What are our priorities?
The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) National Center for Productive Aging and Work (NCPAW) works with partners in industry, labor, trade associations, professional organizations, and academia. NCPAW seeks to advance the safety, health, and well-being of an aging workforce.

What do we do?
• Conduct research in the areas of:
  — Health effects and mechanisms of aging,
  — Evidenced-based practices and interventions, and
  — Use and improvement of surveillance methods.
• Use research findings to develop a broad range of products (e.g. workplace solutions, videos, infographics) for workers, organizations, and sectors where aging issues are important.
• Build and foster partnerships with a range of outside stakeholders, including academia, government, non-governmental organizations, labor, professional organizations, and industry.
• Engage in communication and outreach efforts with outside partners to enhance the impact of NCPAW research and products.

What have we accomplished?
• Conducted the first annual Productive Aging and Work webinar with the NIOSH Total Worker Health® program. The webinar was titled Productive Aging and Work: Theory, Health Data, and Practical Solutions. Approximately 435 individuals attended the webinar.
• Initiated a new four-year project to develop Workplace Solutions to prevent work-related musculoskeletal disorders among construction workers in different age groups.
• Initiated collaborations with international partners who share an interest in healthy aging and work including: European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (NCPAW invited to give conference presentation), Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Canadian Institute for the Relief of Pain and Disability (invited to give webinar presentation), Institut de recherche Robert-Sauvé en santé et en sécurité du travail.
• Provided technical support and expertise on the aging workforce for NIOSH studies on (a) aging immigrant building cleaners, and (b) generational differences in manufacturing workers.
• Conducted outreach on the concept of productive aging in occupational safety and health through several presentations at professional conferences and for external partners.

What’s next?
• Analyze workers’ compensation data and conduct focus groups on construction workers’ experiences with musculoskeletal disorders across age groups.
• Host an annual webinar on the concept of productive aging in order to increase awareness of NCPAW among stakeholders.
• Develop and publish fact sheets on productive aging and designing age-friendly workplaces.
• Conduct a needs assessment of the most pressing needs in research and translation to benefit older workers and their employers.
• Analyze publicly available datasets [Health Retirement Study (HRS), National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)] and publish key findings on emerging trends in the health and occupational safety of aging workers.

To learn more, visit https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/productiveaging/default.html