

Age-Friendly Hyattsville Work Group Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 27, 2022; 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Work Group Attendees: Dawn Bohls (W-2); Edna Lytle (W-4); Sherri McGee (W-2); Suzanne van Nuys, Program Director for Lifelong Learning, Prince George's Community College; Lisa Walker (W-2); Winifred Weaver (W-1)

Staff Attendees: Colleen Aistis, Community Services Manager; Marci LeFevre, Age-Friendly Program Lead

Guests: Adina Kisilinsky, Graduate Student, University of Maryland School of Public Health; Mashaal Munir, Graduate Student, University of Maryland School of Public Health; Dr. Melvin Seale, Assistant Clinical Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Health Policy and Management, University of Maryland School of Public Health; Lori Simon-Rusinowitz, Associate Professor, Health Services Administration and Center on Aging, Health and Aging Policy Fellowship Alumnae, School of Public Health, University of Maryland

University of Maryland School of Public Health Graduate Capstone Research Projects

Marci LeFevre introduced Dr. Melvin Seale, Assistant Clinical Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Health Policy and Management, University of Maryland School of Public Health. Dr. Seale discussed the role of his department and extern partnerships initiated this past Fall with the City of Hyattsville's Age-Friendly Program and Police Department.

Dr. Seale noted that the School of Public Health partnered in 2021 – 2022 with local government entities, nonprofits, and businesses to make fifteen externships (experiential learning opportunities offering graduate students practical experiences in their field) available to students.

Graduate students Mashaal Munir and Adina Kisilinsky presented their respective research projects conducted over the course of the school year. Their topics aligned with and were undertaken to help advance the City's Age Friendly Action Plan. Research project descriptions are summarized below.

Senior Community Needs Survey (COVID-19 and Beyond) Findings Report

Extern: Mashaal Munir

Project Timeline: Fall 2021 to Spring 2022

Project Description: Review, analyze, and summarize data collected from completed surveys in a written report. The report will be used by City leadership and staff to assess needed resources and more effectively target and deploy services to older adults and individuals with disabilities. Data sources include completed surveys and an assembled database (Excel spreadsheet) of collected information.

Survey Description and Purpose

- Survey fielded January – February 2021 to senior residents to gauge their needs during the coronavirus pandemic and beyond.
- Collected responses helped glean information about residents who are having trouble with obtaining food, medication and transportation, and experiencing social isolation.
- Findings will help City assess needed resources and more effectively target and deploy services.
- Respondents were asked to distinguish between needs related to COVID-19 and those that are ongoing (e.g., existed prior to onset of COVID-19).
- Preferences for how residents wish to receive City information was asked, which can enhance future outreach to hard-to-reach and/or underserved community members.

Models of Community-Based, In-Home Support Services Research Paper

Extern: Adina Kisilinsky

Timeline: Fall 2021 to Spring 2022

Project Description: The City's Age-Friendly Action Plan, approved by the City Council in January of 2019, includes as one of its recommendations researching and exploring models of community-based, in-home support services that can help older adults and individuals with disabilities continue to live in their homes and communities of choice. This project will entail identifying, assessing, and summarizing promising models of community-based, in-home support services that the City of Hyattsville can examine and consider for replication. The research project will entail the review of regional program models and, if needed, requests for program materials and interviews with program staff. Identified programs will be included and described in a report to be shared with City leadership and staff.

The students' research papers and slide presentations discussed during the meeting will be shared with City leadership and staff and the Age-Friendly Work Group. The materials will also be posted to the City's Age-Friendly Program site on the Hyattsville website.

Marci and work group members thanked Mashaal and Adina for their interest in working with the City's Age-Friendly Program, their excellent research and engaging presentations to the group, and for making a significant contribution to advancing the City's efforts to make Hyattsville a more livable community for all residents. The City's Age-Friendly Program and University of Maryland's School of Public Health will continue to partner on other research projects to be determined for the upcoming school year.

Updates

Hyattsville Aging in Place (HAP)

- Lisa Walker shared that Kris Aulenbach is serving as HAP Board Chair, a role Lisa had held until her term expired. Lisa will continue to serve on the HAP Board as the organization's Treasurer and will continue to participate in the City's Age-Friendly Work Group. Work Group members thanked Lisa for her service and contributions to HAP while serving as its Board Chair.

Hyattsville Department of Community Services

- Colleen Aistis shared that Seniors on the Go programming had resumed and additional trips were being planned for community members for the summer months. Outings to the Riverdale Farmers Market, Hyattsville Branch Library, area theaters and museums will be offered and promoted. Transportation will be provided with the City's Call A Bus.
- Marci shared she and Community Services Department colleagues will be planning a series of intergenerational activities for students participating in the City's Teen Center and interested older community members. The activities will be offered in July and August.

FY23 Age-Friendly Programs Planning

- The June Age-Friendly Work Group topic will be age-friendly programming for FY23.

Other Business

Upcoming Age-Friendly Work Group Meetings

- June 24, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.
- July 22, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.