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UPLIFT Florida Network

June 2022

UPLIFT Florida Network's mission is to improve the well-being of individuals and communities via a network of villages and organizations supporting them. For more information or to get involved, contact UPLIFT Formation Team's chairperson Emile Gauvreau: revgauvreau@protonmail.com.



UPLIFT Florida Network Presents at Florida Blue Foundation 2022 Community Health Symposium and Sapphire Awards

With more than 550 attendees, the Florida Blue Foundation held its 17th Annual Community Health Symposium and Sapphire Awards conference May 4–5, 2022. The theme of this year's Symposium was Big Issues in Health: A Focus on Health Equity. UPLIFT Florida Network was honored to present, "Healthy Aging for All Floridians – A Fresh Approach." Read more [here](#).

Share Your Interests & Engage with UPLIFT

UPLIFT Florida Network is built on the values of collaboration, equity, excellence, inclusion, and innovation. By analyzing and continuing improvement our new model of community care, UPLIFT has great potential to influence the future of all Floridians for years to come by making Florida a healthier, more equitable place to age that is cost-effective for all. Join us and engage with UPLIFT Florida Network.



Share your interests with us [here](#). You can also email info@upliftflorida.org with your interests or learn more about our efforts through a conversation.

A Sustainable, Agile & Innovative Approach to Village Building



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When I first met Deborah Gauvreau in 2020 to discuss the formation of what would become [UPLIFT Florida Network](#), I told her, “the good news is there’s no blueprint to follow, and the bad news is there’s no blueprint to follow.” What is now happening in Florida is both a carefully constructed experiment and a learning process that has the potential to benefit communities not just in Florida but all over our country and beyond. Numerous development and operational challenges have limited the expansion of the village model over the past 20 years.

UPLIFT is taking a [fresh approach](#) to creating a statewide hub that can stimulate and nurture existing and emerging villages that can comprehensively serve many more older adults. This innovative approach embodies the spirit of “Reimagining Villages”, a pioneering campaign started in 2020 to transform the village model into a more inclusive, sustainable, and impactful part of our country’s community care infrastructure. UPLIFT’s progress thus far is thrilling, and new milestones continually are being met and exceeded. The best is certainly yet to come regarding villages positively affecting the well-being of individuals and communities across Florida.

UPLIFT Florida Network Launches Its Website

To help people live better, age well, and thrive in communities of belonging.

To strengthen the connections and relationships among organizations that support community members living well and purposefully in their location of choice.

To bring innovative approaches, services, and systems to reduce the challenges accessing services and navigating the complex social, community, and health care services network.

Now there's a new way to learn more about UPLIFT Florida Network and ways you can participate via our website www.upliftflorida.org. Stay connected to UPLIFT with engaging news, stories, and updates. Learn how we are advancing the next generation of the nation's village movement by supporting villages, building networks, and exploring new strategies. Check out the existing and start-up villages that are part of our network. Find out how you can participate in our exciting efforts by getting involved as a [volunteer](#), [partner](#), [sponsor](#), donor, or attend one of our events. Take a few minutes and explore www.upliftflorida.org.

UPLIFT Village Formation Team Co-Leads Holds First Cohort Meeting By Cathy Lieblich



UPLIFT Florida Network Board Members Pam Mahoney and Cathy Lieblich, who are also the co-leads of the Village Formation Team, held the first UPLIFT Cohort Meeting on May 10th. Representatives from the four existing Florida villages, two developing villages, and organizations that provide services to older adults who expressed interest in UPLIFT were invited to the meeting. The purpose of the first meeting was to discuss who the Cohort meetings are for and other ways to participate in UPLIFT.

Going forward, existing and developing villages will be invited to the Cohort meetings. The purpose of the meetings will be for the existing villages and UPLIFT to support the villages in development, providing advice and technical assistance along the way. A Village Formation Toolkit is a work in progress and, once completed, will be used as a tool for the Cohort meetings.

There will also be separate meetings for existing villages to share/network with each other. For those considering developing a village, there will be meetings to discuss the steps that need to be taken to be considered “a village in development.” Once that happens, they will be invited to participate in the Cohort meetings. If you are interested in learning more about developing a village, contact Cathy at clieblich@me.com.

As described during the May 10th meeting, there will also be a group for those organizations that provide services to older adults who want to be involved in the UPLIFT Strategic Alliances group. All of the organizations attending the meeting expressed interest in being in that group, and they will be contacted once the lead for that group is ready to start having meetings. If you are interested in being part of the Strategic Alliances group, contact Cathy at cliebilch@me.com.

In addition, anyone interested in [volunteering](#) in some capacity for UPLIFT is invited to let us know by email info@upliftflorida.org.

We hope you will join us!

June is Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month



June is Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month. Uncover the truth about Alzheimer's and learn ways to take action [here](#). Wear your purple and show your support for the more than 55 million people worldwide living with Alzheimer's or another dementia. Join the Alzheimer's Association in raising awareness this June.

Reframing Aging Initiative: Countering Ageism by Changing How We Walk About Aging



The [Reframing Aging Initiative](#) is a long-term social change endeavor designed to improve the public's understanding of what aging means and the many ways that older people contribute to our society. This greater understanding will counter ageism and guide our nation's approach to ensuring supportive policies and programs for us all as we move through the life course. The initiative's colorful, new flyer tells The Story of Reframing Aging by providing a brief overview of why ageism harms all of us, what ageism sounds like, suggestions on confronting the injustice of ageism, and a Quick Start Guide that underscores the need to choose our words wisely. You can download the flyer [here](#).

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