Welcome to the IFA Age-friendly Environments Webinar Series 15 June 2016 | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EDT

The Evidence Behind Effective Age-friendly Change

Panelists:

Dr Amanda Lehning, University of Maryland Dr Andrew Scharlach, University of California

Moderator:

Ms Dana Bandola, International Federation on Ageing

Organizer:

International Federation on Ageing





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 The webinar will be recorded and posted on the IFA website (http://www.ifa-fiv.org/project/age-friendly-environments/)



For assistance: dbandola@ifa-fiv.org

















Moderator



Ms Dana Bandola

International Federation on Ageing

Age-friendly Initiatives

Tel: +1-416-342-1655 Email: <u>dbandola@ifa-fiv.org</u>





Agenda

- Introductions • by Ms Dana Bandola, Moderator
- Presentation • The Evidence Behind Effective Age-friendly Change

by Dr Amanda Lehning, University of Maryland and Dr Andrew Scharlach, University of California

- **Question and Answer Forum** ۲
- Closing





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(3-5 minutes)

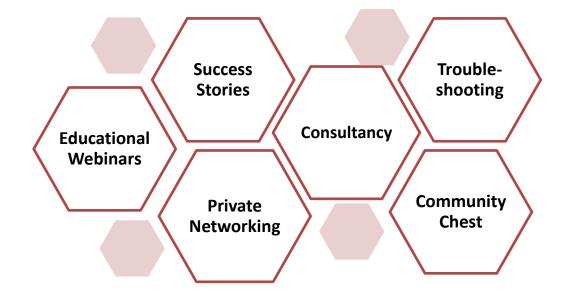


(5-10 minutes)

(30 minutes)



Thanks to the Hall & Prior Health and Aged Care Group, the International Federation on Ageing is proud to announce the development of an interactive learning platform known as the Age-friendly Innovation Exchange (AFIX).







Presenters



Dr Amanda J. Lehning

Assistant Professor University of Maryland School of Social Work <u>alehning@ssw.umaryland.edu</u>



Dr Andrew E. Scharlach

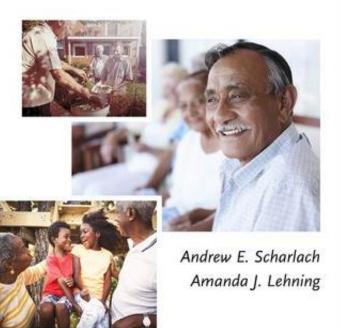
Eugene and Rose Kleiner Professor of Aging UC Berkeley School of Social Welfare <u>scharlach@berkeley.edu</u>



The Evidence Behind Effective Aging-Friendly Change IFA AGE-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENTS WEBINAR SERIES

ANDREW SCHARLACH & AMANDA LEHNING

Creating Aging-Friendly Communities

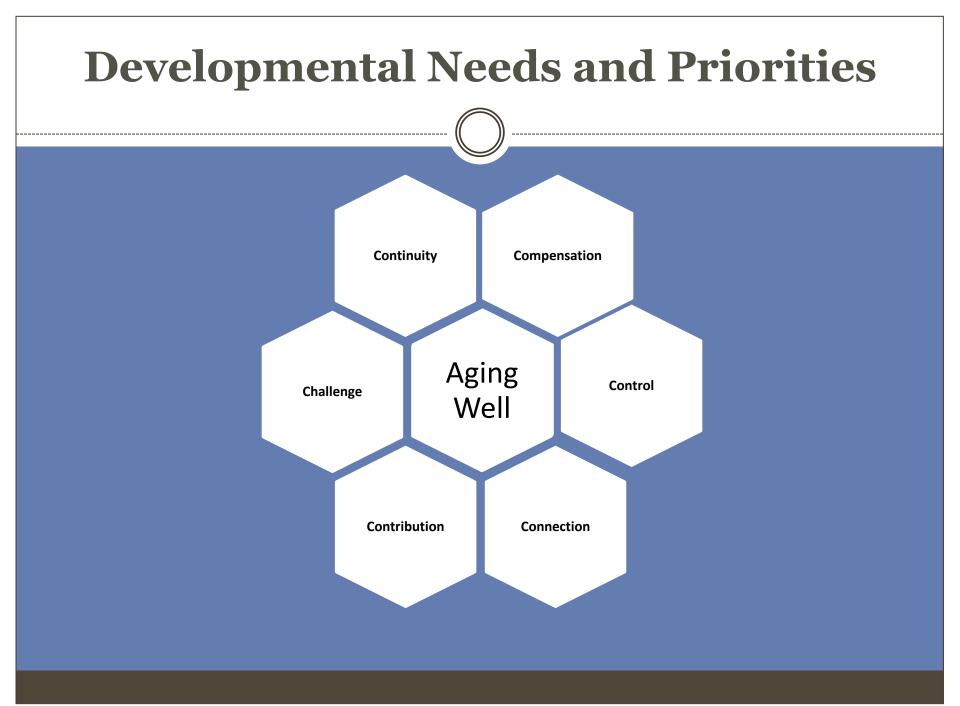


OXFORD

What is an Aging-Friendly Community?

City, town, or neighborhood where older adults are actively involved, valued, and supported in a way that reflects their needs and priorities





Context of Community Change

- Commitment
- Capacity
- Collaboration
- Consumer Involvement
- Comprehensiveness

Changes to Enhance Aging-Friendliness

Addressing structural lag in three areas:
Mobility and the Built Environment
Social Engagement
Health and Social Supports



Mobility and the Built Environment

• Affordable and Accessible Housing

 Walkable Neighborhoods and Proximity to Stores, Services, & Amenities

Transportation Options



Mobility and the Built Environment

Benefits

- Aligns with principles of New Urbanism
- Health benefits for all ages
- Environmental and economic benefits for communities

Challenges

- Limitations of empirical studies
- Personal preferences/market forces (NIMBY, BANANA)
- Adapting to community needs

Social Engagement





Social Contact Safety Social Participation





Social engagement

Benefits

- Substantial evidence of link to health and well-being
- Civic engagement's individual and community-wide effects

Challenges

• Ageism

• Limited financing and policy incentives

Health and Social Supports

• Health and Wellness

Social Services and Supports

• Supports for Informal Caregivers







Health and social supports

Benefits

Potential to delay or prevent institutionalization
Aligns with shift to prevention, wellness, and community health teams

Challenges

- Limitations in use and access
- LTSS are fragmented, expensive, and characterized by unmet need
- Inadequate workforce

Enhancing Community Aging Friendliness

Types of Aging Friendly Initiatives

Community planning

Cross-sector collaborations

Community development

(Lehning, Scharlach, & Price-Wolf, 2012)

Community Planning Initiatives

WHO AGE-FRIENDLY CITIES & COMMUNITIES

AMERICAS

Argentina, La Plata Brazil, Rio de Janeiro Canada, Halifax Canada, Portage La Prairie Canada, Saanich Canada, Sherbrooke QB Costa Rica, San Jose Jamaica, Kingston Jamaica, Montego Bay Mexico, Cancun Mexico, Cancun Mexico, Mexico City Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Puerto Rico, Ponce USA, Portland

AFRICA Kenya, Nairobi

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Jordan, Amman Lebanon, Tripoli Pakistan, Islamabad



Organization



Creating an Age-Friendly NYC One Neighborhood at a Time



Blue Zones Vitality Project Albert Lea, MN (USA)

- Community-wide health promotion, wellness awards
- Walkways, bikeways, and trails
- Walking groups
- Healthy meals offered by restaurants and schools
- "Purpose" workshops
- Volunteer programs
 - Participants increased projected lifespan 2.9 years on avg.
 - Healthcare claims for city workers dropped 49%
 - Employee absenteeism declined 21%

Cross-Sector Collaborations





Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities

Georgia's neighborhood approach to healthy aging

NORC-SSP Model

Program:

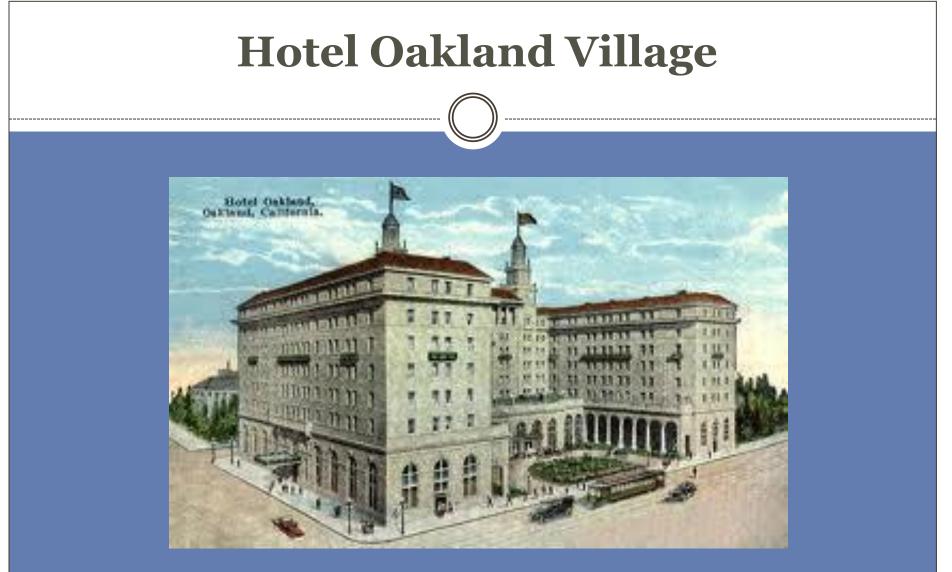
On-site health care and social services

Goal:

Age-in-place with greater comfort and security

Partners:

- Housing entities
- Health and social service providers
- Philanthropies
- Government
- Residents



Participation = Good Health

http://hoteloaklandvillage.com/indexCH.html

UJC National NORCs Evaluation

•	Know more people	88%
•	Participate in more activities	84%
•	Leave home more	72%
•	Know whom to ask for assistance	92%
•	Know more about community services	95%
•	Use community services more	81%
•	Volunteer more	48%
	Feel healthier	70%
	More likely to stay in the community	88%

(Bedney, Schimmel, Goldberg, Kotler-Berkowitz,& Bursztyn. *Rethinking Aging in Place: Exploring the Impact of NORC Supportive Service Programs on Older Adult Participants*. ASA/NCOA Annual Conference, March, 2007)

Community Development

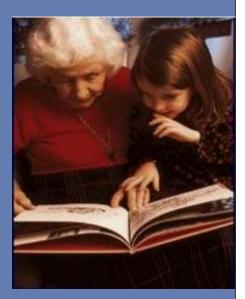
The "Village" Concept: Senior Support Associations





Beacon Hill Village Boston, MA





"Village" Concept

• "Villages are self-governing, grassroots, community-based organizations, developed with the sole purpose of enabling people to remain in their own homes and communities as they age."

[Village-to-Village Network website]

Village program model

Core Services

• Transportation, technology, shopping, meal prep, etc.

- Provided by members, volunteers, or Village staff
- Usually included as part of membership fee

Information and Coordination

Referrals

Preferred provider networks

Usually requires payment to an outside service provider

Social Activities

Volunteer Opportunities

Health and Social Impacts

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Percent
53%
45%
33%
81%
63%
62%
53%
40%
39%

Service Access and Aging in Place

	Percent
Service Access More able to get help Know more about services Use services more More able to get medical care	81% 76% 41% 28%
Age in Place More able to stay in home Taking care of home easier Taking care of self easier	75% 26% 25%

Web-Based Social Networks

- "Next door"
- Tyze
- SherpaLife

 Concierge
 Activities
 Products
 Life planning





Vision: Working Together to Create an Aging Friendly Future

Challenges

- Fuzzy conceptualization and definitions
- Lack of methodologically rigorous evaluations
- Concerns about allocating financial and human resources in a time of fiscal constraint
- Concerns about equity and the potential to exacerbate disparities
- Ensuring the meaningful participation of older adults

"A Society for All Ages"

"A society for all ages is <u>multigenerational</u>. It is <u>not fragmented</u>, with youths, adults and older persons going their separate ways. Rather, it is <u>age-inclusive</u>, with different generations recognizing – and acting upon – their <u>commonality of interest</u>."

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, October, 1998

Thank you!

Andrew E. Scharlach, Ph.D. Eugene and Rose Kleiner Professor of Aging UC Berkeley School of Social Welfare <u>scharlach@berkeley.edu</u>

Amanda J. Lehning, Ph.D. Assistant Professor University of Maryland School of Social Work <u>alehning@ssw.umaryland.edu</u>

Resources

The AARP network of aging-friendly communities: An introduction. (2014). Retrieved from http://www.aarp.org/livablecommunities/network-age-friendly-communities/info-2014/anintroduction.html

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Question and Answer Period

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For more information, please contact:

Ms Dana Bandola

International Federation on Ageing Tel: +1-416-342-1655 Email: <u>dbandola@ifa-fiv.org</u>

Dr Amanda J. Lehning

Assistant Professor University of Maryland School of Social Work Email: <u>alehning@ssw.umaryland.edu</u>

Dr Andrew E. Scharlach Eugene and Rose Kleiner Professor of Aging UC Berkeley School of Social Welfare Email: <u>scharlach@berkeley.edu</u>





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