

Nicole Heckman Vice President, Benefits Access Programs AARP Foundation

Nicole Heckman (she/her) is the Vice President of Benefits Access for AARP Foundation, the largest charitable affiliate of AARP. AARP Foundation works to end senior poverty by creating and advancing effective solutions that help vulnerable people over 50 build economic opportunity and secure the essentials. Nicole's team develops programs that increase older adult participation in a range of safety net benefit programs to increase their food security and financial security. Nicole

was previously a Blue Ridge Labs Fellow with the Robin Hood Foundation working on solutions to increase New Yorkers' access to quality affordable housing. She founded and grew multiple businesses, including an impact-driven innovation firm. Nicole has a passion for human-centered design and strategy creation honed during 13 years leading marketing and innovation efforts for FedEx. Nicole is a lifelong learner, recently completing the Harvard Kennedy School's Public Leadership credential and courses in behavioral economics. She holds a BA in psychology and an MBA from the Crummer School of Business at Rollins College.