



Patrick Shandrick & Carol Haig | A publication of [Village Movement California](#) | JULY / AUGUST 2024

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## From Patrick Shandrick, VMC Communications Manager



Dear Village Movement California Members,

We've reached a significant milestone in many ways. As we enter July, the midpoint of the year, I'm amazed at what our organization and our villages have already accomplished. It truly feels like the wind is at our backs.

This newsletter contains important information and logistics for our 6th Annual Statewide Conference this September at the West Health Institute, overlooking Torrey Pines and the Pacific Ocean. What an iconic setting for the gathering of our movement!

We've been working diligently to bring you the best programming to support and sustain your village. We've also created numerous opportunities for everyone to connect, share, and discuss—both in meeting settings and over meals. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Don't forget to purchase your conference tickets, book your room while they last, and pack some sunscreen! (Early Bird ticket prices end July 31st, and the preferred room rate block closes on August 12th.)

*From Patrick Shandrick continued:* In other news, following the recent retirement of our beloved Executive Director, Charlotte Dickson, Village Movement California has taken this opportunity to move the organization forward by reimagining our organizational structure. After extensive input from the board and advisors, we're adopting a Co-Executive Director model with shared yet distinct responsibilities. We'll be hiring a Co-Executive Director for Advocacy and Development to partner with Carolyn Ross, who will become Co-Executive Director for Programs and Member Engagement. Special thanks to Carolyn for wearing multiple hats during this transition. [You can find the job description for the new position on our website.](#) Please share it within your network.

I also encourage you to read and share the content of our newsletter. We bring you news from across the Golden State as well as updates from your own beautiful spot in California.

Looking forward,



Patrick Shandrick.

Communications Manager, Village Movement California

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## Across the **Golden State**

### California's Aging Landscape: The Growing Importance of Villages

As we approach 2030, California's demographic landscape is changing dramatically, emphasizing the crucial role of village communities in supporting our aging population.

[According to a recent presentation from the California Department of Aging](#), the state's older adult population will continue to grow, making up an increasingly larger share of California's residents.

- By 2030, 10.8 million older adults will call California home, representing 25% of the population.
- By 2060, adults 60+ are projected to be nearly a third of the state's population, up from 14% in 1980.
- The 80+ age group is expected to grow from 2% in 1980 to about 10% by 2060.

This demographic transformation presents a complex set of opportunities and challenges for our communities. While we celebrate increased longevity, we must also address the evolving needs of our aging population:

# Projected 60+ Population Growth

Age 60+ Population Growth by Region



Region	60+ Population 1980	60+ Population 2020	60+ Population 2060	Percent Change 1980 - 2060
Bay Area	746,530	1,899,779	2,813,658	277%
Central Coast	211,858	553,666	675,919	219%
Los Angeles	1,051,737	2,203,145	2,905,068	176%
Northern / Sierra	170,819	413,170	383,766	125%
Other Southern California	768,108	2,357,135	3,736,250	386%
Sacramento Area	153,527	540,950	809,873	428%
San Joaquin Valley	294,359	776,222	1,206,895	310%

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Source: California Department of Finance (DOF)

In the face of these projections, village are poised to play a pivotal role in supporting California's older adults. Our unique model offers tailored solutions to meet the diverse needs of our aging population:

- Rooted in local communities and cultures.
- Provide personalized, culturally appropriate support.
- Offer a community-based approach to aging services.

Village Movement California remains committed to expanding our network statewide, ensuring every older Californian has access to the community support they need to thrive. Together, we can build a future where aging is celebrated and supported in every community across our diverse state.

## Reporting Medicare Fraud

Did you find something concerning on your Medicare statement? Or maybe you gave someone your Medicare information over the phone. If you think you might have experienced Medicare fraud, please report it! You won't be in trouble, and it will help stop future fraud from happening.



If you suspect Medicare fraud, errors, or abuse, address it immediately by taking these steps:

**Rule out error:** If you have questions about information on a Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) or Explanation of Benefits (EOB), call the provider or plan and ask for an explanation.

**Get help from California Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP):** If you are not comfortable calling the provider or plan or if you are not satisfied with their response, SMP can help you:

- Identify and report fraud schemes and deceptive health care practices, such as illegal marketing or billing for services that were never provided.
- Refer complaints of potential fraud and abuse to the appropriate entity, who can intervene.
- You can report suspected fraud using a new online form here: <https://smpresource.org/you-can-help/report-fraud/>.

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## Engaging Villages as Key Partners for Healthy Aging Research

Over 70 of you attended the California virtual summit on **Engaging Villages as Key Partners for Healthy Aging Research**. The ways Villages can help people age in their communities with greater social connection and better mental and physical health were explored. It was a pleasure to connect with everyone to explore together how research can advance healthy aging with Villages.

Thank you, Village Ambassadors from [Carquinez Village](#), [Pasadena Village](#), and [Westside Pacific Villages](#) who helped organize the virtual CA summit.

*Healthy Aging Research continued:* Later this summer, publicly available recordings from the virtual summits will be made available. In the meantime, please find several resources that we discussed at the event:

- PowerPoint Deck from California Virtual Summit: <https://go.rutgers.edu/CaliforniaPPT>
- Focus group report on healthy aging research with villages: [https://www.villagesresearch.org/files/ugd/a74972\\_b6f6ab369dcf44c4be79ec1b5be91ec8.pdf](https://www.villagesresearch.org/files/ugd/a74972_b6f6ab369dcf44c4be79ec1b5be91ec8.pdf)
- "Engaging Villages as Key Partners for Healthy Aging Research" project website: <https://www.villagesresearch.org>

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## Villages in the News



### **Caring for an Aging US Population—the Good News & the Bad News**

The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) recently highlighted the complex issues surrounding elder care in the US. While acknowledging the challenges, the article also spotlights promising solutions, including the village model. Among the innovative approaches mentioned:

"A growing network of senior villages uses teams of volunteers to assist their aging neighbors by providing transportation, companionship, help with shopping and other services, and links to support services."

This recognition in JAMA underscores the village model's potential to address critical needs in our aging population. Village Movement California is proud to be part of this solution, offering community-based support that enhances the quality of life for older adults across our state.

As we continue to face the challenges of an aging population, the village model stands out as a beacon of hope—a grassroots approach that fosters independence, connection, and well-being among older adults.

**[Read article here.](#)**

# Los Angeles Times

## Can you name 3 not-so-bad things about aging?

Steve Lopez of the Los Angeles Times recently explored the "BOGO" (Benefits of Getting Older), highlighting the connection and community that our villages promote and provide. The article recognizes the growing village movement as a solution to isolation among older adults:

"Isolation has been called a public health epidemic among older adults... Los Angeles Rabbi Laura Geller has established what are known in a growing national movement as 'villages,' in which older adults are linked up to look after one another and find purpose in community causes.

Geller launched [ChaiVillageLA](#), bringing together members of Temple Isaiah and Temple Emanuel... and... there are several dozen such collaborations in California, and you can find one in your region at <https://villagemovementcalifornia.org/find-your-local-village>."

[Read article here.](#)



## Launching soon, Village Encinitas aims to help seniors stay in homes

[Village Encinitas](#) was formed in the spring of 2023 when Encinitas Senior Citizen Commissioner Jesse Hanwit and senior health professionals Amy Stuck and Chris Crowley decided to launch a program that helps seniors where they live.

Village Encinitas has become an officially recognized nonprofit organization. The board has been holding regular meetings with volunteers with the goal of launching next month. Earlier this year, the city of Encinitas awarded Village Encinitas \$1,500 from its community grant program to help with the nonprofit's startup and launch efforts.

[Read article here.](#)

## Village Network of Petaluma celebrated its 10-year anniversary!

[Village Network of Petaluma](#) celebrated its 10-year anniversary, with a “jubilant group” of about 100 members packing the community hall at Petaluma United Methodist Church, where the nonprofit organization has its headquarters.

The group, which officially launched in 2014, began with 20 charter members and 15 volunteers. Today, the local group has 175 members and 100 active volunteers.

[Read article here.](#)

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## Advocacy Update

### Federal Progress: National Plan on Aging

The [Administration for Community Living](#) (ACL) is developing a Strategic Framework for a National Plan on Aging.

- **Active Involvement:** VMC's leadership is collaborating with Village-to-Village Network as part of a taskforce with leaders from across the country to craft a unified response.
- **Advocacy Efforts:** Village advocates are working together to mirror California's successful Master Plan for Aging drafting process, which included Villages as vital partners. By presenting a unified voice and common priorities from across the country, we increase the likelihood of our suggestions being included in the final report.
- **Next Steps:** We are identifying common priorities, many of which are in our [Village Movement Impact Report](#). In the coming weeks, **we will share recommendations and information on how our villages, both as individuals and organizations, can provide stakeholder input.**



# Upcoming Events

Monday, August 12, 9:30AM- 2PM

## **BRAVO Meeting: How can Villages better prepare for emergencies?**

The focus of this meeting for Bay Area villages will be Emergency Preparedness and sharing and connecting. Meeting location: Campbell Hall at 70 Santa Rosa Street, Sausalito. Across from Christ Episcopal Church. For more information, email [triciasmith58@gmail.com](mailto:triciasmith58@gmail.com) or [jjones@nextvillagesf.org](mailto:jjones@nextvillagesf.org)

September

## **Get Ready California! September is National Preparedness Month**

California is a disaster-prone state, known for its wildfires, floods and earthquakes. Being prepared for the next disaster is a necessity, maybe now more than ever, as Californians navigate a year of record-breaking rains as well as heat!



Cal OES encourages all Californians to be prepared for when – not if – the next emergency will occur. National Preparedness Month serves as a reminder to promote family and community disaster planning not just now but throughout the year.

[Visit Listos California for preparedness resources](#)



## **EXPANDING THE POSSIBILITIES**

**SIXTH ANNUAL  
STATEWIDE  
CONFERENCE**

SEPTEMBER 12 & 13  
WEST HEALTH INSTITUTE  
10350 N TORREY PINES RD  
LA JOLLA, CA 92037

[VillageMovementCalifornia.org/Conference2024](https://VillageMovementCalifornia.org/Conference2024)



**We invite you and your organization to join Village Movement California at our 6th Annual Statewide Conference this September in scenic La Jolla, CA.**

THURSDAY-FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 & 13

THE WEST HEALTH INSTITUTE

10350 N TORREY PINES RD, LA JOLLA, CA 92037

Visit our [Conference webpage](#) for the latest updates & information.

### **PURCHASE TICKETS:**

- [Purchase Tickets here](#).
- Early Bird Registration ends July 31st.

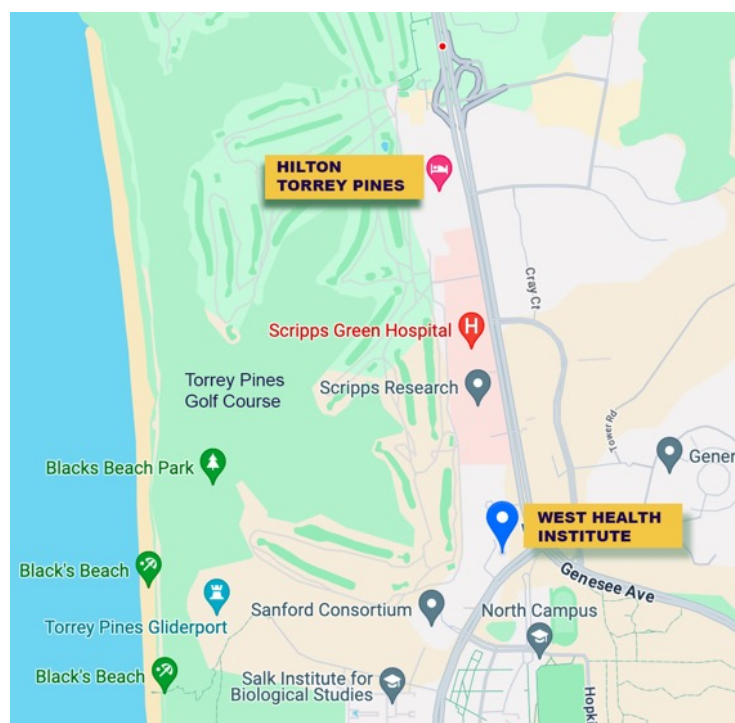
**HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:** We have secured a block of rooms at a preferred rate at the [Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines](#) that overlooks the Torrey Pines Golf Course (with exclusive tee times for hotel guests!) and panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean.

HILTON LA JOLLA TORREY PINES

10950 N TORREY PINES RD, LA JOLLA, CA 92037

- To make your reservation online, visit <https://book.passkey.com/e/50856207>
- You can also make your reservation by calling 877-414-8020 and provide the Group Reservation Code VILLAG to receive the preferred room rate.
- Book soon as rooms are booking, and the room block closes on August 12.

The hotel is a quick drive, easy bus ride or 15-minute walk to the conference location and is convenient to La Jolla Village shops, restaurants, and sightseeing attractions.



## **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:**

Thought leaders in aging will present programs designed to strengthen and sustain our community-based infrastructure of villages that prioritizes the health, independence, and social connectedness of older adults.

THURSDAY 9/12

- 12:30-1 PM CHECK-IN
- 1- 4:30 PM PROGRAM
- 5-6:30 PM HOSTED COCKTAIL RECEPTION AT HILTON LA JOLLA TORREY PINES
- 7-8:30 PM DINE & DISCUSS DINNERS (OPTIONAL & AT GUEST'S EXPENSE)

### **Culturally Affirming Care in our Diverse Communities**

This panel discussion explores caregiving practices, customs, and cultural approaches across California's diverse communities. Representatives will share their experiences in providing culturally sensitive social care and support.

### **Confronting Ageism in Care**

This thought-provoking session explores the pervasive issue of ageism in care and its far-reaching consequences. We will examine how societal preferences for "younger, healthier elders" impact resource allocation, decision-making, and the quality of care for older adults.

FRIDAY, 9/13

- 8:30 - 9AM BREAKFAST & CHECK-IN
- 9AM - 5 PM PROGRAM (LUNCH WILL BE SERVED)

### **Intersection of Healthcare and Social Care**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. Ashwin Kotwal, MD is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in Geriatrics at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. Dr. Kotwal's research focuses on understanding and enhancing social connections of older adults to improve their quality of life and health care access.

### **World Café: Bridging Social Care and Health Care**

World Café is a dynamic format designed to explore crucial questions and foster connections among participants. Through collaborative discussions and idea-sharing, we'll work together to develop innovative strategies that enhance the well-being of individuals within our villages.

Conference Program continued:

### Creating Connections between Villages and the Healthcare Ecosystem

Experts in healthcare and aging from the West Health Institute will discuss the potential for villages to connect with the healthcare ecosystem to promote better mental and physical health outcomes for older adults.

### State of Villages: Charting Our Course Together

Join Interim Executive Director, Carolyn Ross for an inspiring and informative update on the current state and future direction of our village movement.

### Village Accelerator Preview Session

We will be previewing the types of courses offered in our soon to be launched Village Accelerator that will expand village capacity in areas like strategic planning, social care navigation, and overall sustainability.

**HAVE YOUR VILLAGE PARTNER WITH VMC AS A CONFERENCE SPONSOR! [DETAILS HERE.](#)**

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

PARTNER:



CHAMPION:



ADVOCATES:



SUPPORTERS:



FRIEND:

CAROLYN ROSS

Events continued:

Wednesday, October 2, 2:30PM

### Village Directors Round Table

The August Village Executive Director Roundtable, previously scheduled for August 7, has been canceled. The next meeting of the Executive Director Roundtable will be October 2 at 2:30 PM. E-Mail Cassandra Hanrahan at [tierrasantavlg@gmail.com](mailto:tierrasantavlg@gmail.com) for more information.

Tuesday, October 8

### CA for ALL Ages & Abilities: 2024 Master Plan for Aging Day of Action

The 2024 Master Plan for Aging (MPA) Day of Action brings together consumers, aging and disability leaders, and policymakers to elevate the current and future issues that impact older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers. [More information here.](#)



[Join Village Movement CA](#)

## Notices

- Have a contribution to share with other villages? Send to: [patrick@villagemovementcalifornia.org](mailto:patrick@villagemovementcalifornia.org).
- Articles and notices published here are also available for use in your village newsletter.

All newsletters are archived [here](#) | Follow us on social media: [Facebook](#) & [LinkedIn](#)

Our mailing address is: 3220 Fulton Street San Francisco, CA 94118

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