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**Lifescape Community Services Receives Grant**

**to Help Older Adults Get Vaccinated**

**Rockford, IL** – The [National Council on Aging](http://www.ncoa.org) (NCOA) has awarded Lifescape Community Services a $130,000 grant as part of a COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccine Uptake Initiative this year. The vaccine initiative is supported with funding from the Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The grant will support Lifescape’s work in making it as easy as possible for older adults and people with disabilities to get their updated vaccinations and protect their health. Lifescape will use the funds to reach older adults ages 60+ and adults ages 18+ with disabilities with trusted information and support getting to vaccine appointments.

The organization will also host vaccine clinics, with the first one scheduled for Tues., April 25 from 9-11 am at Lifescape’s offices located at 705 Kilburn Ave. in Rockford. Transportation to the vaccine clinic will be available for those in need of a ride.

Today, nearly [nine out of 10 deaths from COVID-19](https://ncoa-my.sharepoint.com/personal/simona_combi_ncoa_org/Documents/Desktop/Programs) are among people 65 and over, and [70-85% of seasonal flu-related deaths](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/burden/past-seasons.html) occur in older adults, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. While lifesaving vaccines are available, research shows COVID-19 vaccine uptake has slowed among older adults. Thanks to this grant, Lifescape will organize a robust vaccination program to address this challenge in Rockford and Winnebago County.

“As one of the leading agencies serving older adults in the Rockford area, Lifescape is uniquely positioned to reach those most vulnerable to COVID-19 and the flu and provide opportunities for them to receive needed vaccinations,” said Joy Drysdale, Lifescape’s program services director. “We have the ability to provide rides to vaccination clinics, deliver vaccinations to home-bound individuals, and educate the community through program outreach.”

For more information about Lifescape Community Services and the COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccine Initiative, please call 815-963-1609.

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***About Lifescape Community Services***

Lifescape Community Services is a comprehensive regional agency empowering older adults to choose lives of independence and dignity. Based in Rockford, Lifescape provides services in a nine-county area in northwestern Illinois, including Winnebago, Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson and Whiteside Counties. The agency serves thousands of older adults each year through its Meals on Wheels, Adult Day, Senior Choice, and Senior Mental Health Programs; Adult Protective Services; Comprehensive Care Coordination; Health & Wellness classes; Transportation Services; and AmeriCorps Seniors’ Retired Seniors Volunteer Program. Learn more at: [www.lifescapeservices.org](http://www.lifescapeservices.org).

***About the National Council on Aging***

The National Council on Aging (NCOA) is the national voice for every person’s right to age well. NCOA believes that how we age should not be determined by gender, color, sexuality, income, or ZIP code. Working with thousands of national and local partners, NCOA provides resources, tools, best practices, and advocacy to ensure every person can age with health and financial security. Founded in 1950, NCOA is the oldest national organization focused on older adults. Learn more at [www.ncoa.org](https://u7061146.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=TeZUXWpUv-2B6TCY38pVLo9mFi7wYXudmIp6-2FkdY8LKbg-3DW5_a_Z4nllQV2sLbvIe2xKPPf8mmwCKGLOx7rW4eectdAkk1FRau0gV4E2YT3aIM7G8Q6bpOoHuITUtCLdmK5QsaEV-2BygxNDRnisy-2FnL3vIWpV3AnspewKLU-2FSS2yAGrkCN9Stn-2FsKCO6gKdxJkGj0DG0Q4Ir7jtoaubarpG8CPO2rsPJnOmK6-2B3S8eTtTtPxwrJw-2FfxCwclC56uYxv1yXk0iELsQxOWNzXunwNzLFOOJEx8YZdOLxGE2oYGZ8Ql4ynSnmiOvHV-2FWIRZYMTDYcf52WSNYrJZQ-2FOdft9lbm8Bl-2F4gCligckYx8ArGPn8AXoim3YsgeeVTKtbOTy0OxKy93cuv3geUqh5k8igrFAnK3xg4-3D) and [@NCOAging](https://u7061146.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=4tNED-2FM8iDZJQyQ53jATUUd3e-2B-2FeWUceIA0jBdftqH1AGJYabgI803NriTNFWeA-2B6YGk_Z4nllQV2sLbvIe2xKPPf8mmwCKGLOx7rW4eectdAkk1FRau0gV4E2YT3aIM7G8Q6bpOoHuITUtCLdmK5QsaEV-2BygxNDRnisy-2FnL3vIWpV3AnspewKLU-2FSS2yAGrkCN9Stn-2FsKCO6gKdxJkGj0DG0Q4Ir7jtoaubarpG8CPO2rsPJnOmK6-2B3S8eTtTtPxwrJw-2FfxCwclC56uYxv1yXk0iEHHGB-2FKW7z2nU9HJzpcoDSbz1aOoEP8ql-2BSOUvjIvdyaIlBQ4oK7GvheeO1OpfDw3pW-2FWMZ1pNdvvaN282oH-2Bs7j3J-2BouESxzK-2FpnvBDVAgccOBebYvpyiv1RJDnOui14Wj-2B5rAN5vaErR-2FvFXvNV9k-3D).