Establishing Age-Friendly Environments

Tuesday, February 28 2017
11:00AM - 12:00PM EST

Hosted by: Ms. Alana Officer
Senior Health Advisor,
Department of Ageing & Life Course,
World Health Organisation

The following questions will be addressed & discussed:

1. What is the current status of the Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities & Communities (GNAFCC)?
2. What learning models are needed in the GNAFCC?
3. What are the future plans of the GNAFCC?
Global Network of age-friendly Cities and Communities
Healthy Ageing: is the process of developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables well-being in older age.
EVERY OLDER PERSON IS DIFFERENT

Some have the level of functioning of a 30 year old.

Some require full time assistance for basic everyday tasks.

Health is crucial to how we experience older age.
WHAT INFLUENCES HEALTH IN OLDER AGE

INDIVIDUAL
- Behaviours
- Age-related changes
- Genetics
- Disease

ENVIRONMENT THEY LIVE IN
- Housing
- Assistive technologies
- Transport
- Social facilities
Health characteristics
• Underlying age-related trends
• Health-related behaviours, traits and skills
• Physiological changes and risk factors
• Diseases and injuries
• Changes to homeostasis
• Broader geriatric syndromes

Environments

Personal characteristics

Genetic inheritance

Functional ability

Intrinsic capacity
Public Health Framework

High and stable capacity | Declining capacity | Significant loss of capacity

Functional ability

Intrinsic capacity
Domains of functional ability

- be mobile
- learn, grow and make decisions
- meet basic needs
- build and maintain relationships
- contribute
An example of mobility

- Accessible housing?
- Footpaths, pedestrian crossings, available throughout?
- Assistive technologies or support services?
- Pleasing and safe neighbourhood?
- Shopkeeper helpful and friendly?
- Any benches to rest on, public toilets?
- Accessible buses or taxis?
- Quality health and long term care services?
Global strategy and action plan on ageing and health (2016-2020)

A framework for coordinated global action by the World Health Organization, Member States, and Partners across the Sustainable Development Goals
WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities & Communities

The **vision** of the GNAFCC is that every city and community strives to become more age-friendly.

The **mission** of the GNAFCC is to enable cities and communities around the world to become more age-friendly by:

- **inspiring** change by showing what can be done and how it can be done
- **connecting** cities and communities worldwide to facilitate the exchange of information and experience
- **supporting** cities and communities to find appropriate innovative and evidence-based solutions
WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities & Communities

- **Strengthen relationships** with existing affiliates and expand strategic partners: trans-national networks, research institutions.
- **Review** membership criteria and governance mechanisms
- **Upgrade and expand platform** for information sharing, catalyse innovations and enhance availability of evidence based guidance, age-friendly practices, training, mentoring, opportunities for networking and exchange etc.
• Times are changing
• WHO has responded with a new framework for action
• Strong political will
• Creating age-friendly environments is a priority
• The Global network for age friendly cities and communities is the key mechanisms at local level to support multisectoral collaboration
• The time to act is now
For more information

http://www.who.int/ageing
#yearsahead