Reframing Digital Skills for Older Adults:

Workforce, Wellness & Inclusion













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Why This Matters

Stats & Rationale

- Nearly 1 in 5 adults aged 65+ are working or want to re-enter the workforce
- Older workers report frequent ageism and digital exclusion
- Tech is essential: remote jobs, benefit platforms, telehealth, and lifelong learning









Barriers & Gaps

Challenges We Must Name

- Digital stigma and self-doubt
- Accessibility issues (font size, hearing, cognitive load)
- Fragmented services
- Few workforce programs target older adults













What's Already Working

Promising Models

- Senior Planet's job training & Al literacy series
- Local library drop-in labs for older adults
- UME's Marylanders Online digital navigator program
- AoA-funded aging & tech pilots









Call to Action – Partner + Fund

Next Steps

- Coordinate across workforce, aging, and digital equity
- Leverage funding:
 - MD Digital Opportunity Grants
 - Workforce Pathways for Older Workers (US DOL)
 - AoA Telehealth & Lifelong Learning grants
 - ARPA/HHS Aging & Disability funds
- Invite: Join a follow-up workgroup or drop your email in chat













Discussion

- What health technology or telehealth access challenges do you see among older adults?
- Have you integrated digital skills training into any health-related programming?
- What workforce-related goals are your older clients aiming for?
- What would a supportive, age-inclusive digital training model look like?









Next Steps

• Register for <u>upcoming webinars</u>



Recording of Webinar 1: <u>Digital Opportunity Grant Basics</u>

Join the MDEC mailing list: <u>Join MDEC Mailing List</u>



Thank you!











The Helpline

- Computers, tablets, and cell phones
- Getting on the Internet or Wifi
- Finding digital skills classes and training
- Self-guided digital skills learning
- Applying for government services
- Digital navigator resources
- Advancing digital inclusion in your community

Call toll-free 1-866-206-8467

Email MarylandersOnline@umd.edu

Mönday-Friday 10 AM - 8 PM, Saturday 10 AM - 5PM

Tech Support Helpline

Monday to Friday

10 AM to 8 PM

Saturday

10 AM to 5 PM

Call 301-405-9810

Toll-Free 1-866-206-8467

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