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Elderly Falls



Progress Report

The National Falls Free™ Initiative, working collaboratively to affect change

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Abstract

Introduction

Since 2004 the National Council on Aging (NCOA) has been working in collaboration with a growing number of national, state, and local organizations through the Falls Free® Initiative to address the growing public health issue of falls and fall-related injuries among older adults. Through collaborative leadership, evidence-based interventions, practical lifestyle adjustments, and community partnerships we are working to reduce the number of older adult falls.

Impact on industry

The many activities of the national and state coalitions have brought recognition to the issue of fall prevention, education, and training to providers and greater investment in programs and services resulting in tremendous momentum and community activism. While we have yet to realize an impact on rates of falls, this strategic investment in building the infrastructure needed to affect change is the first step toward reducing the growing number of falls among older adults.

Keywords

Fall Prevention; Coalitions; Collaborative leadership; Evidence-Based Programs; National Action Plan

There are no figures or tables for this document.



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Lynn Beattie, Vice President for Injury Prevention, National Council on Aging is working on many national projects to reduce falls and fall related injuries in older adults. Most notably she is leading the Falls Free™ Initiative and coordinating the activities of the National Falls Free® Coalition and its many working groups, including the 38 member State Coalitions on Fall Prevention Workgroup Learning Network.

Lynn has her undergraduate degree in health and physical education, and masters degrees from Baylor University in both physical therapy and in health care administration. In 1998 she completed the master's level, gerontology certificate program at the University of Maryland.