Rural Communities: Engaging People, Partners and Policy Makers

Engaging People (Carbon County, Montana)
Therese Picasso-Edwards (Therese@rlacf.org) &
George Man

Engaging Partners (Bethel, Maine)
Nancy Davis (nancydavis.bethel@gmail.com)

Engaging Local Politicians (Blue Hill Peninsula, Deer Isle & Stonington, ME)
Anne Schroth (aschroth@healthypeninsula.org)
The way people are aging is changing—

communities are changing, too

Engaging Local Politicians
Anne Schroth
Age-Friendly Coastal Communities

Engaging Partners
Nancy Davis
Bethel Area Age-Friendly Community Initiative

Engaging People
Therese Picasso-Edwards &
George Man
Red Lodge Area Community Foundation
Engaging People: Red Lodge Area Community Foundation, Carbon County Montana
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Resilient Community

- Community Mental Health
- Connecting People to Resources
- Affordable Workforce Housing
- Age-Friendly Community
- Transportation
- Navigator (resource app guides)

Programming is Driven by Community Expressed Need or Concern

- Surveys
- Forums
- Community Assessments
- In Person Expressed Concern
Carbon County, Montana Statistics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red Lodge</td>
<td>2,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roberts</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joliet</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boyd</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fromberg</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridger</td>
<td>753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belfry</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgar</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bear Creek</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roscoe</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

65+: 23%  
50+: 50.1%
Engaging People: Red Lodge Area Community Foundation, Carbon County Montana
Goals for Age-Friendly Community

- Expand outside of Red Lodge
- Build trust with other Carbon County Communities
- Consistently engage with
  - Senior Centers
  - County Commissioners
  - Law Enforcement
Engaging People: Red Lodge Area Community Foundation, Carbon County Montana

Give Hope
Engage with humility
Find an Advocate
Respect all people and all ideas
Build Trust
Engaging People: Red Lodge Area Community Foundation, Carbon County Montana

Thank You!

The Red Lodge Area Community Foundation would like to give a special thank you to all of the Senior Centers in Carbon County. Our Senior Centers provide warm meals, companionship, and entertainment to people of all ages. Thank you to each hard-working volunteer who makes these valuable resources available to our Carbon County communities.

Below are your Carbon County Senior Centers

**Belfry Senior Center**
P.O. Box 104
Belfry, MT 59008
(406) 664-3209
Meals: Tues. and Thurs. at 12:30 P.M.

**Boyd Senior Center**
Boyd School
Boyd, MT 59070
(406) 425-3954
Meals: Thurs. at noon

**Golden Age Society**
306 E. Broadway Ave.
Bridger, MT 59014
(406) 662-5057
Meals: Tues. and Thurs. at noon

**Joliet XYZ’ers**
209 E. Front Ave.
Joliet, MT 59041
(406) 962-9027
Meals: Tues. at noon

**Red Lodge Senior Center**
207 Villard Ave. S.
Red Lodge, MT 59068
(406) 446-1826
Meals: Mon., Wed., and Fri. at noon

**Valley Senior Citizens**
111 West River Street
Fromberg, MT 59029
(406) 668-7613
Meals: Wed. and Fri. at noon

Call ahead to confirm the meal cost and make your reservation

www.rlacf.org | (406) 446-2820 | 122 S. Hauser Ave. | P.O. BOX 1871
Contact George Man with any questions at George@rlacf.org
Engaging Partners

Bethel Region Age-Friendly Community Initiative

6 contiguous towns –
Total population 5,585
Engaging Partners: Bethel Region Age-Friendly Community Initiative

COOPERATION – COLLABORATION

Both: people working together to achieve the same target, BUT ...

**COOPERATION**

- division of labor among the participants
- work for the mutual benefits of the distributed network of the peers
- connective activity: every participant working to achieve the goal for his own benefit

**COLLABORATION**

- synchronized and coordinated activity
- like an orchestra: everyone plays his own role to get a sweet and melodious tune
- collective activity: participants united to achieve a shared goal
Engaging Partners: Bethel Region Age-Friendly Community Initiative

Community Partners

AFCI Adaptive Tookit

Exercise Program

Senior College Players
Engaging Partners: Bethel Region Age-Friendly Community Initiative

Collaborative Planning

AFCI N2N Rides

Healthy Communities

We strive to be a healthy community where families and individuals of all ages and abilities have access to a variety of indoor and outdoor recreational, educational, and social opportunities in our towns. We feel strongly connected to one another in a supportive environment, contributing to social, emotional, and physical well-being.

Food Security
Age-Friendly Coastal Communities

Engaging Local Policymakers in Rural Communities

Anne Schroth, Healthy Aging Program Coordinator
Healthy Peninsula
P.O. Box 945
10 Parker Point Road
Blue Hill, Maine 04614
(207) 374-3257
aschroth@healthypeninsula.org
Engaging Local Politicians: Age-Friendly Coastal Communities

Blue Hill  
Brooklin  
Brooksville  
Castine  
Deer Isle  
Penobscot  
Sedgwick  
Stonington  
Surry

AGE-FRIENDLY Coastal Communities

Where AGING and THRIVING go hand in hand
Engaging Local Politicians: Age-Friendly Coastal Communities
## Regional Population & Government Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Year-Round Population</th>
<th>65+</th>
<th>Median Age</th>
<th>Government Structure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue Hill</td>
<td>2663</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>52.6</td>
<td>3-member Select Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklin</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>55.8</td>
<td>3-member Select Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooksville</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>56.5</td>
<td>3-member Select Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castine</td>
<td>1309</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>Town Manager and 3-member Select Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penobscot</td>
<td>1237</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>53.9</td>
<td>3-member Select Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sedgwick</td>
<td>1212</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>47.3</td>
<td>3-member Select Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surry</td>
<td>1605</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>49.2</td>
<td>3-member Select Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer Isle</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>57.5</td>
<td>Town Manager and 3-member Select Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stonington</td>
<td>1138</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>Town Manager and 5-member Select Board</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Engaging Local Politicians: Age-Friendly Coastal Communities

Bringing Communities Together
Engaging People
Therese Picasso-Edwards (Therese@rlacf.org) & George Man

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