

# ASPIRATIONS TO ACTIONS

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

The Aspirations to Actions initiative is about strengthening people, organizations, and communities to achieve greater impact and realize aspirations.

The Age-Friendly Festival is only THREE DAYS AWAY!!! It's the first community celebration in the nation to focus on lifelong well-being while aspiring to connect people of all ages. The Festival is a gift to the community funded by The Patterson Foundation and inspired by the Age-Friendly Sarasota initiative. It will take place Saturday, October 28, 2017, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sarasota Fairgrounds. Admission to the Festival is FREE - #ForAllAges! No tickets required!

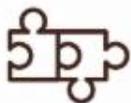


Engage with more than **125 interactive displays and exhibits** happening all day for FREE!

- Health Screenings
- **Live Performances**
- **Engaging presentations with thought leaders, authors, and longevity experts**
- Try the Roundabout Merge
- Exercise Classes
- Brain Games

- Brain Games
- Zumba!
- Llamas
- Imagination Playground
- Musical Instrument Explorations
- Art Opportunities & More!

Visit [www.AgeFriendlySarasota.org](http://www.AgeFriendlySarasota.org) and immerse yourself in the AGE-FRIENDLY FESTIVAL!



**Connecting**



**Learning**



**Sharing**



**Evolving**



**Strengthening**

## HISTORY IN THE MAKING: The Age-Friendly Festival

After months of planning, the **AGE-FRIENDLY FESTIVAL** will come to life this Saturday, October 28, 2017. The **Sarasota Fairgrounds** will be filled with over **125 interactive exhibits, hands-on experiences, education** sessions, and **entertainment** on stage. **Food trucks** will be there for gastronomic pleasures. This unprecedented event will truly be Fun **#ForAllAges** -- and it's **FREE**, as a gift to the community from The Patterson Foundation.



**Evolving**

### Quick background: Why the Festival?

- We are living in historic demographic times, a world-wide Longevity Revolution. During the last century, **life expectancy increased by over 30 years**. This expanded life-span offers both great gifts and unique challenges to individuals, families, and communities.
- The World Health Organization in 2006 created an **Age-Friendly Communities** focus, encouraging and supporting local attention and action for a rapidly aging world. AARP supports this effort, focusing on livable communities for all ages.
- Globally, there are now over 500 communities in 37 countries engaged in the **Age-Friendly Communities Movement**.
- In 2015, Sarasota County was the **1st community in Florida** to join this vital effort through Resolution by the Board of County Commissioners and financial support of The Patterson Foundation.
- There is a very special significance to **Sarasota County community helping to lead this movement**. Demographically, it's the oldest county in the U.S. (with populations over 300,000), an epicenter for the Longevity Revolution and with an historic role in creating its future.
- Since its inception, **Age-Friendly Sarasota has actively identified community Assets and Aspirations**. Multi-sectors have been engaged: people, government, businesses, nonprofits, and media.
- Outstanding age-friendly accomplishments and features have been identified, though often not receiving the acknowledgment or publicity warranted.

- Many have been recognized as [Age-Friendly Advancers](#) - advancing the local (and global) Age-Friendly Movement.

**Now it's time for our entire community to learn about Age-Friendly**, to meet the Advancers, to recognize their achievement, to engage ourselves. As our community raises the bar on quality-of-life, the [first-ever Age-Friendly Festival in our nation](#) is where we make history - together.

The [exhibits](#), [experiences](#), and [educational](#) activities will **expand our possibilities and create new realities**. The [entertainment](#) and [food trucks](#) will add to a joyous, fun-filled day. As the Festival promo says: **Enjoy... Experience... Energize**. Along the way, become [part of history](#) and our ever-growing Age-Friendly Movement.

[Bob Carter](#), Senior Strategy Adviser of [Age-Friendly Sarasota](#)

## IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE AGE-FRIENDLY FESTIVAL!



This era's Lewis and Clarks, and Sacagawea's mapping new expeditions through life guided by the community's aspirations of what we want our future to be.

The concept of belonging and feeling heard is age-friendly at its core. No matter what age you are - newborn to 110 years old - the feeling of being valued tops the charts! The Age-Friendly Festival is part of a movement that advances age-friendly practices and principles that optimize community assets and enhance quality of life -- *for all ages!*

"For example, a region with widespread handicap access and wheelchair ramps provides a better environment to families pushing baby carriages and athletes nursing injuries, and the availability of family restrooms helps everyone from young mothers seeking a changing station for an infant to infirm seniors who need a companion to help them during a visit to facilities.

The festival will span the entire fairgrounds and include everything from personal balance tests to car safety checkpoints to adjust seat belts and mirrors. Whether patrons want to play a game of pickleball or jam with a local band, interactive exhibits will offer a sample of life on the Gulf Coast." [SRQ Daily](#)

Click the links below to get a glimpse into what the Age-Friendly Festival has to offer!

- [Overall Age-Friendly Festival Page](#)
- [125 Participating Organizations and Age-Friendly Advancers](#)
- [Educational Presentation Schedule](#)
- [Live Entertainment Schedule](#)
- [Festival Map](#)
- [Driving Directions](#)
- [SCAT Bus Routes](#)
- [Age-Friendly Festival FAQs](#)
- [Become an Age-Friendly Festival Volunteer](#)
- [Visit @AgeFriendlySarasota on Facebook \(Can't forget the food trucks!\)](#)

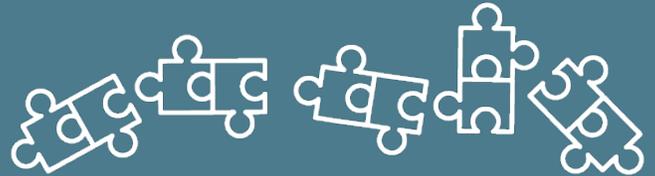
## GET CONNECTED

Learn more every month about how to turn aspirations to actions, follow this link to [A2A's August Newsletter](#).

Interested in learning more about Aspirations to Actions? Subscribe to the newsletter [HERE](#).

[Bloggers share how Aspirations are being transformed to Actions in our community.](#)

Have a story about turning outward?  
Send it to [Deborah Gauvreau](#)



[Aspirations to Actions Facebook](#)

Stay in touch on [Twitter](#):

[#Aspire2Action](#)

[#TurnOutward](#)

[@HarwoodInst](#)

[@ThePattersonFdn](#)

[@manalibraries](#)

[@scgovLibrary](#)

[@ManateeGov](#)

[@SRQCountyGov](#)

[@SustainSara](#)

[@DeborahGauvreau](#)

[@gatoralicia](#)

[@bill\\_little13](#)

[@TPFCommunicator](#)