Older Driver Safety Awareness Week 2023 Talking Points

During Older Driver Safety Awareness Week and throughout the year, you may have the opportunity to meet with older drivers, their family members/caregivers, and others in your community to engage in addressing traffic safety for older adults. Use these talking points to promote older driver safety in your community.

- Continued community participation is a key element to healthy aging, according to a recent public health study¹. As older adults move through the aging process, their transportation needs may change. Supporting an aging friendly community ensures the older adult population is able to work toward safe mobility whether driving, walking, bicycling, or using alternate transportation.
- Proactive transportation planning is the key to maintaining safe mobility
 whether driving or not. The Clearinghouse for Older Road User Safety
 (ChORUS) Transportation Planning Tool helps you get started by
 providing a personalized to do list with associated resources based on
 your responses to a quick and easy questionnaire. (Note: Comprehensive
 assessments should be performed by a driver rehabilitation specialist to
 determine driving fitness.)
- Walking and biking are not only healthy activities and alternatives to driving, but also a great way to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Learn how to improve your safety on the road when walking or biking.
- Find the transportation options available in your state for older adults and consider improving options so that older adults can stay connected in their community.
- Help an older adult start their transportation plan by using the ChORUS guides and information.
- If you are an older driver or family member, [insert your organization name here] encourage(s) you to talk about driving safety. CHORUS offers material on how to continue to drive safely as you age.

For more information on older driver safety, visit <u>www.roadsafeseniors.org</u>. Resources

¹ Gough, C., Lewis, L.K., Barr, C. et al. (2021). Community participation of community dwelling older adults: a cross-sectional study. BMC Public Health, 21, 612

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