

From: NCOA Week <newsletters@ncoa.org>

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Subject: Happy Older Americans Month!

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## Tell us how you #AgeOutLoud!

We're celebrating Older Americans Month by showcasing the joys of aging. You have a unique perspective on aging, and you're invited to add to our conversation on Facebook. We'll share some of our favorites as separate posts!

**Join the conversation**

*May 2, 2017*

## **Straight Talk for Seniors®: FY17 budget cuts funding for two senior programs**

This week, Congress is expected to approve a final FY17 appropriations bill to keep the government funded through Sept. 30, but with significant cuts to two critical programs for seniors—the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) and the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). The bipartisan funding package is a strong indicator of which programs will face even deeper cuts when Congress turns its attention to FY18 funding this summer.

[Read our summary](#) | [Download our funding table](#)

## **One woman's economic recovery through SCSEP**

The future isn't ever certain, as Patti Miller found out. She is educated, had a good job, and a nice home, but a string of bad luck and economic challenges took it all away. As she told us recently, she found help in a lot of places, but the true lifesaver was SCSEP. "I don't think I'd be alive today without it."

[Share Patti's story](#)

## **5 strategies to fight senior center budget cuts**

State budget season brings threats and challenges over senior center funding. If your senior center doesn't have an advocacy campaign to spread the word about the value you bring to your community, now is the time to start.

[See what we recommend](#)

*Coming up...*

- **Senior Centers 2017 Preconference Webinar:** Get your logistical and programmatic questions answered in preparation for our exclusive annual NISC conference. *May 4 @ 2 p.m. ET*
- **A Spotlight on Older Adults and Behavioral Health:** Join this webinar for an update on the latest national data on depression, suicide, and substance abuse or misuse among older Americans. *May 18 @ 2-3 p.m. ET*

### ***In case you missed it...***

- **New research shows need for information about home equity products:** Despite 60-80% of an older homeowner's net worth being in their home's equity, most people do not see tapping that equity as a strategy for creating greater retirement security.
- **Discount rates for Senior Centers 2017 end May 11:** The only national conference for senior center professionals is meeting near Chicago from June 13-16. Register before the early bird rate is gone!
- **Use the tool that's helped millions of people find billions in benefits:** Use NCOA's BenefitsCheckUp® tool and recommend it to seniors who want confidential and comprehensive information about benefits programs tailored to their circumstances.

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