COVID-19 has forced community-dwelling older adults to rely on family members and care partners more than ever before for support. Often at the expense of their own health and well-being, family members and care partners help older adults manage physical and psychosocial needs, navigate a complex, ever-changing healthcare system, and follow public health guidelines. Given the increasing demands and poor outcomes, there is no better time than now to develop policies and practices that better recognize and support family members and care partners of older adults. To inform policy and practice development, this symposium will present findings from a literature review of peer-reviewed studies published from 2019 through 2021 that identifies and addresses challenges and opportunities related to caregiving for an older adult in a pandemic. The experiences of the past year demonstrate that the new normal needs to recognize and support family members and care partners.

Session 3105 (Symposium)

RE-ENVISIONING AGING IN THE RIGHT PLACE TO DISRUPT HOMELESSNESS FOR OLDER PEOPLE
Chair: Rachel Weldrick Co-Chair: Sarah Canham
Discussant: Joyce Weil

Recent developments in the aging-in-place literature have recognized the significance of aging-in-the-right-place. That is, aging in a place that supports an individual’s unique values, vulnerabilities, and lifestyles. This symposium will build upon existing research by critically examining the potential for older persons with experiences of homelessness (OPEH) and/or housing insecurity to age-in-the-right-place. Presenters will include interdisciplinary researchers with a diversity of perspectives stemming from gerontology, social work, and environmental design. The symposium will begin with Weldrick and Canham presenting a conceptual framework for aging-in-the-right-place that has been developed to outline indicators relevant to OPEH and housing-insecure older people. Elkes and Mahmood will then discuss findings from a study of service providers working with OPEH to consider the relative benefits and challenges of temporary housing programs. Following, Brais and colleagues will present findings from an environmental audit, developed as a novel assessment tool to evaluate the accessibility and physical design of housing programs for OPEH. A final presentation by Kaushik and Walsh will highlight findings from a photovoice study on perspectives of aging-in-the-right-place among OPEH during the Covid-19 pandemic. Joyce Weil, an expert in measurement of person-place fit and life course inequalities, will discuss the implications of these papers and reflect on the potential for the aging-in-the-right-place framework to address the diverse needs of the growing population of OPEH through policy and practice. Together, the participants of the symposium will advance this emerging scholarship using a wide range of methods and perspectives.

AGING IN THE RIGHT PLACE? PHOTOVOICE WITH OLDER ADULTS RESIDING IN SHELTERS DURING COVID-19
Jill Hoselton Christine Walsh, and Vibha Kaushik, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Aging in the right place (AIRP) involves supporting older adults to live as long as possible in their homes and communities, recognizing that where an older person lives impacts their ability to age optimally and must match their unique lifestyles and vulnerabilities. Photovoice, a participatory action research strategy, allows people to document their experiences through photography, promoting critical dialogue about issues such as AIRP and rights-based housing. This presentation highlights the concept of AIRP from the perspectives of a diverse group of older adults living in promoting practices shelters in Vancouver, Montreal, and Calgary, Canada using photovoice. Findings indicate that the process promoted a sense of empowerment among participants. Insights about older adults’ perceptions of AIRP residing in shelters to best meet their intersectional identities, housing, and support needs will be shared. Findings inform policy initiatives that promote AIRP and the right to adequate housing for older adults experiencing homelessness.

EVALUATING SPACES FOR OLDER ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS: FINDINGS FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT
Emilie Cormier,1 Diandra Serrano,2 Atiya Mahmood,3 Tamara Sussman,2 Valérie Bourgeois-Guerin,1 and Hannah Brais,4 1. Université du Québec à Montréal, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, 2. McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, 3. Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, 4. Old Brewery Mission, Old Brewery Mission, Quebec, Canada

Homeless populations require spaces and services that take into account their life trajectories. The Aging in the Right Place - Environmental Checklist (AIRP-ENV) is an environmental audit tool developed by our team to evaluate the
accessibility and overall design features of housing targeted for aging individuals experiencing homelessness. Researchers in Vancouver, Calgary and Montreal employed this tool in 2021 to evaluate environmental features in selected promising practices to identify built environment factors that promote aging in the right place. Preliminary findings reveal the following themes across sites: access to communal and recreational spaces encourage social inclusion and meaningful recreation opportunities; barrier-free built environment features foster independence and safety; and access to services and amenities encourage community mobility. Findings demonstrate a need to employ a broader evaluative lens that incorporates psycho-social factors to gain a nuanced understanding of aging in the right place for older adults who have experienced homelessness.

TEMPORARY HOUSING FOR OLDER PEOPLE: ADDRESSING HOUSING INSECURITY TO PROMOTE AGING IN THE RIGHT PLACE
Atiya Mahmood, Holly Lemme, Gelareh Modara, Emily Lam, Maria Juanita Mora, Sarah Canham, and Shelby Elkes, 1. Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, 2. University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, United States

The Aging in the Right Place (AIRP) project is a multi-year, multi-city partnership grant on aging, housing insecurity and homelessness. This paper presents findings from provider/staff interviews (N=5) at a Temporary Housing Program (THP) serving older people experiencing (or at risk of) homelessness (OPEH) in Vancouver, Canada. The researchers sought to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the program, scale-up (i.e., policies) and/or scale out impacts (i.e., on people and communities), as well as how the program promotes housing security and stability for OPEH. Narrative data reveals the program provided housing stability to OPEH by offering increased access to resources (food, pharmaceutical, transportation, social support and engagement). Additionally, through the promotion of client autonomy, privacy and security in their housing unit, the organization and staff work to support and foster AIRP among their clients and help to transform a temporary housing space into a secure home-type setting.

Session 3110 (Symposium)

SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT AND WELL-BEING AMONG CHINESE OLDER ADULTS
Chair: Wei Zhang Co-Chair: Bei Wu Discussant: Yan Yan Wu

Social engagement is increasingly recognized as a protective factor to promote healthy aging. This symposium provides new findings on social participation and social isolation in relation to individuals’ health and well-being among the Chinese populations. Using the 2002–2018 Chinese Longitudinal Healthy Longevity Survey, the first study examined the trends of leisure activity engagement among young-old adults aged 65–74 in China over a 16-year period. Findings revealed a general downward trend of engaging in any form of social leisure activity and upward trends for engaging in home-bound and solitary leisure activities. Similarly, the second study examined social participation patterns and individual factors associated with these patterns using three nationally representative data in China, UK, and US. Their findings highlighted several underlying participation patterns across these nations as well as differences in how socio-demographics were associated with these patterns. Using data collected among Chinese older adults in Hawaii, the third study examined the associations of social isolation with psychological well-being. Results showed that social isolation was positively related to psychological distress, and negatively related to life satisfaction and happiness. These associations were partially mediated by resilience. Their findings revealed the detrimental health effects of social isolation. Using the same dataset in Hawaii, the last study examined the associations between neighbourhood conditions and psychological well-being for Chinese older adults. Their findings revealed that both physical and social neighbourhood conditions were associated with psychological well-being, particularly for foreign-born older adults, and psychological resources such as self-management abilities could mediate the associations.

TRENDS IN LEISURE-TIME ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION AMONG YOUNG-OLD ADULTS IN CHINA
Qiushi Feng, 1. Wei Zhang, 2. Huashuai Chen, 3. and Joelle Fong, 1. National University of Singapore, Singapore, Not Applicable, Singapore, 2. University of Hawaii at manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii, United States, 3. Xiangtan University, Durham, North Carolina, United States

Engagement of leisure activities is highly associated with health and wellbeing in later life. In this study, we examined the trends of leisure activity engagement in young-old adults aged 65–74 in China for a 16-year period. Panel data for a nationally representative sample of young-old adults were obtained from the 2002–2018 Chinese Longitudinal Healthy Longevity Survey. Findings revealed that, compared with 2002, young-old adults in subsequent years were less likely to engage in any form of social leisure activity. The odds of participating in social events, regular exercise, and outdoor activities decreased most prominently over time, while downward trends in tourism and joining outdoor activities showed signs of reversal post-2014. In contrast, trends for engaging in home-bound and solitary leisure activities generally increased. The future elderly in China have generally tended towards solitary leisure activities over time and public health interventions are required to reverse such trends.

SOCIAL PARTICIPATION PATTERNS AND WELL-BEING AMONG OLDER ADULTS: FINDINGS FROM THE UNITED STATES, THE UK, AND CHINA
Yun Zhou, 1. Bei Wu, 2. and Chenxin Tan, 3. 1. Department of Sociology, Peking University, Beijing, Beijing, China (People’s Republic), 2. New York University, New York, New York, United States, 3. New York University, Jersey City, New Jersey, United States

This study used Latent Class Analysis to examine patterns of social participation among older adults in the US, the UK, and China, from the three nationally representative surveys conducted in 2018-2019: The Health and Retirement Study, the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing,