

JUSTICE IN AGING

FIGHTING SENIOR POVERTY THROUGH LAW

Post Election Implications for Older Adults

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Agenda

- Introductions/Housekeeping
- Federal Election Results
- What's at Stake for Older Adults
- Opportunities & Priorities
- Question & Answer

Housekeeping

- All on mute. Use Questions function for substantive questions and for technical concerns.
- Problems with getting on to the webinar? Send an e-mail to trainings@justiceinaging.org.
- Find materials for this training and past trainings by searching the [Resource Library, justiceinaging.org/resource-library](https://justiceinaging.org/resource-library). A recording will be posted to Justice in Aging's Vimeo page at the conclusion of the presentation, vimeo.com/justiceinaging.

Justice in Aging

Justice in Aging is a national organization that uses the power of law to fight senior poverty by securing access to affordable health care, economic security, and the courts for older adults with limited resources.

Since 1972 we've focused our efforts primarily on fighting for people who have been marginalized and excluded from justice, such as women, people of color, LGBTQ individuals, and people with limited English proficiency.

To achieve Justice in Aging, we must:

- Acknowledge systemic racism and discrimination
- Address the enduring negative effects of racism and differential treatment
- Promote access and equity in economic security, health care, and the courts for our nation's low-income older adults
- Recruit, support, and retain a diverse staff and board, including race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and presentation, sexual orientation, disability, age, economic class



Federal Election Results & Transition

Federal Election Outcomes

- Biden projected to win presidency
- Senate results pending
- Democrats retain narrow majority in House

Biden-Harris Transition

- Biden-Harris Transition Priorities
 - COVID-19
 - Economic Recovery
 - Racial Equity
 - Climate Change
- COVID-19 Task Force
 - No aging, disability, or LTSS experts
- Agency Review Teams



What's At Stake for Older Adults

COVID-19

Building for the Future



Federal Opportunities & Priorities

COVID-19 Relief

Ensure lawmakers include support for low-income older adults and people with disabilities in the next COVID-19 legislative relief package

- Center racial equity and require comprehensive and intersectional data collection
- Fund Medicaid and targeted increases to Medicaid HCBS
- Expand and ease access to stimulus payments, housing, and homelessness prevention, and increase SNAP benefits
- Enhance funding for senior legal services

Health Equity: Administrative Priorities

- Center equity
- Prioritize low-income older adults in COVID-19 response
- Reverse harmful rules & waivers
- Expand & improve access to benefits

Health Equity: Legislative Priorities

- Support legislation to center equity
- Expand access to HCBS by making Medicaid a required benefit
- Strengthen Medicare

Economic Security: Administrative Priorities

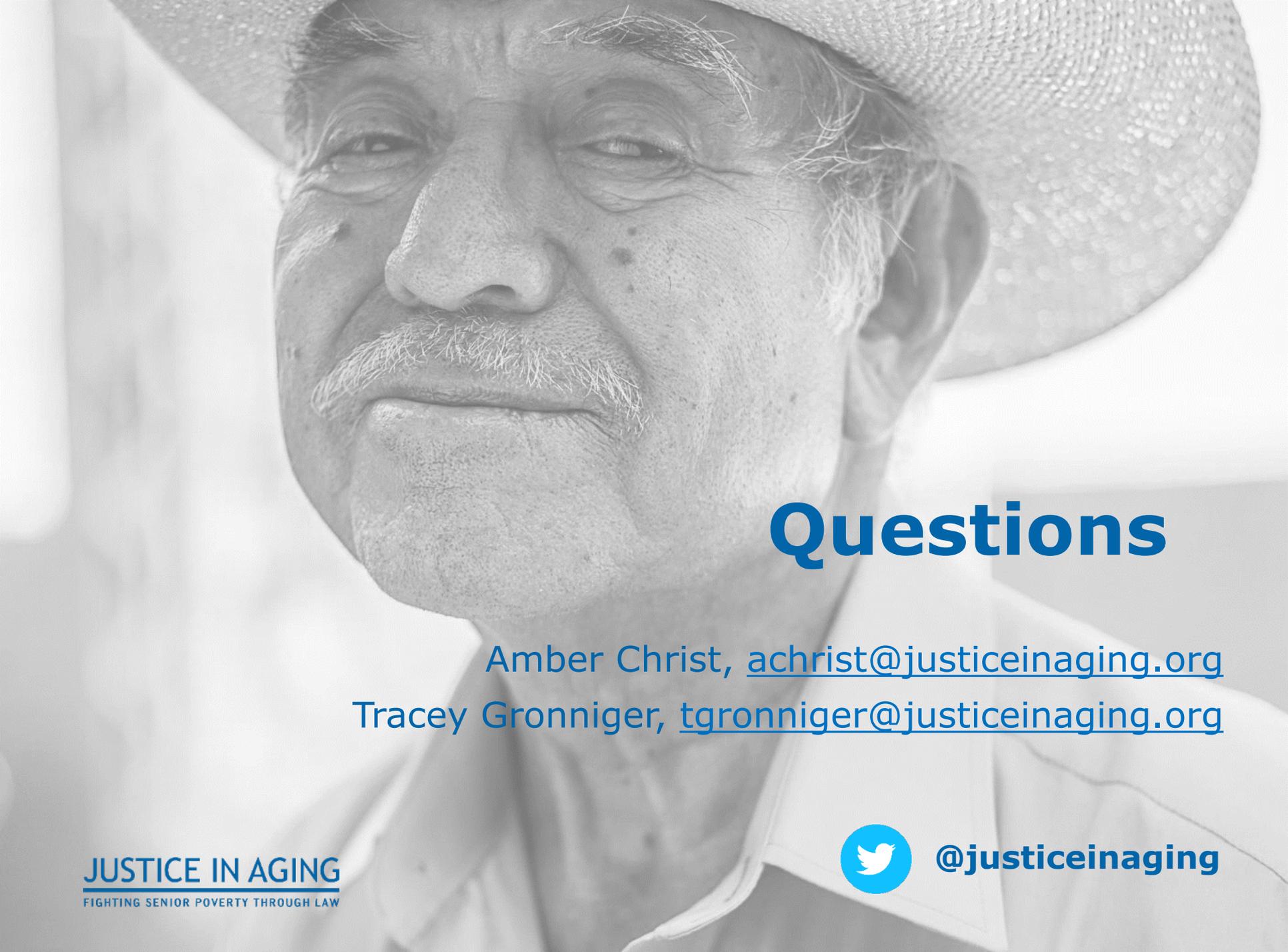
- Advocate for improved outreach from SSA to low-income communities to assist those eligible for, or in danger of losing, SSDI and SSI benefits.
- Reverse harmful SSA regulations that increase the likelihood that people will lose, or be unable to obtain, Social Security Disability Insurance or SSI benefits for which they are eligible.
- Advocate on behalf of claimants who are unable to engage with SSA to ensure that people are not losing, or unable to access, benefits.

Economic Security: Legislative Priorities

- Protect and expand Social Security—increase benefits, especially for low-income beneficiaries, and make the Social Security Trust funds solvent.
- Modernize the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, through the SSI Restoration Act or other proposals, so that it more effectively helps those who are unable to earn enough to meet their basic needs.
- Increase SSA funding to allow the agency to provide critical services to claimants and beneficiaries

Justice in Aging Resources

- [COVID-19 Advocacy & Resources](#)
- [What Older Adults Need from Congress](#)
- [10-Year Check-Up: The Affordable Care Act Has Enhanced Access to Quality Health Care for Low-Income Older Adults](#)
- [8 Recommendations for Health Plans Serving Dually Eligible Individuals to Center Equity: An Overdue and Necessary Response to COVID-19](#)



Questions

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