

Why Age-Friendly Communities Matter



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Why should AAAs become involved in Age Friendly initiatives?

COAAA Director Cindy Farson in 2010:

“The COAAA mission is to develop service systems in our counties that allow people to live independently as long as possible. We realize that has to be taken to another level with the tremendous growth in the aging population we have coming. City planners, transportation planners, housing developers, businesses — everyone should be looking to the future in 30 years when 30% of our residents will be over 60.”

Phase 1: AWARENESS

COAAA's mission was to plan, coordinate and advocate for the development and delivery of services for older adults, families and the community.

COAAA committed in 2010 to begin raising awareness of need for lifelong (age friendly) communities

- demographics and population trends

- formal network insufficient to meet everyone's needs

- opportunity and need for public-private collaboration

August 9: All Sides with Ann Fisher, local NPR interview program, for
“The Need for Lifelong Community Initiatives”

- Cindy Farson was joined by Kathryn Lawler of Atlanta Regional AAA & Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) Director for Government and Public Affairs.

Farson: county levies help individuals not served by PASSPORT or Medicaid but social service agencies can't do it all; need communities involved



Lifelong Communities forum 8-24-2010

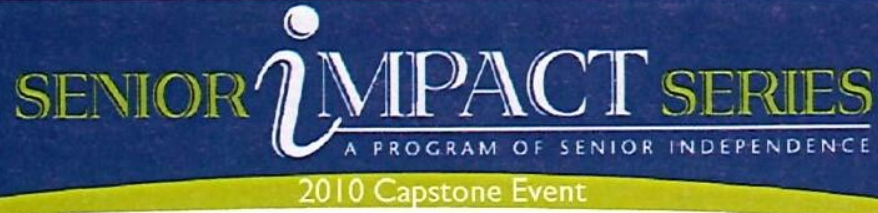
COAAA sponsored “Lifelong Communities: where people can live for a lifetime” half-day session

- 200 community stakeholders attended
- Brought in Kathryn Lawler (Atlanta Region) and Helen Hamlin (Age Friendly NYC)

Addressing 3 questions:

- Given the population shift, how will we as a community respond?
- Is an Age Friendly/Lifelong Community initiative needed here?
- What specific action shall we take?

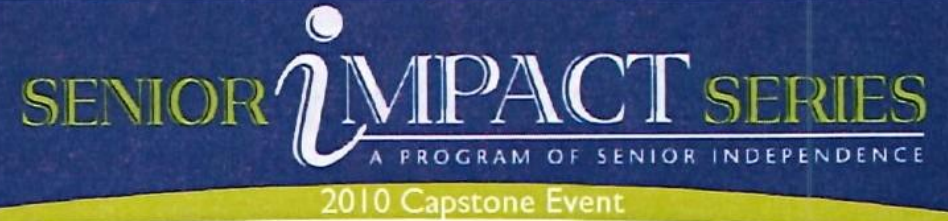
- At the Lifelong Communities event, Hamlin introduced 2007 WHO Global Age Friendly cities findings and info on future population shifts.
- Program concluded with a series of commitments that attendees could make to support work on lifelong communities.



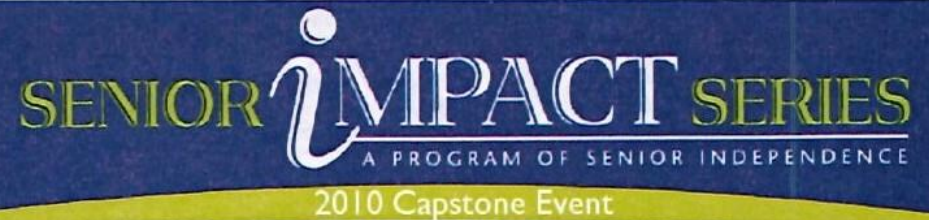
Work with Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging to continue the dialogue.



Commit to beginning community conversations and generating awareness among individual communities.



Talk to the Franklin County commissioners about a cross agency coalition/strategy group to address lifelong communities and participate in a broad coalition to help get things done to move lifelong communities forward.



Continue to fight for all of senior issues, as always. (signed)

January 2011: Columbus Metropolitan Club forum

RECAP - JANUARY 12

Global Preparation for a Demographic Tsunami: Communities for Longer Living-Part 1

Chester Jordan, Executive Director, MORPC; Marilyn Brown, Franklin County Commissioner; Linda Mauger, Program Director, Office of Geriatrics and Gerontology, The Ohio State University; Linda Artis, Executive Director at Senior Independence; Cindy Farson, Executive Director, Central Agency on Aging

In partnership with *Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission*



CMC President Teresa McWain, speakers Linda Mauger, Marilyn Brown, Cindy Farson, Chester Jourdan and Linda Artis.

Phase 2: ACTION



- 2012: COAAA provided \$19,000 seed funding for village concept in German Village area of Columbus.
- COAAA funding to help people not participating or eligible for social services and can't afford private-pay services.
- Villages connect neighbors who need a little help with neighbors who can offer a little help.
 - AAA funding supports sponsored (limited-income) memberships
- 2013: Village Connections hired Katie White as first director.
- 2014: Older adult walk audit was completed in downtown with Village Connections and the Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission.
- 2016: Columbus joined Age Friendly Communities network. Katie White named Age-Friendly Community coordinator at MORPC.

Villages part of lifelong communities

- Villages provide supportive services (Title III-B):
 - Transportation: non-emergency medical appointments, groceries, social events
 - Light yard work: gardening, snow/leaf removal
 - Minor home maintenance: changing light bulbs, moving furniture
 - Technology assistance
 - Socialization
- Village services fill gaps of caregivers and home care.
- Start-up funding to support new villages:
 - 2012 Village Connections
 - 2015 Village in the Ville
 - 2017 At Home by High village
 - 2018 Union County Neighbor to Neighbor
 - 2019 Village Central
 - 2020 Ville on the Hill

www.coaaa.org/cms/resources/aging-in-place/villages

- Annual funding to villages with reporting in SAMS (Wellsky)
- Pilot program with Lyft to meet needs of older adults

Overlap of Title III & Age Friendly Domains

Title III-B: Supportive Services

Outdoor Spaces & Buildings

Transportation

Title III-C: Nutrition Services

Housing

Title III-D: Evidence-Based
Programs

Social Participation

Respect & Social Inclusion

Title III-E: National Family
Caregiver Support Program

Civic Participation & Employment

Communication & Information

Community Support & Health
Services

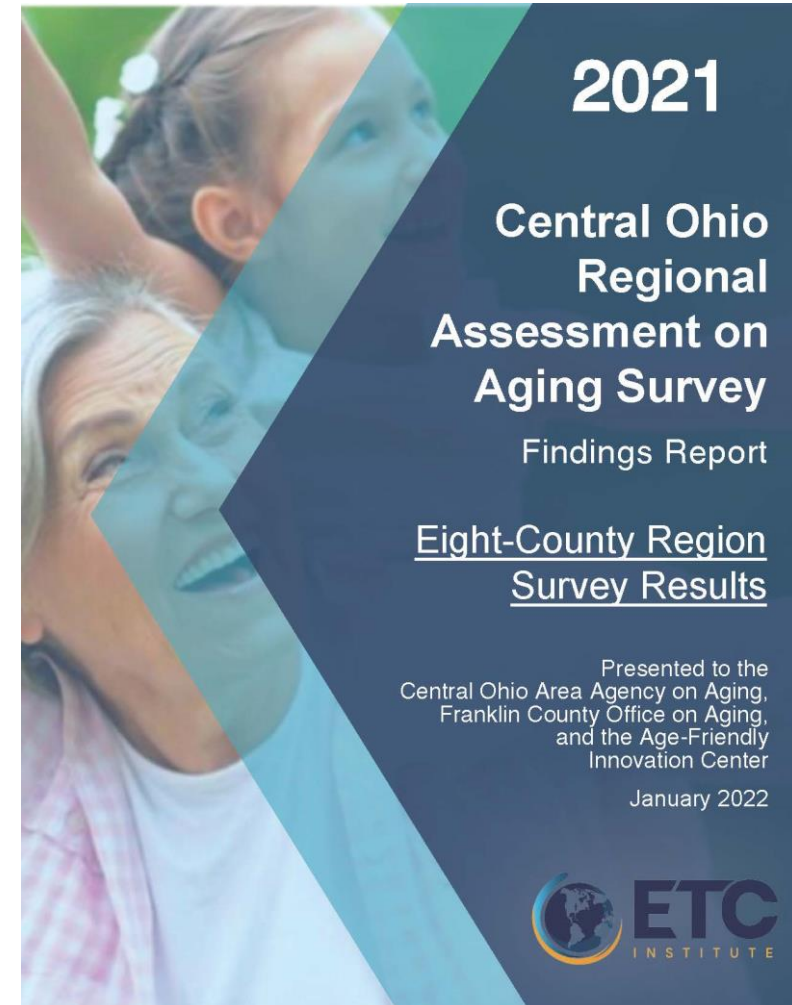
COAAA supports new Age Friendly Communities

- COAAA staff participation on Age Friendly Columbus housing advisory council
- COAAA staff participation on planning committees:
 - Delaware County
 - City of Westerville
 - City of Worthington



Central Ohio Regional Assessment on Aging

- 2021: Collaboration with Age Friendly Columbus and Franklin County on needs assessment for COAAA's eight-county region
- Questions reflected demographics, Title III services and AF's eight domains



Future of COAAA & Age
Friendly collaboration

Katie White joins COAAA
as new director on June
13



CALL 800-589-7277
EMAIL coaaa@coaaa.org

The mission of the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging is to inform and support people as they navigate the experience of aging or disability.



**Katie White selected as
new leader at Central Ohio
Area Agency on Aging**