

Social and Civic Participation Workgroup

Aligning workgroup Ideas with Work Plan

Social Participation

- Identify gaps in serving the social participation needs of older adults at risk of social isolation and develop strategies to reach out to them
 - Examine HSD, Parks and SPL program demographics and any data they are collecting on social isolation (hmm-this data doesn't exist)-**more suitable for city/county to take the lead**
 - Utilize city's technology access and adoption survey to learn ways that technology can reduce social isolation- **more suitable for city/county to take the lead**
 - Hold focus groups to explore expansion of programming for immigrant/refugee community elders in community gathering places- **more suitable for city/county to take the lead**
- Provide more opportunities for older adults and adults with disabilities to engage in the life of the community.
 - Ensure that neighborhood outreach is inclusive of older adults and adults with disabilities and that project funding uses an age and ability friendly lens as well as a racial equity lens-**more suitable for the city to take the lead.**
 - Develop an interactive directory that provides discounts on social activities, entertainment, shopping and more for people age 60+ and adults with disabilities. **More suitable for the city to take the lead.**

Civic Participation and Employment

- Provide tools to help businesses and employers to become more age, disability and dementia friendly.
 - Develop materials that help businesses assess their age friendliness. **Possible workgroup project**
 - Develop a website emphasizing the benefits of hiring older workers and making the workplace more age friendly. **More suitable for the city to take the lead.**
 - Develop an age friendly seattle static cling sticker that businesses can use to indicate that they have completed an age friendly business assessment, offer discounts and a public restroom. **Possible workgroup project-relates to 1st bullet in this section**
- Enhance the opportunities to mobilize the wisdom and experience of older adults, including people with disabilities and or dementia and provide opportunities to live with purpose and passion
 - Support older adults in realizing volunteer projects, life long learning and encore careers-**there is lots of work already going on in this space**
 - Develop a volunteer coordinator position within HSD and Parks-**Not sure how effective this would be; this is best done by Non profits**
 - Explore opportunities to involve older adults in roles previously covered by consultants. **This is already being done by 501 commons**
 - Ensure that every City of Seattle board and commission includes at least one older adult. **Most likely occurring due to large number of boomers.**
 - Ensure that new members of boards and commissions receive an orientation age friendly competency training. **Possible workgroup project**

- Involve older adults who live on fixed incomes, adults with disabilities and adults with memory loss in program planning and outreach. **Best done by non profit human service providers or the city**
- Develop partnerships to support employment of older adults who are looking for work
 - Recruit HR professionals to review Resumes of people 55+ **-not appropriate for workgroup**
 - Recruit HR professional to present workshops and lead mock interviews **-not appropriate for workgroup**
- Support development of new programming for individuals 50+, including people with dementia
 - Develop library initiative to meet life long learning and social participation needs of older adults. **Best done by libraries or life time learning center**
 - Encourage partnership between SPL, senior center, Parks and others to promote dementia friendly programming. **This is already happening with some of the players.**

Work Group Ideas

- Use meals to bring people together to share stories, recipes and facilitated group discussions on various topics. Pedestrian potluck could come under this idea. Empty bowls, is an interesting fund raiser developed by the Ballard Food bank: buy a piece of local handmade pottery and fill it up with soup **-already happening at senior centers, book clubs and other informal gatherings. Would need to be clear what our niche would be.**
- Pair up older with younger adults for mutual mentoring around technology and life skills. Silver kite does work in the intergenerational space around the arts.
- Organize ageism workshops
- Develop toolkit for neighborhood block watches **-need to explore if this already exists**
- Continue pedestrian potlucks
- Increase coordination between villages and timebanks **-This is already happening**
- Business stickers for age friendly and corresponding web locator **-aligns with action item under work plan above**
- Develop a HUB for connecting older adults with opportunities to engage (would address the 30% lifestyle and 40% social determinants portions of what influences someone's overall health). Possibly next iteration of the NW Center of Creative Aging. Best done at the neighborhood level versus one big one for the city. Would be challenging to keep updated. Build off existing resource with a new overlay that is age friendly. With the right investments, wouldn't senior centers be ideal hubs? This is certainly the vision that KC has for senior centers. **-This is the idea that has been most discussed**
- Rather than being a group that plans things, the work group gets invited to be part of what already exists.
- Organize a night in event during the winter as a counter part to night out in August-focusing on people who are isolated.