



THE GLOBAL
AGEING
NETWORK

2022

ANNUAL REPORT



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A Message from the Global Ageing Network Executive Director, Katie Smith Sloan



I am delighted to share the Global Ageing Network’s annual report for 2022. It was a busy year. As we have moved into a new — hopefully, post-pandemic — phase, we have been heavily focused on addressing the challenges that have emerged for providers as a result of COVID-19, preventing against future pandemics, and reforming our social care systems to support a world that is rapidly ageing. Through webinars, roundtables, conferences, and partnerships, we have successfully established a dynamic global conversation on these issues. New members and new countries have joined the Network, adding to the richness of our discussions and the depth of our learning.

We continue to be active in the United Nations, joining other NGOs in pushing for a Convention on the Rights of Older People. We have joined a number of coalitions to ensure that the voice of providers and older persons is heard. I continue to believe that our purpose has never been more important. The perspective we bring is essential to shaping the future — that of organizations and individuals in communities throughout the world delivering services and supports to older adults every day, interacting with families, and identifying innovative approaches. It is a privilege to work alongside so many experts who share our vision and support our mission.

With gratitude and good wishes for a healthy 2023,

Katie Smith Sloan

A Message from Jiri Horecky, Chair, Global Ageing Network



After an exhausting two years of struggling with the COVID-19 pandemic, the long-term care sector and its providers look forward to a return to normal. Yet, the Ukraine war and energy crisis provided them another tough test. The costs of long-term care provision are rising, and national and regional governments are not responding fast enough. Employees are requiring higher salaries that could mitigate the effects of inflation. It's a difficult time with a lot of pressure, especially on the managers of long-term care communities. It is my hope that next year will be marked by a return to a normal economic environment and more attention toward the long-term care sector.

As part of the Global Ageing Network family, we have been growing and welcomed several new members from various countries. We have been working for the sake of our members by organizing many events and meetings, and disseminating important long-term care news. We have worked tirelessly to introduce a unique document in January 2023, a call to governments of the world to reform, reshape, change, or create sustainable and accessible long-term care systems in their countries.

Allow me to wish you all an inspirational and inspiring year 2023,

Jiri Horecky



Who We Are

“The world’s only network of ageing service providers”

The Global Ageing Network (GAN) is an international community of leaders in ageing services, housing, research, technology, and design. We bring together experts from around the world, lead education initiatives, and provide a place for innovative ideas in senior care to be born and shared. We pave the way to improve best practices in aged care so that older people everywhere can lead healthier, safer, and more independent lives. GAN has grown from an idea to a vibrant network spanning nearly 60 countries serving millions of people every day.

GAN is well-situated to become a global force for change in aged care providers. GAN member organizations range from small nursing homes in rural South Africa, to large multi-site faith-based organizations in Australia, to retirement communities in New Zealand, Canada, and the United States, to home care agencies in Ireland and around the world. The diversity of approach, services, cultural influences, and resources adds to the richness of the global network. It affords a tremendous opportunity to expand our thinking and learn from one another.

The core of the Network is made up of regional or country-based associations or organizations whose members are ageing service providers and who realize the importance of global connections in providing care for the elderly — as well as provider organizations, businesses, and other stakeholders. Among them are organizations in Australia, China, Malaysia, Korea, Europe, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Lebanon, Canada, and the United States.

Mission

The Global Ageing Network’s mission is to connect and support care and service providers worldwide to enhance quality of life for ageing.

2022 Highlights

Reports

A “[Cross Cultural Snapshot of the Vaccine Distribution: A Provider Perspective](#)” report, conducted by Dr. Emi Kiyota, detailed key findings and important lessons from aging services providers in 12 countries during the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out. Across countries, vaccine availability was unreliable, prioritization was unclear, and the inequities in access and administration were significant.



**STANDARDS WISE
INTERNATIONAL**
Supporting Excellence in Senior Living
and Human Services

The study was conducted with generous support from StandardsWise International, an Australian-based “thought leader” and champion of quality standards. As David Stevens, President and CEO of StandardsWise International noted, “studies

like this provide a hard body of evidence and context from which to build and, when added to the very practical provider experience, there is much we can learn and act upon.”

Webinars

Creating an Age-Tech Ecosystem

JDC-Eshel, the largest Jewish humanitarian provider organization in the world, provided a modified bootcamp on how to create an **Age-Tech Ecosystem** in July 2022. An age-tech ecosystem includes cross-sectional stakeholders from the government, public, and private sectors who come together to create innovative and adapted solutions to the challenges of aging. JDC-Eshel has been a pioneer in Israel’s entrepreneurship-technological sphere for the past 25 years and has created a successful partnership with the government in developing and implementing services for older adults in Israel. The webinar was sponsored by NJHSA and Selfhelp.



Opening Doors to Aging Services: A LeadingAge Initiative



Members participated in a May 2022 webinar to learn about [LeadingAge’s Opening Doors to Aging Services](#) — a long-term, local-national initiative designed to raise awareness of the aging services sector. LeadingAge represents more than 5,000 nonprofit and mission-driven aging services providers in the United States. Opening Doors to Aging Services guidance and materials are applicable to all provider settings and for organizations of all sizes. To broaden the impact of the work, much of the initiative is publicly available to anyone in the sector. Review the in-depth research and full communications strategy [here](#).

Webinars (continued)

Care Models and Strategies to Dementia Care: An International Perspective

iN2L™ We hosted a webinar in April 2022 focused on care models and strategies to improve dementia care, designed to share what advocates and stakeholders have learned and continue to learn about effective care and support for those living with dementia. [The Roadmap for Investment in Dementia Care](#), created by the Milken Institute and the Alzheimer's Society, offered five opportunity areas where the government, philanthropy, and private capital can improve the quality of life for people living with dementia and their caregivers. With gratitude to our sponsor, iN2L.

Aging in America Webinar Series

Aging in America has been a long-time supporter and friend of the Global Ageing Network and is very familiar with the issues facing providers through its own experience

as well as its work at the United Nations. Aging in America sponsored three interactive and engaging virtual webinars which allowed participants to learn from a panel of experts, connect with one another and share insights.



Aging in America®

Filling the Caregiving Gap: An International Perspective Webinar

We hosted a timely webinar on “Filling the Caregiving Gap,” bringing perspectives from experts from the U.S., Canada, and Ireland in January 2022. Workforce is a global challenge, and the difficulties are particularly acute among frontline staff who provide 80% of the care. It was universally agreed that we need a strategic focus on workforce that is not only country-specific, but global.

“Ageism in Ageing Services: An International Perspective” Webinar

Participants from around the globe joined together in February 2022 in a discussion focused on “Ageism in Ageing Services.” Ageism has become a normal part of our world; it is everywhere, so we no longer see it. Ageism pigeonholes people and assumes how people of a certain age should act and ignores the intersectionality of so many other factors.

The Nursing Home of the Future: An International Perspective Webinar

The final webinar of the series focused on “The Nursing Home of the Future: An international perspective” in March 2022 and highlighted innovative aged care homes of the future.

Peak Association Roundtables

To build strong partnerships across countries and regions, we hosted three roundtables, facilitated by Vic Rayner, CEO of the National Care Forum (United Kingdom) and Joseph Musgrave, CEO of HCCI (Ireland), with leaders of peak associations that are part of our Network. Each has been a substantive, timely and meaningful exchange which yields new insights, ideas, and appreciation for one another.

Member Events and News

Thank you to all our members for your continued support of the Global Ageing Network. We have included a few events from the past year.

Support Older Adults in the Ukraine



As the war in Ukraine continues, our hearts go out to all who are impacted, particularly the older adults whose lives have been upended. Many have been displaced, denied essential services, forced to flee, and separated from loved ones. We support the protection of older adults in the Ukraine and have linked to the [HelpAge International site](#) for further information on how our members are able to help older adults in the Ukraine. Please keep the people of Ukraine in your hearts as the conflict continues.

Dialog Health Study Tour

In partnership with Dialog Health, members were invited to join “The Austrian aged care system” study tour. Study tours provide an ideal forum to inform and educate. Participants visited both public and private cutting-age accommodation facilities, explored the strengths and challenges of the Austrian elder care system, received an overview of its geriatric pathways, and discovered innovations in practice.



International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA)



We were proud to support the International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA) campaign to raise awareness around the impact of ageism on health outcomes and to support the protection of human rights of older persons with mental health conditions. IPA used their platform to highlight both older persons’ mental health, as well as promoting healthy ageing initiatives around the globe through Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Week, October 1-10.

Member Events and News (continued)

Home and Community Care Ireland (HCCI) Awards



**Home & Community
Care Ireland**

In October, HCCI held its annual Home Care Awards in Dublin and LeadingAge President & CEO Katie Smith Sloan participated as a judge for the awards. The HCCI Home Care Awards celebrate the wonderful and vital work of the home care sector that enables the most vulnerable to stay in the safety and comfort of home.

TAFTA

We submitted a video message to support TAFTA's November 2022 launch of its National Elder Abuse Line as an added resource for older adults experiencing elder abuse.



European Ageing Network Care 4.0 Congress



CARE 4.0
change in competence
Leadership Congress

Together, the Austrian Congress for Managers in Work with the Elderly and the Congress of the European Ageing Network (EAN) brought long-term care managers into one international Congress to accomplish three things: strengthen cooperation between leaders of services for older persons in Europe, collectively seek answers to address the challenges confronting stakeholders in the sector, and share solutions.



Jiri Horecky delivered the first plenary keynote talk, "Overview of the most important tasks, goals and activities." Katie Smith Sloan provided an inspiring address citing examples from around the world where aged care organizations are innovating programs and services for older persons.

Global Ageing Network at the LeadingAge Conference

We were excited to see members from Cameroon and Kenya at the 2022 LeadingAge Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado, and Vic Rayner from the United Kingdom introduced the 2023 Global Ageing Conference at one of the plenary sessions and at a LeadingAge Live TV segment.



Member Events and News (continued)

The National Academy of Medicine Global Roadmap for Healthy Longevity



In November, we participated in the National Academy of Medicine’s one-day symposium to explore the recommendations from the [Global Roadmap for Healthy Longevity report](#). The report provides guidance to societies on how to create more years of good health through strengthening their social infrastructure, physical environment, health systems, and opportunities for education, work, and retirement.

United Nations Updates

Call for a Convention at the 12th Session of the UN Open Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWGA)

After two years of limited participation and virtual meetings, the United Nations Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWGA) met in-person in April 2022 for the 12th working group sessions to strengthen the protection of the human rights of older persons. The Global Ageing Network served as an advocate for the interests and needs of our members and actively participated in UN-related events and discussions. NGOs and Member states have called out repeatedly for a legally-binding United Nations Convention on the Rights of Older Persons. The Global Ageing Network supports the development of a Convention.

United Nations International Day of Older Persons (IDOP)

We joined numerous aging organizations in October to celebrate the United Nations [International Day of Older Persons \(IDOP\)](#). The theme for this year was “Digital Equity for All Ages,” highlighting the need for access and connection virtually for older persons. Digital equity is all about a collective effort to democratize technology, and achieving it is a shared responsibility that includes friends and family.



Looking Forward

2023 Global Ageing Conference



The Global Ageing Network is partnering with Scottish Care and the National Care Forum to co-host the [2023 Global Ageing Conference](#) in Glasgow, Scotland, September 7–8. The theme — *Care About Our Future: Global Symposium for Sustainable Care and Support* — will offer an opportunity to explore and debate the urgency of sustainability in every aspect of aged care and support.

Virtual Education and Shared Learning

We have proposed a robust schedule of events for 2023, to include some of the following themes:

- Wellness and aged care
- Management and leadership practices
- Ethical issues
- Models of care
- Housing and supportive service delivery
- Technology aimed at improving care
- Workforce issues
- Continuous quality improvement
- Advance design and operations

Visit our website or contact [Shannon Davis](#) for scheduled events. We welcome panel suggestions and potential sponsors.

Peak Association Roundtables

Joseph Musgrave and his team from HCCI are working on country profiles which assess social care systems and what the future looks like based on conversations with peak association leaders. He hopes that peak associations will contribute to it at future peak association roundtable discussions in 2023.

Board of Directors

Thank you to the Global Ageing Network Board Members who have been extraordinarily generous with their time, wisdom, and support to ensure that the Global Ageing Network remains committed to our mission and vision.

Board Officers

Jiri Horecky, Board Chair

European Ageing Network, Prague,
Czech Republic

Judy Martin, Immediate Past Chair

Director, StandardsWise International,
Hobart/Tasmania, Australia

Femada Shaman, Vice Chair

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Rich Schutt

Providence Life Services,
Illinois, USA

Ken Yang

PASSi,
Philadelphia, USA

Thank you to the Global Ageing Network Team Members

The accomplishments of the past year would not have been achieved without the continuous dedication, expertise, and support from the Global Ageing Network Team. Thank you for all of your hard work over the past year!

Global Ageing Network Team Members

Kevin Bradley
Knowledge Center

Lea Chambers-Johnson
Executive Office

Shannon Davis
Program Director

Christina Carden
Communications & Marketing

Bob Lagoyda
Knowledge Center

Mia Mullen
Executive Office

Katie Smith Sloan
Executive Director



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Contact Information

We hope that you will share your innovative ideas — proven or promising — with us, so that we can, in turn, share with others. Tell us the challenges you are facing; perhaps we can match it with an innovative solution.

Interested in joining the Global Ageing Network?

Please visit our membership page to learn about the benefits of becoming a member.

Have a question or idea to share?

Please contact Shannon Davis at sdavis@globalageing.org.

To learn more about our events and activities, please continue to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, or visit our website at: globalageing.org.



***Learn & connect with
a global community
of leaders and
experts in the field.***





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