



CONNECTmeDHAD

Direction Home Aging & Disabilities

NEEDS ASSESSMENT FINDINGS



**9.5% of Summit Count
Older Adults have income
below poverty**



**Roughly 20-25% of
respondents (Akron City
and Summit County
respectively) don't have
access to smart phones or
internet in their homes**



**Over 50% of Akron
respondents participate
in social activities less
than monthly**



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Determine changes and improvement in social isolation & feelings of loneliness

Increase use of internet enabled devices & digital confidence

Better understand uses and needs of older adults using technology practically in the community (and congregate settings)



PROCESS



Identify
community
partners &
members



Pre-
Assessment



Provide
Device &
Internet
Access for 1
year



Education &
Hardware
Support



6 & 12 month
Post-
Assessment



THE GOOD, BAD & LOGISTICAL

Early lessons learned—refurbished devices

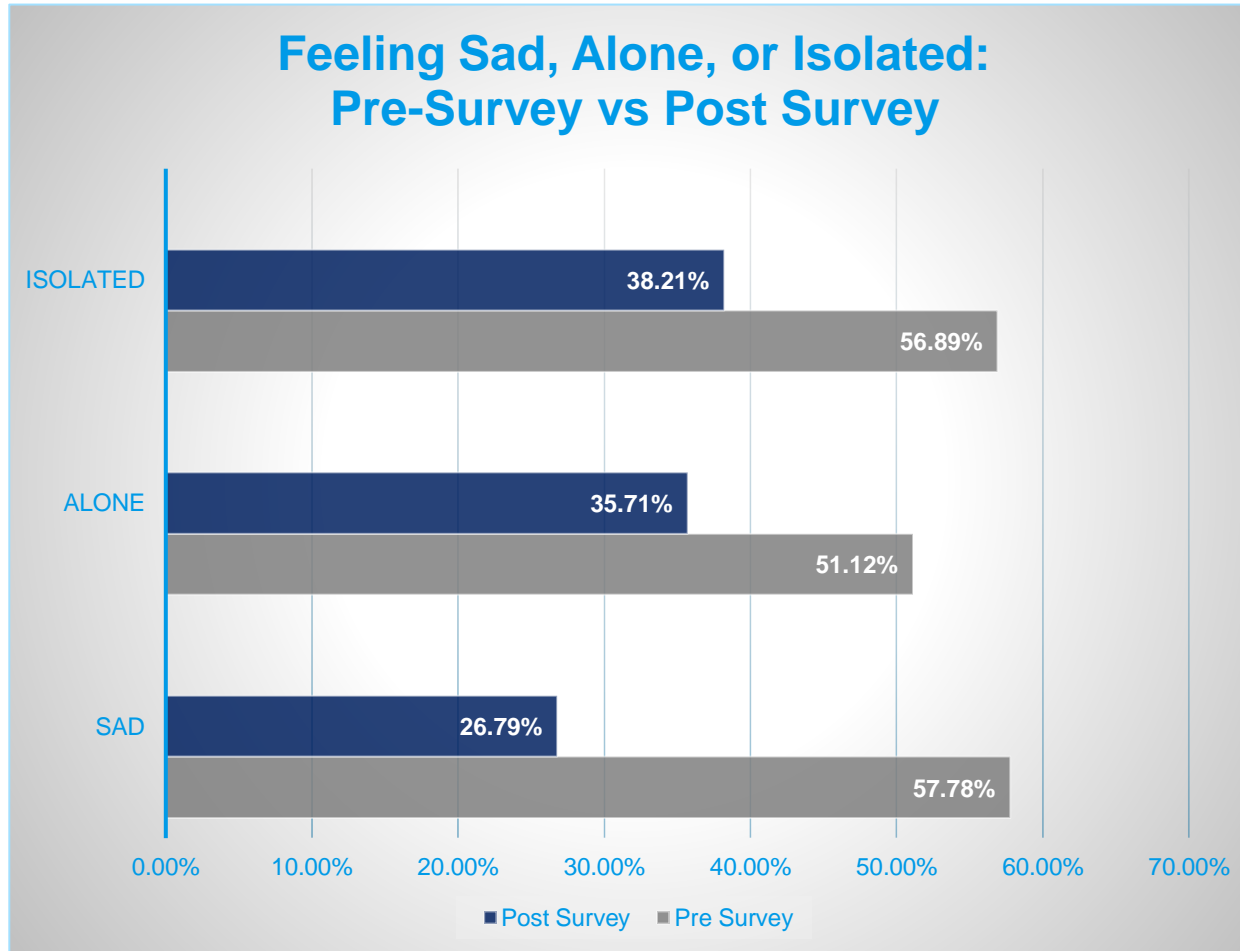
To outsource...or not to outsource IT Support

Project Management skills were key

Person to person is a MUST



EARLY RESULTS



**Two Thirds using
devices regularly**

**62% using for
communicating
more regularly**



TELLING THE STORIES



More quality time

Bring back memories
with technology

