



Age-Friendly  *Communities*
C O L L A B O R A T I V E

Updates

June 3, 2021

**Katie Friedman
Project Manager
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus**

**Nancy Firfer
Senior Advisor
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus**

Aging in a Changing Region Program Launch: Tailored Workshops

Kyle Smith, MMC
Brad Winick, Planning/Aging

Aging in a Changing Region: Tailored Workshops

By the numbers:

- 19 municipalities initially expressed interest
- MMC and Planning/Aging interviewed 13
- Planning/Aging can serve 10 over two years in 2 cohorts of 5



Aging in a Changing Region: Tailored Workshops

Planning/Aging will run workshops for 5 communities in the 2021 Cohort:

Municipality	Council of Government
Bensenville	DuPage Mayors & Managers Conference
Calumet City	South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association
Hawthorn Woods	Lake County Municipal League
Mount Prospect	Northwest Municipal Conference
Park Forest	South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association



May 2021 Advocacy Update

As activity heats up in the legislature in the final days before the deadline to move bills out of committee, AgeGuide is keeping an eye on both Springfield and Washington and continuing to advocate for the needs of older adults in our region. Here, we answer three big questions of the day.

1. How is the Illinois General Assembly Operating These Days?

Illinois Legislators met in person during the month of April with strict health and safety measures regarding COVID-19. The House and Senate have each instituted mandatory testing protocols for entry into the Capitol building for members, staff, journalists, and lobbyists. The Capitol is still closed to members of the public. In the Senate, members have the option to participate remotely for floor action. The House has no similar provision for remote floor votes but remote committee votes are allowed. All committee hearings and floor action can be viewed live online at www.ilga.gov.

2. What is AgeGuide Watching?

State-Level Priorities

- Illinois Family Caregiver Support Act - HB 293 (Willis)/SB 1766 (Belt) proposes a \$6M appropriation to fund the Illinois Family Caregiver Act that was passed in 2004. The goal is to provide support to unpaid family caregivers, so they can continue in their caregiver role, allowing their loved one to remain at home rather than in a costly institutional setting. Help us support this legislation by sending letters to your legislators [here](#) and sign the endorsement form [here](#).
- Minimum Wage - \$2.4 million will support the cost of the minimum wage increase for the provision of homemaker, meals, and other essential older adult services.
- Expansion of the Earned Income Credit (EIC) – HB 2792 (Ammons)/SB 2184 (Sims) would amend the Illinois Income Tax Act to provide a \$600 earned income tax credit to working adults 65 and over without dependents. It would also extend the tax credit to unpaid caregivers of someone over age 65.
- Amendment to the Network Adequacy and Transparency Act – SB 332 (Collins) adds to the state's current insurance network provider directory information on availability of telehealth services and whether a provider allows family caregivers to join their loved one's appointment remotely.

Federal Level Priorities

It's important to note that aging services have lost funding in actual dollars over the last decade due to the growth in numbers of clients in need of programs and services and years of budget cuts. Now, to be clear, while desperately needed and greatly appreciated, the 3 rounds of relief funding Congress provided in response to the



pandemic were simply that, an emergency response—not a long-term investment in serving the rapidly growing numbers of older adults who need our services.

To continue to provide services beyond the pandemic, AgeGuide is advocating for a 50% increase in funding for the following areas of the Older Americans Act (OAA):

- Supportive Services
- Evidence-based health and wellness programs
- National Family Caregiver Support Program

The Biden Administration's \$1.5 trillion FY 2022 discretionary budget request includes increases to Older Americans Act programs and other supports for older adults including:

- \$14.2 billion for the Social Security Administration
- \$551 million for home and community-based services

The President's proposed budget isn't final until it's approved by the House and Senate. Congress has already begun considering appropriations levels. Now is the time to advocate. Send letters to Congress [here](#) in support of the OAA funding in the budget.

3. What's Next at the Federal Level?

Billions of dollars in Federal aid from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) is on its way to Illinois. The aid package includes a number of investments aimed at improving access to health care and increasing economic security for older adults during the pandemic.

The Plan provides additional funding for Medicaid Home and Community-Based services for one year. This funding will provide additional home-based long-term care to help seniors to avoid nursing home placement. ARPA also provides funding for vaccine outreach, caregiver support and the long-term care Ombudsman program. Some funding is also directed at improving transportation for Older Americans and people with disabilities, something we know from the AgeGuide community needs assessment is a significant need in our region.

The US Congress is also considering several additional bills proposed by the Biden Administration including, the American Jobs Plan, which includes support for infrastructure and healthcare and the American Families Plan which proposes to strengthen the Affordable Care Act, among other things.

Woodstock Illinois

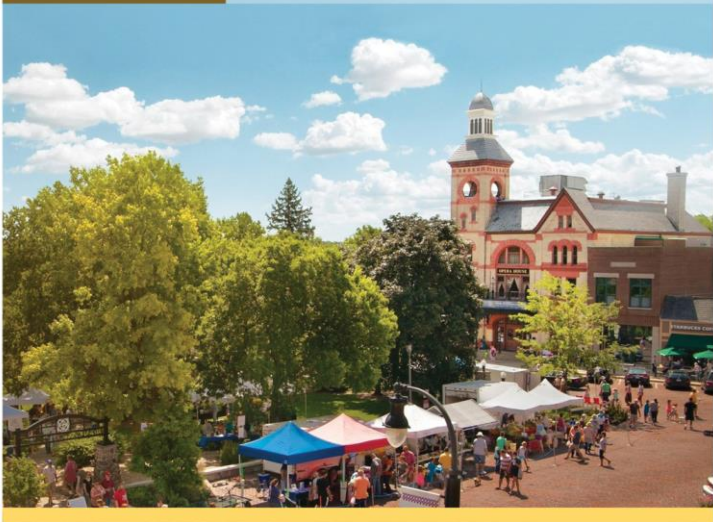
Age-Friendly Livable Community

ACTION PLAN

prepared for
Woodstock City Council
April 2021

Housing | Facilities | Services | Activities
Community-based ideas for today and tomorrow

by
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR GOVERNMENTAL STUDIES
and WOODSTOCK AGE-FRIENDLY ACTION PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE



Woodstock Age Friendly Livable Community Action Plan

Presentation to the MMC Age-Friendly Communities Collaborative

June 3, 2021



Project Scope and Process

Phase 1: Population, Economy, Community



Phase 2: Needs Assessment



Phase 3: Action Plan



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Center for Governmental Studies

Outreach, Engagement, and Regional Development

Project Scope and Process

Phase 1: Population, Economy, Community

Phase 2: Needs Assessment

Phase 3: Action Plan



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A Focus on the Economy

Why?

- Build wide support in the community
- Integrate age-friendly planning into other aspects of community development
- Develop a stronger age-friendly plan

What did we consider?

- Spending patterns
- Commuting patterns
- Employer and employment trends
- Economic impact by scenario

Project Scope and Process

Phase 1: Population, Economy, Community

Phase 2: Needs Assessment

Phase 3: Action Plan



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Focus Groups and Interviews



- Housing is needed at both ends of the income spectrum. Interest in congregate settings has declined due to COVID and may not recover for some time or at all.
- Innovative housing including for snowbirds and ADUs has potential. Younger households also interested new kinds of housing.
- Whether seniors are attracted to or remain in Woodstock is most often tied to where their children and grandchildren are. Therefore, Woodstock needs to be attractive to younger families. Adult children need to know what is available for their parents if they are to encourage them to relocate to Woodstock.
- Retirees and tourists look for the same thing: unique, high quality places to shop, dine, sleep and explore. Investing in older tourists can lead to attracting retirees as residents.

Project Scope and Process

Phase 1: Population, Economy, Community



Phase 2: Needs Assessment



Phase 3: Action Plan



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From Vision to Projects



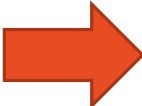
Vision: Vibrant Community for All



Goal: Venue for Seniors to Gather



Strategy: Develop Senior Drop-in Center



Project: City and Twp. Work Together on Senior Center at Twp. Building

Vision

Age-Friendly Woodstock IL is widely recognized as a warm, welcoming, vibrant community offering lifelong opportunity and enrichment for youth and adults of all ages, abilities and lifestyles.

Plan Structure

AARP's 8 Dimensions

1. Outdoor Spaces and Public Buildings
2. Transportation
3. Housing
4. Social Participation
5. Respect and Social Inclusion
6. Civic Participation and Employment
7. Communication and Information
8. Community Support and Health Services

Woodstock's 4 Focus Areas



Housing



Facilities



Services



Activities

19 Goals



Housing: Four goals addressing the variety of individual housing units, residential site design, the relationship between residential areas and complimentary uses, varied price points, and home maintenance.



Facilities: Five goals addressing gathering places, businesses that meet wants and needs, walkability, and year-round indoor and outdoor spaces.



Services: Five goals addressing convenient, high quality healthcare, transportation choices, great communication and internet options, and strong caregiver support.



Activities: Five goals addressing events and gatherings for all ages, lifelong learning and the pursuit of special interests, growth of Woodstock as a center for the arts, and opportunities to engage with the community.

Organizing for Implementation



Key Components:

- City leadership
- Interdepartmental communication
- Council liaison
- Diverse advisory group
- Collaboration with other organizations
- Outreach to residents and stakeholders

Next Steps

- ✓ Approve the plan for submission to AARP.
- ❑ Organize to implement.
- ❑ Communicate with residents, stakeholders, potential collaborators.



For more
information

The full plan can be found at:

<https://www.woodstockil.gov/citymanager/page/age-friendly-action-plan>

Mim Evans

Senior Research Associate

Northern Illinois University Center for Governmental Studies

mevans@niu.edu

Terry Willcockson

Grants/Communications Manager

City of Woodstock, IL

twillcockson@woodstockil.gov

Woodstock Illinois

Age-Friendly Livable Community

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Community-based ideas for today and tomorrow

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Outreach, Engagement and Regional Development



CITY OF

WOODSTOCK
ILLINOIS

Woodstock Illinois Age-Friendly Livable Community Action Plan: Executive Summary

The City of Woodstock has a vision for an age-friendly future:

Age-friendly Woodstock, Illinois is widely recognized as a warm, welcoming vibrant community offering lifelong opportunity and enrichment for youth and adults of all ages, abilities and lifestyles.

This vision is in response to a big change already underway—in less than ten years, nearly half of Woodstock adults will be over age 55. As the City allocates resources, it will need strategies that ensure Woodstock’s changing population is well served. If successful, Woodstock will be a sought after location to live, visit and invest.

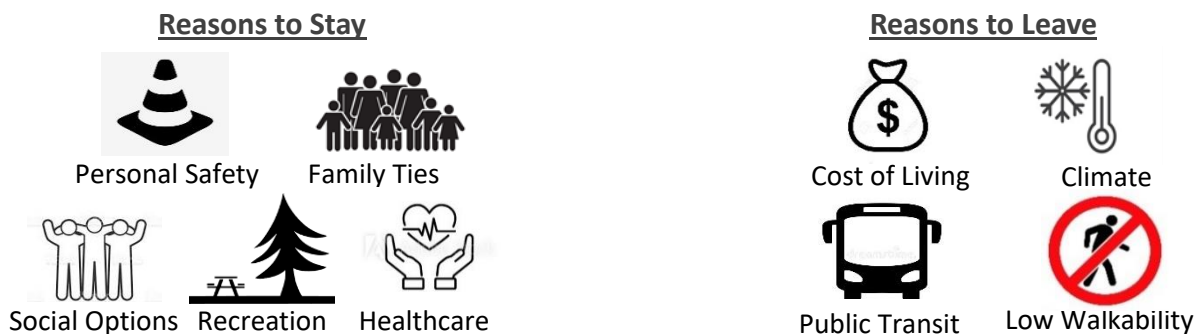
The Woodstock Age-Friendly Livable Community Action Plan (AFP) will guide the City in its role as an AARP designated Age-Friendly Community. Work began two years ago with a City Council resolution and plan preparation began with funding from a Community Foundation for McHenry County Transformational Grant. A steering committee of residents, service providers, business people and others completed the AFP in April 2021.

Why is the AFP important?

- By 2034, for the first time ever, the U.S. will have more older adults than children.
- Residents age 65-74 are projected to increase by 39% and those age 75+ to increase by 50% from 2019 to 2029.
- Research shows that what is good for older people is good for all people.
- Residents age 55+ contribute \$164.7M annually to the county economy, supporting 1,605 jobs.

How age-friendly is Woodstock now?

Woodstock is currently about as age-friendly as many other communities, but with strong assets on which to grow, Woodstock can become an exemplary Age-Friendly Community. When surveyed, residents responded that they mostly like living in Woodstock. When asked, the following were the most frequently mentioned reasons to remain a resident or consider leaving:



Resident responses show that older adults often want the same things as younger people: affordable homes that fit their lifestyle and are close to where they want to go; fun things to do; quality healthcare; transportation options including walking and public transit; and to be engaged in the community.

Older adults often choose to live near their children and grandchildren. Therefore, Woodstock needs to be attractive to younger families, too, and younger families must be aware that Woodstock is age-friendly if they are to encourage older generations to remain or become residents.

The Plan

The AFP's goals are divided into four focus areas. The goals are summarized below:



Housing: Four goals addressing the variety of individual housing units, residential site design, the relationship between residential areas and complementary uses, varied price points, and home maintenance.

Top priority goal: Woodstock offers creative and alternative forms of housing that meet residents' needs at different points in their lives. This goal addresses the needs of current older residents while also addressing the potential of new housing to attract new residents.



Facilities: Five goals addressing gathering places, businesses that meet wants and needs of older adults, walkability, and year-round indoor and outdoor gathering spaces.

Top priority goal: Seniors enjoy a designated venue to connect with friends, activities and services. This goal responds to a desire expressed by older Woodstock residents and the likelihood of a site and partner to assist in making it happen.



Services: Five goals addressing convenient, high quality healthcare, transportation choices, improved communication and internet options, and strong caregiver support.

Top priority goal: Woodstock residents can access a broad range of health services. This goal is a top priority because of the growing number of older people and their increasing demand for healthcare. It also addresses the importance of quality healthcare in decisions about where to live in retirement.



Activities: Five goals addressing events and gatherings for all ages, lifelong learning and the pursuit of special interests, growth of Woodstock as a center for the arts, and opportunities to engage with the community.

Top priority goal: Woodstock offers a wide range of events and creative/gathering opportunities appealing to all segments of the population and visitors. This goal promotes intergenerational contact, a strong sense of community and Woodstock as a place to visit. It has implications for recruiting residents and visitors and the economic vitality of the Square.

The AFP also includes strategies and suggests projects that will move Woodstock towards reaching its age-friendly vision.

How do we get there from here?

Following submission of the AFP to AARP, the City can organize to implement the plan. Key components are listed at right.

As the plan is implemented, marketing age-friendly Woodstock to potential visitors, residents and investors is a logical next step in enhancing Woodstock's image as a desirable place to live, visit and invest.

The full plan follows or can be found on the City's website at <https://www.woodstockil.gov/>.

Key Components:

- City leadership
- Interdepartmental communication
- Council liaison
- Diverse advisory council
- Collaboration with other organizations
- Outreach to residents and stakeholders

An elderly couple is sitting on a wooden bench in front of a brick building. The woman is on the left, wearing a light pink long-sleeved shirt and light blue pants. The man is on the right, wearing a light blue short-sleeved shirt and dark blue pants. They are both smiling and looking at each other. The background is a brick building with several windows. A semi-transparent dark blue banner is overlaid at the top of the image.

Housing & Urban Design Choices for

June 3, 2021

Jason Engberg, AICP
Senior Planner
United City of Yorkville, Illinois



Anthony Place

Features

- 2-Story Multi-Family Structure
- 50 Age Restricted Apartments (55+)
- Common Amenities
- ADA accessibility

Outright Development – R-4 Zoning



Rental Assistance Program

- HUD tax credits require affordability
- Developer gave City money to start program
- Supplement 10 Units over 10 years
- 55+ who earn less than 30% County Median Income
- Priority to Yorkville Residents, Veterans, and IHDA State Referral





Heartland Meadows

Features

- Single-Family Ranch Homes
- 46 Age Restricted Homes (55+)
- 5,000-6,000 square foot lots
- Ranch with 2 Car Garage

**Planned Unit Development
(2014)**





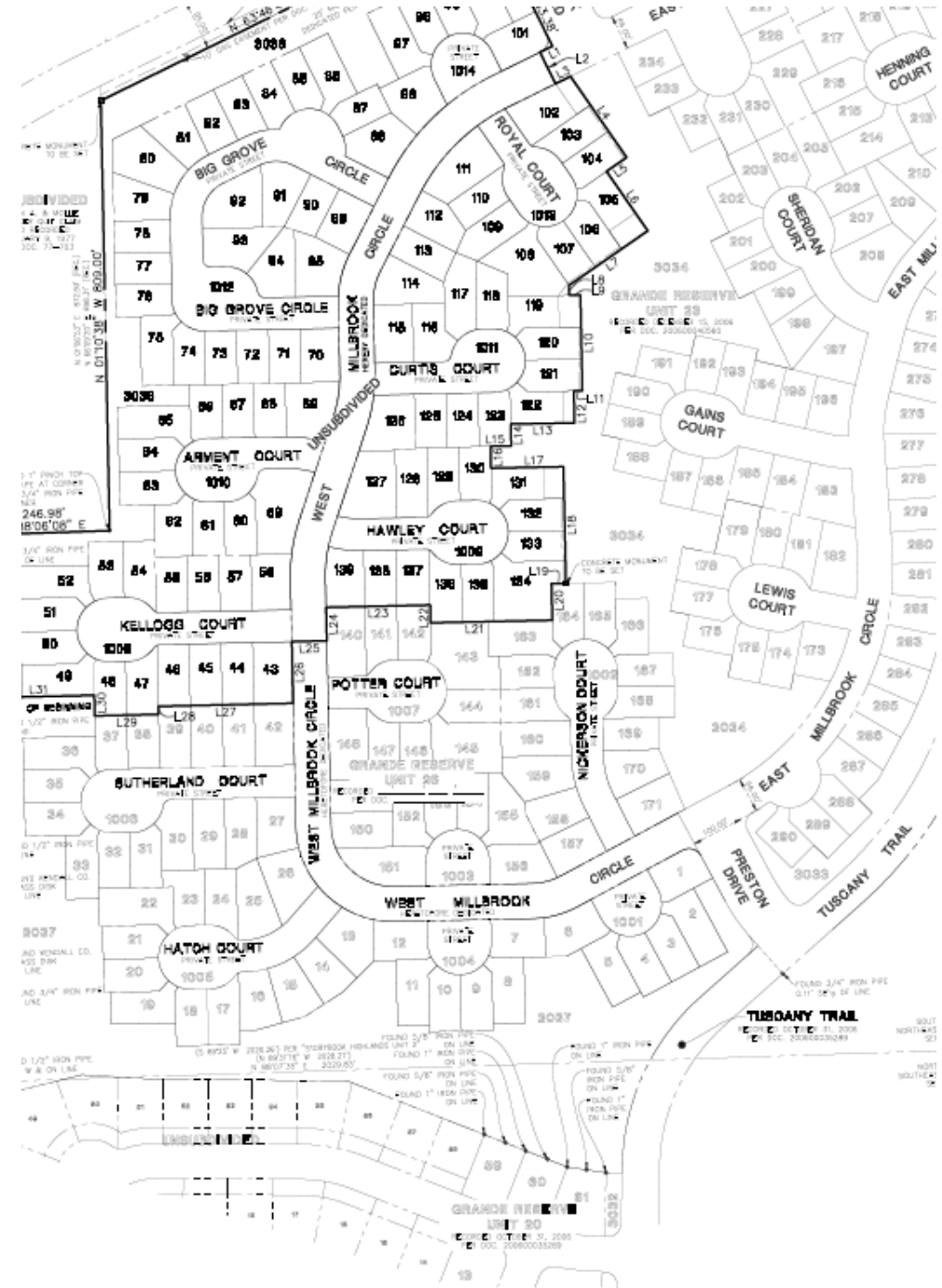
The Colonies at Grande Reserve



Features

- Single-Family Ranch Homes
- 289 Age Targeted Homes
- 3rd Bedroom
- Ranch with 2 Car Garage

Planned Unit Development (2003-Present)



Housing & Urban Design Choices for

Project Links

Anthony Place

<https://anthonyplaceyorkville.com/>

Heartland Meadows

<https://markerinc.com/>

The Colonies

<https://grandereserveyorkville.com/>

June 3, 2021

Jason Engberg, AICP

Senior Planner

United City of Yorkville, Illinois

The Ann Rainey Apartments

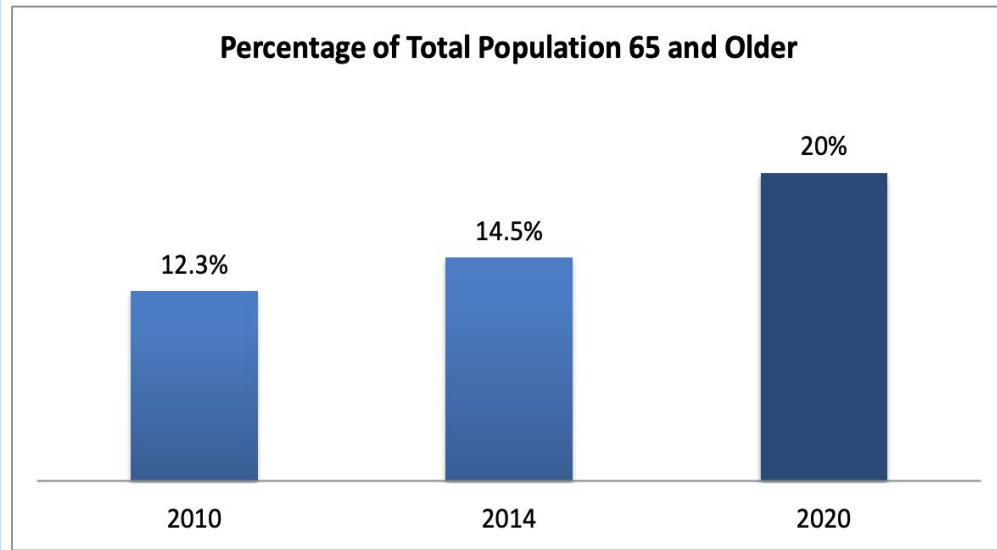
60-unit affordable rental community for seniors
at 1011 Howard Street in Evanston



Meagan Gibeson

Housing & Economic Development Analyst
City of Evanston

Background



- Lower income ward
- High renter population
- Growing senior population

How it happened

cje SeniorLife

Jewish values for positive aging



EVERGREEN
Real Estate Group

- CJE land donation
- Existing relationships between key entities
- Developer with knowledge of local issues & senior needs
- Engaged community

The development



- 60 rental units for seniors
- 100% affordable, with 30 deeply affordable units
- Close to amenities
- Named for Alderwoman Ann Rainey

Community Engagement



- Age friendly task force
- Outreach with developer, CJE, Alderman
- Community meetings
- Seniors wanted more housing!

Key Takeaways



- Housing authority as an asset
- Collaborate with neighboring suburbs
- Strong partnerships
- Partner with great developer especially when using LIHTC
- Local capacity to help fund project
- Political support
- Senior engagement



H.O.M.E.

Housing Opportunities & Maintenance for the Elderly

Intergenerational Housing

*Age-Friendly Communities Collaborative,
June 3, 2021*

Gail Schechter, Executive Director
Gails@HOMEseniors.org





Presentation Outline

- Introduction to H.O.M.E.'s Intergenerational Model
 - H.O.M.E.'s Residences
 - Community Planning Considerations
-

H.O.M.E.'s Intergenerational Model Is:

- A Philosophy of Life
- A Housing Option
- An Approach to Healthy Living
- A Community-Building Strategy



H.O.M.E.'s original goals for Nathalie Salmon House (1994)

- To resurrect an old social concept: that elders, young to middle-aged adults and children **thrive living together in the “village,”** sharing joys and responsibilities of life, learning from one another and developing tolerance for differences and appreciation of similarities.
 - To **improve the quality of life of low-income older adult households** by providing a range of housing/service options in a **homelike environment** that **includes families with children and young adults** who live with the older people they assist.
 - To provide a **model of affordable, supportive housing for all** people.
-

H.O.M.E.'s Intergenerational Housing

“An innovative communal possibility for a new and different lifestyle, fostering companionship and friendship by offering the residents the opportunity of caring for each other.”

Pat Crowley House (1983, 17 units)



Nathalie Salmon House (1994, 53 units)





Good Life Senior Residences

Family-style housing – with shared meals, common areas, and activities – for 12-15 seniors, 1-2 families with young children, and 4-6 younger adults who live and work as Resident Assistants.

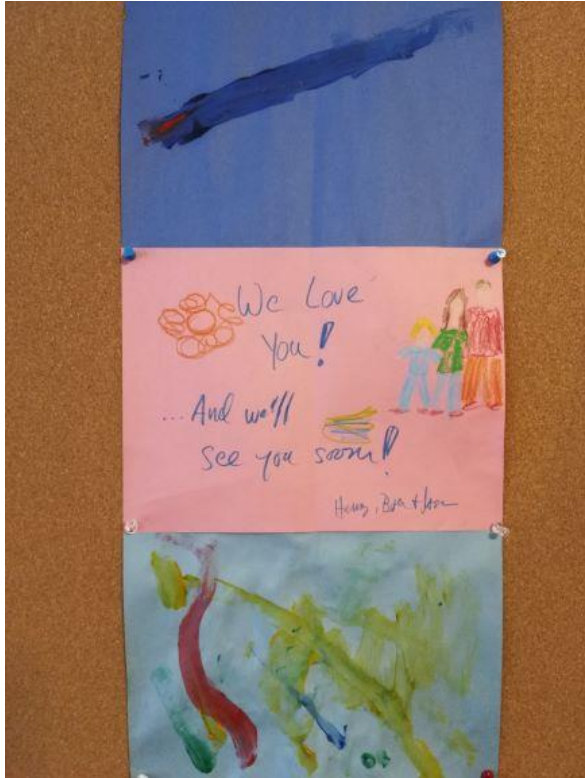


Staffing

- Good Life Manager
 - Cook
 - Resident Assistants
 - Property Manager
 - Maintenance
-

COVID-19:

Built in intergenerational relationships were key to seniors' health:
No Good Life senior contracted COVID





Community Partnerships

- Nursing and Social Work Schools
 - Neighborhood Groups
 - Local Businesses (grocers, hardware stores)
-



Outings

- Resident-led planning
 - Constant and consistent
 - H.O.M.E. Van
 - Entertainment, learning, or wellness
-



Design Matters: Safe Congregating

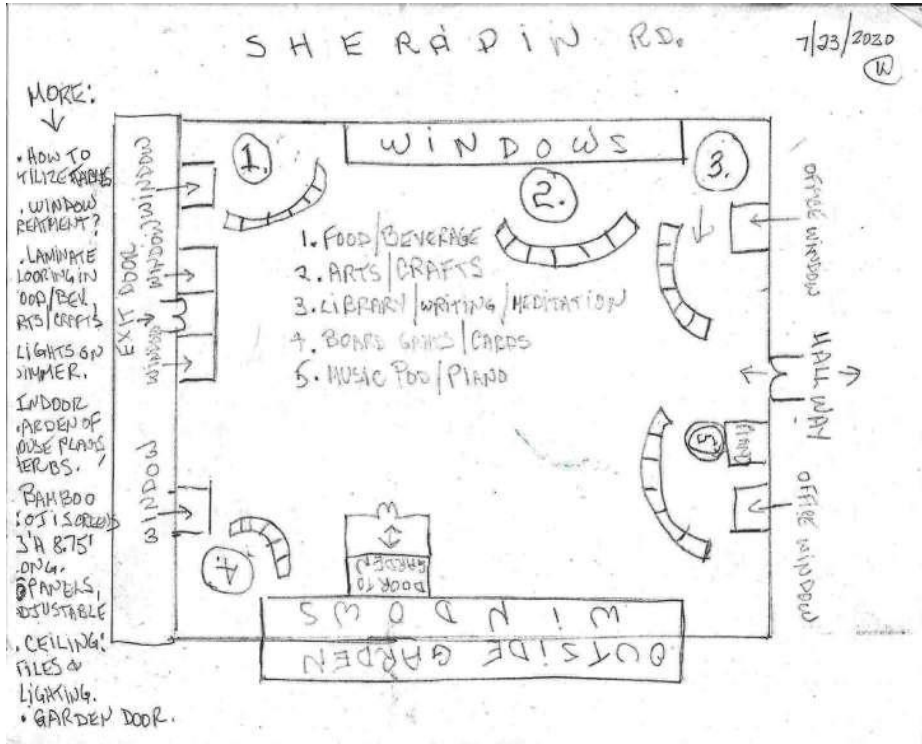
- Patios
 - Community Rooms
 - Lounges
 - Terraces
-



Design Matters: Safe Congregating

- Patios
- Dining Rooms
- Lounges
- Terraces





Design Matters: Safe Congregating

Community rooms can serve multiple functions: for healing and serenity, seeing friends, and self-expression in the arts.





Design Matters: Safe Congregating

“Architecture can be a tool for therapeutic, community building, experiential education and culture making programming.”

-- Paul Alt, Alt Architecture

Rendering of a redesigned Garden Room for the Nathalie Salmon House by Alt Architecture, based on resident feedback (2020)



The Future: Senior Village II

- Partnership between H.O.M.E. and The Renaissance Collaborative (Bronzeville)
 - 65-74 units that would house seniors, grandparents raising grandchildren, and young adults
 - Affordable for low-income people
-



The Future: Senior Village II

- Hybrid combination of private apartments and one floor that is composed of Good Life communal living
- Robust social services



Planning Considerations

- Offer a “diversified portfolio” of housing options.
 - Encourage intentionally age-integrated housing as an alternative to senior-only housing. (And it’s good for kids!)
 - Recognize the advantages:
 - Mixed-income opportunity too
 - Naturally welcoming to people of all races, gender identities, sexual orientations
 - Helps young people stay in community
 - Promotes mental and physical health
 - Counters isolating tendencies of modern life
 - Fits with TOD, green, or mixed-use goals
-



Thank you!

Gail Schechter, Executive Director

Website: www.homeseniors.org

Phone: (773) 295-2711

Email: Gails@HOMEseniors.org

Follow us on social!

