

March 7, 2025

Matthew J. Memoli, MD, MS
Acting Director
National Institutes of Health
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

RE: Rescheduling January Meeting of the National Advisory Council on Aging (NACA)

Delivered via e-mail to: matthew.memoli@nih.gov

Dear Acting Director Memoli,

The undersigned 13 organizations urge the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to **reschedule the canceled January meeting of the National Advisory Council on Aging (NACA) as soon as possible.**

The meeting was originally scheduled on January 28-29, 2025. According to the NACA website, "all Federal advisory committee meetings have been canceled until further notice."

Approving research grant applications, assessing training programs, and recommending funding for groundbreaking aging research are fundamental to NACA's mission. Canceling these meetings delays vital, lifesaving research that could improve well-being across the lifespan. Research from the National Institute on Aging (NIA) has contributed to increased life expectancy and a longer, healthier life. **Continued investment in aging research is more critical than ever.**

Aging is the greatest risk factor for many chronic diseases—including Alzheimer's, heart disease, and diabetes—making research in this field essential to improving health outcomes nationwide. Beyond the biological aspects, studying aging also provides valuable insights into the psychosocial factors that shape quality of life, social engagement, and mental well-being. Understanding these dynamics is crucial to ensuring that people not only live longer but also thrive in their later years. These research and training grants are both necessary and highly valued.

We strongly urge you to promptly reschedule the canceled January meeting of the National Advisory Council on Aging (NACA).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact James Appleby, CEO of the Gerontological Society of America at jappleby@geron.org or Patricia D'Antonio, Vice President, Policy and Professional Affairs at pdantonio@geron.org.

Sincerely,

Gerontological Society of America
Alliance for Aging Research
American Academy of Neurology
American Federation for Aging Research
American Geriatrics Society
American Society on Aging
Association of Population Centers
Cure Alzheimer's Fund
Lewy Body Dementia Association
National Alliance for Caregiving
Paint Clover Purple
Population Association of America
UsAgainstAlzheimer's