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Subject: Fighting poverty and advancing equity on many fronts

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Justice in Aging Highlights Poverty Among Hispanic Older Adults

At the end of October, Executive Director Kevin Prindiville attended the National Hispanic Council on Aging's 2015 [Capitol Hill Briefing and Advocacy Day](#) where he spoke on senior poverty and the disparities faced by the Hispanic community.

National Disability Forum

On November 20, Senior Staff Attorney Kate Lang spoke at the [Social Security Administration's National Disability Forum](#). The topic was "The Realities of Work for Individuals with Disabilities: Impact of Age, Education, and Work Experience." Presenters and audience members had the opportunity to share their thoughts on the advanced notice of proposed rulemaking regarding the vocational factors of age, education, and work experience in the adult disability determination process, which SSA published in the [Federal Register on September 14th](#). Kate spoke about three cases in which she represented older adults

in claims for Social Security disability benefits. The cases illustrated the importance of the vocational factor of age when SSA evaluates the applications of individuals with multiple, chronic medical conditions.

California Coalition Pushes Governor to Restore Cuts to State's SSI Supplement

On November 9, [Californians for SSI](#), a coalition of hunger, aging, disability, housing, and anti-poverty advocates, of which Justice in Aging is part, came together for a statewide Day of Action to highlight the need to restore cuts made to the state's supplement to the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. Funds cut during the recession have not been reinstated—despite a growing state economy and rapidly increasing housing costs—leaving some of California's most vulnerable citizens living below the poverty line. The events showcased the stories of SSI recipients in their daily struggle to survive and were well-attended by lawmakers and community members.

Health Team Submits Comments to Help Increase Health Equity

Last month Justice in Aging submitted extensive [comments on a proposed rule](#) under Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, which seeks to address discrimination in health care settings, including new provisions to address language access, gender identity discrimination, and access for individuals with disabilities. While the proposed regulations from the Department of Health and Human Services include many important protections, they leave some glaring gaps that remain to be addressed. For example, the rule excludes Medicare Part B providers from important civil rights mandates. Learn more about Justice in Aging's recommendations from [our blog](#) or by reading the full [comment letter](#).

Advocacy Starts at Home—Fun, Storytelling, and Inspiration

More than 100 partners and guests joined us in Washington, DC on November 12 for our event, Advocacy Begins at Home. We honored Lynn Friss Feinberg from AARP's Public Policy Institute with the Paul Nathanson Distinguished Advocate Award for her inspiring work on behalf of family caregivers. During the program, guests watched [this video](#) about Sadie, a 91 year old woman who had to fight too hard for her health care. Sorry you missed it? You can get a taste of the event by viewing the [photos on our website](#) or [Facebook page](#). We hope to see you at our next event in San Francisco in April. Stay tuned!

National Academy of Social Insurance Welcomes Kate Lang

We are proud to announce that the [National Academy of Social Insurance](#) has welcomed Justice in Aging attorney Kate Lang as a member. The mission of the Academy is to advance solutions to challenges facing the nation by increasing public understanding of how social insurance contributes to economic security. Membership in the Academy is achieved through member nominations and is an honor for those who have made significant contributions in the field. Upon becoming a member, Kate said "I am very pleased to be joining the membership of this august institution. I look forward to contributing to the Academy's activities."

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