|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| IPA-90-60-0-0 International Psychogeriatric Association *IPA .... Better Mental Health for Older People* | |
| Officers William Reichman, *President, Canada*  Manabu Ikeda, *President-Elect, Japan*  Tzung-Jeng Hwang, *Secretary, Taiwan*  Kate Zhong, *Treasurer, United States*  Mary Sano, *Immediate Past President, United States* Board of Directors Daisy Acosta*, Dominican Republic*  LIa Fernandes, *Portugal*  Dawne Garrett, *United Kingdom*  Venu Gopal Jhanwar, *India*  Raymond T. Koopmans, *The Netherlands*  Maria Lapid, *United States*  Kiran Rabheru, *Canada*  Hilde Verbeek, *The Netherlands* *International Psychogeriatrics* Dilip Jeste, *Editor, United States*  Henry Brodaty, *Deputy Editor*, *Australia*  Gill Livingston, *Deputy Editor, United Kingdom*  Stephan Arndt, *Statistical Editor, United States* IPA Communications(Bulletin and Website) Tzung-Jeng Hwang, *Editor, Taiwan*  Alfonso Alfini, Assistant to the Editor,  *United States*  Mark Rapoport, *Deputy Editor, Canada*  Maria Lapid, *Digital Editor, United States* Past Presidents Manfred Bergener, *Germany* Founding President Gösta Bucht, *Sweden*  Kazuo Hasegawa, *Japan*  Bertil Steen, *Sweden*  Sanford I. Finkel, *United States*  Raymond Levy, *United Kingdom*  Barry Reisberg, *United States*  Edmond Chiu, *Australia*  Alistair Burns, *United Kingdom*  George T. Grossberg, *United States*  Joel Sadavoy, *Canada*  Helen Fung-kum Chiu, *Hong Kong  SAR PR China*  Masatoshi Takeda, *Japan*  Jacobo Mintzer*, United States*  Henry Brodaty*, Australia*  Raimundo Mateos, *Spain* IPA Secretariat Kate Filipiak, CAE, *Executive Director* | 29 January 2020  Department of Ageing and Life-Course (ALC)  World Health Organization  Avenue Appia 20  1211 Geneva 27  Switzerland  The International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA) supports the institution of an international “End Loneliness Day” put forward by the Italian Association of Psychogeriatrics (AIP) which includes key targets for improving awareness, access to care, support, research, and risk reduction of loneliness. The proposed plan earmarks funding to accomplish its goal and is noteworthy for addressing the rights of older people with loneliness, as well as promotion of dignity, inclusion and quality of life.  IPA’s mission of advancing geriatric mental health worldwide includes a focus on loneliness in relation to the mental health of older people. For example, the most recent IPA International Congress featured three targeted symposia: “Late Life Loneliness from Private Condition to Social Emergency“, “Loneliness in older adults and the role of social prescribing”, and “Loneliness versus Wisdom”.  Based on international research on the impact of loneliness on overall health in the elderly population, the IPA encourages a global “End Loneliness Day” plan which supports all activities, including enlightenment, research of mental health, quality of life, and cost. IPA holds the support of the mental health professional as a key aspect of providing service to older people with loneliness. Older persons who are socially isolated are at a significant disadvantage when it comes to assuring their timely access to health care and other needed supports.  The IPA mission includes advocating for elders to ensure that they receive what they need medically to maximize health and wellbeing.  Kind Regards,    William Reichman, MD  International Psychogeriatric Association, President  Manabu Ikeda  Manabu Ikeda, MD, PhD  International Psychogeriatric Association, President-Elect |

### 

### IPA Secretariat: 555 E Wells Street, Suite 1100, Milwaukee, WI 53202 United States

### Tel: +1.414.918.9889; Fax: +1.414.276.3349

### Email: [info@ipa-online.org](mailto:info@ipa-online.org) Web: www.ipa-online.org