

Meeting 2 Minutes

Aging in Place work group
December 8, 2011

Aging in Place Issue: Home Repair & Modifications

Need for a fact sheet.

Need list of contractors who can provide services.

Need for more support for home maintenance.

Service, Program, or Policy	Location	Notes
Habitat for Humanity: A Brush with Kindness	Orange County	Maintenance of home exterior: landscaping, siding, painting. Involved with Neighborhood Revitalization Initiatives.
JOCCA (Joint Orange Chatham Community Action)	Covers 4 counties	Serves low-income (below 200% of poverty level). Weatherization to make home more energy efficient. For 150% or less of poverty level, do heating repairs. Can handle ten cases a month. More restricted during winter months. Federally funded so limited in terms of what repairs are possible. Will do rental-occupied housing. Unsure if multifamily housing qualifies. Department of Energy money is running out.
Rebuilding Together	Orange County	Repairs that fill in the gaps. Modifications to kitchens, baths, flooring, wheelchair ramps, and other home hazard issues, grab bars. Work with occupational therapists. Problem is size, only 1 full-time staff. More need than resources. Get referrals from JOCCA. Do about 25 homes a year. Does 65% of Area Median Income.
Town of Chapel Hill Wise program	Chapel Hill	No income requirement. Weatherization. Focus is on low-income homeowners, do "low-hanging fruit". Pay 50% of costs of repairs. TARP funding. Not geared towards renters. Includes upgrades to heating and air conditioning systems. Have to be a town resident.
Independent Living	Orange County	Have engineers who do community services, no income req. Also have a list of contractors.
SWOOP Strong Women Organizing Outrageous Projects	Orange County	Home modifications, help with those who fall through the cracks

Orange County Housing		Single Family Rehab, Urgent Repair Program
Beyond Clinic Walls (Cherie)		Brings students together from 8 disciplines, form teams to visit community member in need of continuity services 1-2 times a month for a full academic year. Currently has 75 students. Could change to offer services on an as-needed basis. Group of Carol Woods residents that has formed a home-repair team.

Aging in Place Issue: In-home care & support

Service, Program, or Policy	Location	Notes
Importance of NA1s :Nursing Aid (CNAs)		Need more support. Orange County could provide continuing education to CNAs since they are on the ground. Information sharing on chronic illnesses. Update them with current issues, dementia, need to better understand the language of behavior. NC state test is barrier to Nursing Aid Assistants/CNAs who relocate from out of state.
PACE: Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly	Hillsborough (northern Orange), Piedmont Health	Alternative to nursing home care. Provides comprehensive healthcare. In-home care. Also provides transportation. Manage medications. Medicaid to qualify, depends on where you live, goes by zip codes. May be expanding to southern Orange County. Capitated program so once you are referred, monthly payments stay the same. Preventative program. Looking to expand, in transition stage right now. Very favorable impression. Growing around the state. Can also do self-pay. Medicare is looking at this as savings potential.
UNC Department of Family Medicine	Dr. Dallman	Would like to program similar to PACE, but not tied to Medicaid. Challenge is that you would have to leave your current physicians, and go to one place. Advantage is all of your healthcare providers would be communicating.

Aging in Place Issue: Financial Issues & Long term care

Need for unbiased financial planner, strategies for means testing, who can provide financial overview. SHIP is limited in the information they can provide. Needs to be a one-stop shop.

Encourage businesses to give larger senior discounts.

Nancy Holt has contacts for financial planner, CPA, and lawyer. Could present information at future meeting.

Service, Program, or Policy	Location	Notes
Long term care insurance		<p>\$500/month for three year policy for healthy 65 yr old couple. Do some policies specify that you use a specific agency? Issues of legality. Requires a lot of administrative work and paperwork. Has lots of loopholes that deny services. Hard for people to negotiate on their own. Very difficult to activate your policy. Need someone to fight for you and file claims to get benefits. AARP has endorsed Metlife.</p> <p>Need for simplification so that people can understand their options. Legislative action?</p> <p>Is there a rating system for these plans?</p>
Long term care Partnership		Medicaid can start earlier through smaller spend down. Use LTC first, then qualify for Medicaid. Solutions are difficult because all private, need for public LTC service.
Money Follows the Person (Maureen) in Voc Rehab		Funding to help people leave nursing homes (paying rent, utilities, etc.). \$2500 for the transition. Only Medicaid and CAP eligible. Independent Living can provide medical equipment for the home.
Property tax		Raise income level so more seniors can qualify, \$27,000 per household currently.
Disabled American Veterans Wounded Warriors		<p>Has had very good experience with this organization. Provides a variety of services, covers everything. Your primary physician should be at the VA.</p> <p>Benefit for veterans. Aid and attendance. Need at least one day of active service during wartime.</p>
Retired Executive program SCORE		Help non-profits do business plans, maybe there are enough retired insurance/financial/legal experts to provide assistance.

Other		<p>Legal Aid had volunteers come to the Senior Center that came once a month to provide services. Could use this as a model. Legal Aid now means tested. Impossible to get an appointment.</p> <p>Women’s Center in Chapel Hill assists with legal documents, living wills.</p> <p>NCCU law school has a clinic for different issues.</p> <p>Agency exists that can assist people in moving, packing, (TROSA charges).</p> <p>Social work volunteers?</p> <p>UNC student group does yard work, household chores monthly. Also provides social interaction. Greeks for Grace. Can utilize teams of students.</p>
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Aging in Place Issue: Food & Nutrition

Overwhelming to get connected to services, need way to simplify services. Many people may qualify, but daunting to sign up for services.

Service, Program, or Policy	Location	Notes
Lots of programs that provide money for food assistance		Needs to be more transparent, difficult to find information online. Help people who are low-income enroll in SNAP. Maryland program as model. Need to increase participation in food stamps (emotional, physical barriers), many Meals on Wheels recipients qualify but don’t apply.
Cooking		<p>Meals on Wheels, A Helping Hand, congregate meals at senior center. Meals on Wheels could serve more but don’t have the capacity.</p> <p>Program that offers assistance in helping seniors prepare meals at home?</p> <p>Home health agencies, companion services will provide assistance with cooking for a fee. People pay for this out of pocket.</p>

Accepting help		<p>How do you identify seniors who are socially isolated and stay off the radar?</p> <p>Gatekeeper programs (involves police, utility companies: responders in the field) work with those going into homes to identify those who are marginalized or at-risk, provide information and refer to services. Rhode Island as example.</p> <p>CH Police does “troubleshooting” on a case-by-case basis, reactive rather than proactive.</p> <p>OC Sheriff has SALT program.</p> <p>In disaster situation, how do we reach out to folks that are higher risk? County EMS has Code Red telephone blast program in emergency situations. Can give tailored message to seniors. Seniors can be on DSS special needs registry. Need more coordination among DSS, EMS, and CH Police. Perhaps physicians could assist with this?</p> <p>Current resource list is outdated and needs to be expanded. Cumbersome to navigate. Could be mailed out. Internet may not be best way to reach this population.</p> <p>Role for expanding elder protective services as one stop shop for other services. Have had success.</p>
Food pantries		<p>There are several in the area. Lenore has list. Focus is on faith community, but may leave some out.</p> <p>For higher-income folks, there are food and grocery delivery services.</p> <p>Transportation services for grocery shopping (but hoops to jump through to qualify)</p>

Aging in Place Issue: Social Isolation

Project Compassion hosting two day workshop at end of January in creating intentional communities.

Service, Program, or Policy	Location	Notes
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		<p>Core is to start at neighborhood level and move outwards.</p> <p>Information/services constantly changing.</p> <p>In Meadowmont putting together workshop series on issues related to aging in place.</p>
		<p>Victor provides assistance with computers, technology, internet. Could enhance people's ability to access services, find information, could also assist with social isolation.</p>
		<p>Community service for high school students (could assist with technology).</p> <p>Important to build on what people are good at it and enjoy doing, encourages multigenerational interaction. Helps with social isolation. Community service clubs.</p> <p>Bottom-up approach.</p>