



2020 Optimal Aging Conference Postponed

New Date: Sunday, June 28 – Tuesday, June 30

After careful consideration and consultation, the University of Louisville Trager Institute and Kentucky Association for Gerontology have decided to **postpone** the Optimal Aging Conference, due to the concern of COVID-19 virus spread. The rescheduled dates for the 2020 Optimal Aging Conference are Sunday, June 28 – Tuesday, June 30.

The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11, 2020. The heightened level of concern around this virus and implementation of protocols to prevent its spread influenced our decision to postpone.

Many decisions and directives have been provided to the citizens of Kentucky from the Governor of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, and the Mayor of Louisville concerning limiting and canceling large public gatherings. More information has been provided by the CDC and other public health professionals concerning COVID-19, how it spreads, and the need to practice social distancing. Coming together in large gatherings is not ideal while we are amid this crisis. Given this event's connection to older adults as presenters and attendees, the conference planning committee feels a particular level of responsibility to act out of an abundance of caution.

We will provide detailed information within the next few days concerning the conference to presenters, exhibitors, sponsors, and participants. This information will include refund policies and any other contingencies necessary for the postponing of the conference. Our goal is to provide as seamless a transition to our new date as possible for all our constituents. If you have questions, please contact the conference co-chairs: Barbara Gordon barbara.gordon@louisville.edu and Natalie Pope natalie.pope@louisville.edu.

As many of you are aware, the COVID-19 pandemic impact in the United States is very fluid. Our leadership team will continue to monitor the situation closely. We will share any future event updates as deemed necessary to ensure the safety of our attendees and extended community. Please continue to follow our website and social media accounts for further updates.

In the meantime, check with your health care provider if you feel you have COVID-19 symptoms. For more information, call the Kentucky COVID-19 Hotline at 1-800-722-5725.

