



CENTER FOR INNOVATION  
AND WELLBEING

**For Immediate Release**

For more information, contact:

Mike Martinez

[communications@frontporch.net](mailto:communications@frontporch.net)

(818) 254-4248

**Front Porch Awarded Grant from Consumer Technology Association (CTA)<sup>®</sup> Foundation for  
'Connected Wellness' Project**

*The high-impact project will provide new engagement opportunities for low-income, underserved older adults living with anxiety, depression, loneliness, and social isolation.*

**GLENDALE, Calif. May 20, 2021** – The [Front Porch Center for Innovation and Wellbeing](#) (FPCIW) announced today it has received a \$40,000 grant from the Consumer Technology Association (CTA)<sup>®</sup> Foundation to promote social engagement and mental health awareness, education, and services in affordable housing communities through the Connected Wellness project.

Using this award, the FPCIW will address the wellness needs of older adults and their caregivers. Participants will have access to mobile carts equipped with cellular-enabled tablet devices, speakers and headphones, and a “quick-start” guide to help them access in-language mental health education and services, stay connected to friends and loved ones, and engage in other wellness activities.

Part of [Front Porch](#), a not-for-profit organization, serving individuals and families through senior living, affordable housing, and community services, the FPCIW explores and diffuses innovative uses of technology to help older adults thrive. “This high-impact project will provide new in-language engagement opportunities for low-income, underserved older adults living with anxiety, depression, loneliness, and social isolation,” said Kari Olson, president of the FPCIW.

The grant will also support the distribution of 500 toolkits designed to help senior affordable housing providers meet the needs of residents by creating basic telehealth and wellness programs. This will expand upon the FPCIW’s current Telewellness Project, which increases technology-based multi-lingual mental health education, awareness, and services to underserved residents of affordable housing communities. To date, the Telewellness Project has served seven affordable senior housing communities, and the CTA Foundation award will expand the initiative to two additional locations and serve at least 50 older adults in the coming year.

“Our vision is to address the dramatic need for mental health education, awareness, and services among our underserved communities through technology and community-based partnerships,” said Davis Park, vice president of the FPCIW. “This generous award from the CTA Foundation enables us to reach more older adults through a scalable model that targets a wide variety of mental health and wellness needs such as depression and anxiety, grieving and loss, life care transitions, and loneliness and social isolation, especially during COVID.”

For five consecutive years, the FPCIW has been recognized by the CTA Foundation for its innovative approach to deploying and scaling technologies benefitting older adults' social engagement, independence, and wellness.

"We're excited to support another Front Porch Center for Innovation and Wellbeing program that directly helps those in need," said Steve Ewell, executive director, CTA Foundation. "The Connected Wellness project tackles a number of important challenges underserved older adults face, especially those exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. And the program aligns well with the CTA Foundation's efforts to use technology to address isolation and access to mental health programs."

Partners and beneficiaries of the project include affordable housing communities managed by Front Porch subsidiary [CARING Housing Ministries](#) and those owned and managed by Front Porch's new affiliate [Covia](#), as well as [Special Service for Groups](#), a non-profit health and human service organization dedicated to building and sustaining community-based programs that address the needs of vulnerable communities.

The CTA Foundation grant award will build upon a California Lutheran Homes Foundation award and a February 2021 AARP Foundation grant to the FPCIW that help affordable housing providers connect with and assess locally available and community-based mental health resources, promote staff and resident adoption strategies, explore community and staffing readiness, and leverage available clinical and community services via a comprehensive toolkit. FPCIW is currently in the midst of a 12-month pilot to validate the toolkit's framework and content.

### **About the Front Porch Center for Innovation and Wellbeing**

The Front Porch Center for Innovation and Wellbeing (FPCIW) is part of Front Porch, one of the nation's largest not-for-profit providers of senior living, affordable housing and community services. In collaboration with innovative partner organizations, the FPCIW pilots and scales promising innovative solutions to solve real-world problems and meet the needs of older adults. Learn about FPCIW's work by reading its [impact stories](#). The FPCIW is a signature program of [Humanly Possible](#)<sup>®</sup>, Front Porch's commitment to cause-based innovation and dedication to doing everything humanly possible to creatively meet needs now and in the future. For more information visit [fpciw.org](http://fpciw.org).

### **About Front Porch**

Front Porch is an innovative not-for-profit family of companies and communities, dedicated to doing everything Humanly Possible<sup>®</sup> to meet the dynamic interests and changing needs of the many people we serve. Our mission is to inspire and build community, cultivating meaningful relationships and experiences that respond creatively to changing needs. Learn more at [frontporch.net](http://frontporch.net).

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