



A Community for All Ages

Advancing Age-Friendly Sarasota



- F**uture-Focused
- O**ptimistically Optimizing Opportunities
- R**elevant, Participatory, Actionable Research
- A**ssets & Aspirations-Centered
- L**ifelong Community Tenets
- L**ongevity & Well-Being Throughout the Life Course
- A**ccountable in Capturing Progress
- G**rassroots Engagement Across Multi-Sectors
- E**ngaging ALL Generations
- S**ustainable...In That the Community Embraces Age-Friendly Sarasota

"The year is ended, and it only adds to my age;
Spring has come, but I must take leave of my home.
Alas, that the trees in this garden,
Without me, will still bear flowers."

- Su Ting, circa 700 CE

The reflective adage about the month of June is particularly fitting this month as Age-Friendly Sarasota (AFS) celebrates both a new beginning and strives toward lasting change as a "Community for all Ages."

This month we celebrate the creation of the [Age-Friendly Sarasota Action Plan](#). The Action Plan was developed in response to residents' aspirations about our community features that promote active, healthy, and engaged living for people of all life stages and abilities across the life course.

The Action Plan sets forth goals, objectives, and strategies that will make Sarasota County age-friendly to the max! As we are all stakeholders, there are possibilities for action across all sectors including business and nonprofits, government, media, and we, the people!

No action is too small, and everyone plays a part in co-creating our collective age-friendly future. Interested in what role you might play? You can access the Action Plan [here](#), and be sure to:

- Visit the [Domains of Livability](#) or just jump right to a particular domain of interest (i.e. housing, transportation, etc.)
- Review some of the ideas for people, business, government or nonprofit organizations to consider your commitment ahead
- Tell us your plans via our website or by contacting us at info@agefriendlysarasota.org
- Share the Action Plan far and wide to let others know about our efforts and how they too can advance age-friendliness in any and all the ways they can.

Together, we now embark upon the real work ahead as we move into the Implementation Phase of Age-Friendly Sarasota. Beginning now through June 2020, AFS will advance age-friendly actions across all domains and sectors!

Back to the passage that began this month's newsletter, we return to our Guiding Principles and describe the final letter in our acronym "For All Age**S**. The "**S**" stands for "**S**ustainable."

Sustainable - in that the community embraces age-friendly efforts - which begins with learning and ends with embedding, further promoting principles of age-friendliness by domain in personal behavior, in business, governmental and organizational programs, policies, and services via mission and vision statements as well as operational practices. After all, we must advance age-friendliness throughout Sarasota County via a combination of many steps, undertaken by many people. This begins with an initial awareness of how we might place an "age lens" that promotes healthy aging for all, everywhere we live, work, and play, and in all we do. This beckons the question: What step have you achieved today?



On behalf of the entire Age-Friendly Sarasota community, we look forward to our collective journey ahead.

Age-Friendly Sarasota's Next Steps



[The Patterson Foundation](#) is proud to work with every sector to create Age-Friendly Sarasota, an initiative pioneering a "Community for All Ages" which just celebrated a milestone!

Age-Friendly Sarasota has completed two years of planning and research to assess the community's landscape and aspirations of residents to create a world-class livable community.

On Wednesday, June 7, 2017, Age-Friendly Sarasota reached maximum capacity, at [University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee](#), as those involved in the success along with those interested in the Age-Friendly Movement joined the celebration to learn about the next steps.

Two years ago, Sarasota County became the first in Florida to join the [World Health Organization](#), [AARP](#), and others in the Movement which now includes more than 480 other communities worldwide.

The initiative promoting greater health and well-being for people of all ages is now launching a planned effort to engage businesses, government, organizations, media, and residents in the development of a more livable community.

A focal point for connecting, learning, sharing, and engaging the community is an Age-Friendly Festival set for Saturday, October 28, 2017 at the Sarasota Fairgrounds.

Save the date for this celebration of lifelong well-being in our region! The day-long event will include exhibits, education, experiences, and entertainment featuring arts and culture, health and wellness, and livability innovations.

Visit [Age-Friendly Sarasota](#) to find out how you can keep posted, participate, and share information about the FREE Festival which is a gift to the

CELEBRATING Age-Friendly Sarasota: Becoming an Age-Friendly Festival Advancer



Age-Friendly Sarasota prides itself on its firsts! It was the *first* Age-Friendly community in Florida, and now it's organizing the *first* Age-Friendly Festival in North America!

Previously mentioned, the Age-Friendly Festival (AFF) will be held at the Sarasota Fairgrounds. Exhibition space is available at no cost to participants **advancing** Age-Friendly principles and promoting lifelong well-being.

There are five types of participation opportunities:

- **Volunteer:** Volunteers will be needed for specific duties like directing traffic, meeting, greeting, and seating or helping visitors understand the map of the event. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer at the Age-Friendly Festival, please contact Alicia Chalmers at AliciaCo831@gmail.com.

- **Exhibits:** Attendees will learn how businesses, government services, nonprofits, media outlets, and individuals are advancing age-friendly practices and principles in the community and beyond.
- **Education:** Organizations, longevity experts, and authors will share with attendees their insights and innovations on living optimally at any age.
- **Experiences:** Attendees will participate in hands-on activities that demonstrate ways to enhance the quality of life.
- **Entertainment:** A variety of performances by artists of all ages will be showcased. The [Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County](#) will be coordinating the entertainment.

Visit Age-Friendly Sarasota to [learn more about this opportunity](#) and [submit the online "Request to Participate" form](#). (Submissions are being accepted through July 15, 2017.)

Looking forward to seeing our region *advance!*

GET CONNECTED:



Want to share an upcoming event or program related to making Sarasota County Age-Friendly? Email AFS at info@AgeFriendlySarasota.org and share your ideas!

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