September 2016

Updates from Kathy

Age-Friendly Sarasota (APS) has much to celebrate this September. For starters, we are pleased to share more about our guiding principles – Assets & Aspirations – which stand for the letter “A” in our tagline: FOR ALL AGES.

Discovering our assets, whether as individuals, organizations or in community, can be so affirming – across all domains of livability and particularly in the area of housing! Read on to learn more about unique Sarasota County housing assets!

Aspirations speak to our hopes and ambitions. Sarasota County residents can be even more excited about the age-friendly aspirations reported by nearly 1,200 persons age 50 and older who participated in our community study. Click here to read more about what people say are the most important features for an age-friendly community.

Finally, September is Healthy Aging month! Please revel with us by partaking in activities that promote your own healthy, active and engaged living that collectively fosters our age-friendly community!

Age-Friendly Spotlight

Aging in Place

Study after study consistently reports that people overwhelmingly prefer to age in their own homes. For many of us, aging in place is desirable, yet our current homes may be unable to meet our needs as we age. The availability of appropriate, affordable housing with a choice of styles and locations that incorporate adaptive or universal design features will be essential for many of us to continue living independently in our community. Many of us may also want to consider alternative living options such as shared and communal housing that are emerging throughout the country, but are not yet widely available in our community. Age-friendly communities promote the ability to age in place and in places and settings that best meet our needs and preferences.

Age-Friendly Innovation

AARP’s HomeFit Guide

The AARP HomeFit Guide was created to help people stay in the homes they love by turning where they live into a “lifelong home,” suitable for themselves and anyone in their household. The guide offers solutions that range from simple do-it-yourself fixes to improvements that are more involved and require skilled expertise but are well worth the expense. As both an educational resource and a personalized tool kit, the AARP HomeFit Guide provides lessons, suggestions and practical solutions. The guide is a great resource to keep on your bookshelf or share with friends and relatives. Get started by trying the HomeFit Checklist to learn more about changes to make in your home!
Celebrating Age-Friendly Sarasota
Sarasota County Certification for Visitability and Universal Design

In December 2015, Sarasota County passed Municipal Resolution for the Voluntary Universal Design and Visitability Program for Residential Housing. This provision aims to encourage builders to increase the development and housing stock of accessible units over time via use of checklists of "standards." The program is voluntary, not mandated, and the implementation of the program is cost-neutral to the local government, requiring easily executed steps to integrate into existing practices. The resolution represents the dedication and collaboration of many persons and groups including the local Universal Design Coalition, Building Industry, and County Government. To learn more about the resolution and checklists, visit the Promising Practices section of our website.

Want to share an upcoming event or program related to making Sarasota County age-friendly? Please send us:
info@AgeFriendlySarasota.org

Connect
AgeFriendly
AgeFriendly SRQ
Join our Facebook Page
Sign Up Newsletter