219 and carolyn@villagemovementcalifornia.org.

From the Executive Director continued: Carolyn has been with Village Movement California as our Director of Strategic Initiatives for over a year. Before that she directed Care Connections Network, Huntington Beach's village, for ten years. She was also part of the Leadership Team that formed Village Movement California.

Patrick Shandrick will continue as Communications Manager, patrick@villagemovementcalifornia.org. He is a seasoned, passionate professional. Our Board Chair, Kate Hoepke, kate@sfvillage.org and the Executive Committee will be close by to support the staff and our members.

I know you all are going to be actively engaging your local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and elected officials and am excited to hear about your progress. To help prepare villages to meet with their state legislators during the fall/winter recess, Leza Coleman, Legislative Director for the California Commission on Aging and VMC board member will be hosting a *Meet your Legislator!* webinar on October 25th, 10-10:45 AM. [Please register here.](#)

I'm so proud of the accomplishments we've achieved together over the years. I have no doubt that while I am away, collectively we will focus our energy and connections to fulfill the potential of our movement as we transform the experience of aging in California.

With warm regards,

Charlotte Dickson

Tales from the Villages: In the News

San Francisco Chronicle

Dianne Feinstein's 'significant medical expenses' before her death point to harsh reality for everyone.

... Communities known as elder villages are staffed by multigenerational volunteers who help older people age in place, such as the San Francisco Village, a membership organization. Ashby Village in Berkeley is a reciprocal community that helps connect older people to each other and to resources and services.

Sarah Dulaney, a clinical nurse specialist at the UCSF Memory and Aging Center, said while these communities don't replace caregivers, they can help build a social network and widen resources. Older people can also receive help with certain tasks such as being driven to appointments, or help finding a new doctor or someone to clean their home.

In the News continued: “The Baby Boomer generation is thinking about how to age in place, and people may be realizing that their kids live across the country or out of the country, and they have their own kids and jobs,” Dulaney said. “These are grassroots healthy aging communities...”

[Read full article here.](#)



Kern River Valley Senior Citizens, Inc. (SCI) empowers citizens aged 60 and older to choose how and where they live as they age.

... SCI is dedicated to empowering citizens 60 and older to choose how and where they live as they age. SCI is here to strengthen our communities and advocate for what matters most to our residents in the Kern River Valley...

SCI is proud to be a part of the Village Movement California (VMC). VMC offers an infrastructure of community-based organizations known as villages that address the five goals of the Governor’s Master Plan for Aging. This infrastructure is a proven solution for meeting the needs of California’s aging adult population...

[Read full article here.](#)



AgeTech Collaborative™ from AARP Accelerator's Fall 2023 cohort.

... The Village Movement is the world's largest and most celebrated Age-in-Place model. It connects Older Adults to other peers in their local communities and offers them the possibility to support each other via volunteer services, events/classes and whatever they feel they need to age in their own homes within a supportive and vibrant community. [Helpful Village](#) is powering half of the Villages in the nation, more than 100 Villages in 26 States and DC, serving several tens of thousands of Villagers already...

[Read full announcement here.](#)

Engaging Villages as Key Partners for Healthy Aging Research



A new study is being conducted by the RAND Corporation along with Village to Village Network, and Rutgers University's School of Social Work that seeks to improve the way that research can further the Village Movement and healthy aging.

This multi-organizational, national team will engage Village members and leaders as partners in comparative clinical effectiveness research on healthy aging. Villages are a 21st-

century structure for community-based supports on aging and this project will strengthen mutual understanding and visioning among Village leaders and researchers toward the design of research that focuses on the outcomes that matter most to older adult Village participants.

“Beyond anecdotal information, little is currently known about the health outcomes associated with belonging to a Village. This research project will be a first step to beginning a dialogue between Villages and the research community that will enable us to better define and understand the impact of Villages on our members.” said Barbara Sullivan, executive director of Village to Village Network.

As Village members and leaders, your opinions are vital. You're invited to join a Zoom discussion group to share your thoughts and experiences. To express interest in participating, email VillagesResearch@rand.org. (As a “thank you” for your time, they will provide qualifying participants a \$50 gift card.) For more information about the Zoom discussion groups, [please see the FAQs here](#).

To learn more about the project, visit VillagesResearch.org.

Annual Giving Campaign Planning

Giving Tuesday falls on November 28th this year. It's time to turn our attention to our end of year fundraising efforts. Below are some tips and tactics from Network for Good to help inspire your supporters and donors during the year-end giving season.



- ✓ The Ultimate Giving Tuesday Checklist
[Download the checklist here.](#)
- ✓ 5 tactics to engage and inspire nonprofit donors this end-of-year fundraising season
[Read more here.](#)
- ✓ Activate Your Board Members This Giving Tuesday webinar on October 24, 10 am PST
[Register for this FREE webinar here.](#)

Upcoming Event

Thursday, 10/19 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Reformas de Medicare en 2024 with Tatiana Fassieux, California Health Advocates hosted by Village of Sonoma Valley.

ENTRATA GRATUITA, preguntas y respuestas & refrescos siguientes

La Luz Center, Booker Hall

17560 Greger Street, Sonoma, CA 95476

[RSVP here.](#)

Thursday, 10/19 3-4 PM

2024 Medicare Reforms & What You Need for Open Enrollment with Tatiana Fassieux, California Health Advocates hosted by Village of Sonoma Valley.

FREE Admission with Q&A and wine reception following.

Sonoma Community Center, Andrews Hall

276 East Napa Street, Sonoma, CA 95476

[RSVP here.](#)

Wednesday, 10/25 10-10:45 AM

Meet your Legislator! Leza Coleman, Legislative Director for the California Commission on Aging will help prepare villages to meet with their state legislators during the fall/winter recess when they will be back in the home office from Sacramento. Updated materials and speaking points will be provided to help with the engagement of your elected officials.

[Register here.](#)

Upcoming Events continued:

Saturday, 11/4 4 PM

Ageism For Everyone with Dr. Paul Nash, Professor in the Leonard Davis School of Gerontology at the University of Southern California and sponsored by Care Connections Network. This talk explores the nature of ageism, what it really means, and what we can do to challenge it.

This is a FREE event with catered dinner to follow.

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

9812 Hamilton Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92646

RSVP to CCNAgingBetter@outlook.com.

See all upcoming events & slides and videos from past events on [our Events page](#).

[Join Village Movement CA](#)

Notices

Have an upcoming event you'd like to open to other villages? Send the information to the newsletter editor: patrick@villagemovementcalifornia.org. 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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