



Age-Friendly Communities
COLLABORATIVE

Age Friendly
Collaborative:
Program
Development
Updates

Introduction to Committee Structure



Other MMC Community Development Committees

Housing + Community Development Committee: Discusses issues related to local housing issues.

Chair: Mayor Jeffrey Sherwin of Northlake

Key accomplishments: Homes for a Changing Region, Regional Housing Solutions

Next quarterly meeting: Thursday, November 19

Diversity Issues Task Force: Discusses issues related to diversity and engagement.

Co-chairs: Mayors Rodney Craig of Hanover Park and Bill McLeod of Hoffman Estates

Key accomplishment: Immigration integration; 2020 Census program

Next quarterly meeting: Tuesday, November 10

Committee membership is open to all mayors and their designated municipal representatives



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Introduction to Grace Mueller
GRCorps Member, Age-friendly Communities
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

Updates on Technical Assistance and Fellowships



What We've Learned

With support of Kott Trust, MMC staff performed research in how to help support and grow the AFCC:

- 1. Individual AFCC Interviews (February - April):** Interviewed several municipalities to assess interest in AFCC, activities, and key challenges.
- 2. National Best Practices (April – June):** Interviewed 8 other regional collaboratives to learn their structure, activities, and best practices.
- 3. Virtual Brainstorm Sessions (June):** Two Zoom sessions with 9 collaborative members to identify gaps, need for resources, and inform RRF proposal.



What We Learned from Peer Collaboratives

Most collaboratives serve as municipal learning networks like ours, offering a “menu” of ideas but no “one size fits all”.

- ❖ Standing meetings on a particular policy topic (housing, transportation, health, safety)
- ❖ Shared toolkits
- ❖ Interdisciplinary membership includes municipalities, AARP, AAAs, health departments
- ❖ Full time staff person sends research, reports, etc.



Summary of June AFCC Brainstorm

GOAL: Identify local needs for technical assistance and capacity and choose best practices from national research, to inform a proposal to the Retirement Research Foundation.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Arlington Heights, Elgin (Gail Borden Library District), Glencoe, Grayslake, Oak Park, Oak Park Township, River Forest, Mount Prospect, Woodstock

OTHER REPRESENTATIVES:

MMC, AARP Illinois, CMAP, Planning/Aging



What We Learned from AFCC Brainstorm

- 1. Most Age/Dementia-Friendly Efforts Are Early:** Communities have passed resolutions and formed committees, but are still taking their first steps.
- 2. Communities Need More Structure:** There is a need for a clearer roadmap for communities to follow once resolving to become age- and dementia-friendly.
- 3. Members Could Use A Point Person, Rather Than Recommendations:** Biggest need is for internal champion, either reorienting existing functions with aging lens or adding capacity focused specifically on this topic.
- 4. Looking For Strategic Assessment, Not Planning Documents:** Most municipalities were looking for steps to “get things done”, rather than initiating another planning process.
- 5. Interest in Emulating Other Regions:** Brainstorms particularly interested in KC’s Communities for All Ages, which has a three-step recognition program.



Concept to Retirement Research Fdn.

1. **Workshops:** Provide 1-on-1 local workshops to help municipalities & AF committees create a roadmap on next steps. *Led by Planning/Aging.*
2. **Fellowships:** Provide fellows to be placed within local municipalities to help advance efforts and facilitate them as cohort for shared learning, based on experience in Greenest Regions Corps. *Facilitated by MMC.*
3. **Technical Assistance:** Provide “quick action” technical assistance on housing, transportation, economic development, other areas to on-going AF efforts. *Led by CMAP.*

Decision anticipated in late November!



Fellowship Options

GOAL: Identify structure for a fellowship based on positive results from Dementia-friendly Oak Park

STEPS:

- 1). *Identify partnership program (today's action)*
- 2). *Create a “cohort structure” to help fellows learn from one another*



Option One: AmeriCorps

Via Serve Illinois

Overview:

- Full time, one year placements;
- Would be managed through MMC's existing Greenest Region Corps, which currently serves 9 hosts via Greenest Region Compact;
- Communities and other host sites contribute a stipend;
- MMC creates a cohort structure for Corps members, including shared drive of policies & grant applications;
- Does not directly recruit aging / gerontology / policy experience;
- Application due November 29 for 2021-2022 placements.



Option One: Kott Gerontological Fellows

Via Kott Gerontology Institute

Overview:

- Part time, 9 month placements;
- Would be new partnership;
- Kott Institute provides education and training;
- Directly recruits gerontological experience;
- Missed placement period for this cycle.



AFCC Repository Deep Dive

Brian Tomkins, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

LaTiyfa Fields, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

