

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH



MAKE YOUR MARK: MAY 2020

Like Medicare and Medicaid the Older Americans Act was passed in 1965 as part of President Lyndon Johnson’s Great Society reforms. This act produced Meals-On-Wheels, in-home services, transportation, legal services, elder abuse prevention and caregivers support.

Nearly five years after it expired, legislation to reauthorize the Act was passed by Congress with unanimous, bipartisan support, signed into law on March 26, 2020. The law provides more money for programs that help millions of older Americans age in their homes and communities through services including meals on Wheels, family caregiver support and transportation.

The month of May has been designated as “Older Americans Month” to celebrate and honor the contributions that older Americans make to our families, communities and society at large. This year is the theme for the May 2020 Older Americans Heritage Month. The theme is a reminder to all that no matter your age you can make your mark!

Stories build community and connect us even when we can’t be physically together. Recalling adventures with childhood friends, that family weekend at the beach, a teacher who helped guide your life, or how you learned you would become a grandparent—all of those stories connect you with your past and the people who have mattered along the way. They help people you love get to know you better and feel closer to you. Looking back at how we got through other tough times can help us manage this challenging time. Sharing what we love about our friends and family members helps them feel stronger and more connected.

Sources:

www.ncpssm.org

www.acl.gov

www.aarp.org

www.acl.gov/oam/2020

Stories can be told over the phone, on the computer, over the backyard fence. They can be told in letters, in pictures, in headlines and photographs collected from newspapers. We don't have to be together to share our stories and build each other up.

We can make a mark on people's lives with the stories we share.



Sources:

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