

Age-Friendly Englewood

Update – July 2018

Plan of Work – 2017-2019

Mission:

Age-Friendly Englewood is a partnership between community organizations and the City of Englewood that aims to maximize the social, physical and economic participation of older adults so they may age in place with dignity and independence.

Guiding Principles

- View an aging population as a community asset
- Treat aging as a normal development stage
- Involve older people in problem identification and resolution
- Engage all sectors – public, private, business, etc.
- Recognize and embrace the diversity of Englewood's older population
- Provide ways for residents to come together across boundaries of geography, race, religion and age.
- Build upon existing resources and activities

Priority Domain: HOUSING

Promote & expand programs that support affordable property maintenance and home repair

- Home Safety programs
- Explore home sharing
- Advocate for low-income senior housing
- Educate residents about property tax relief & property tax freeze
- Promote programs that provide financial assistance for housing & utilities

Collaborating Organizations Bergen Volunteer Center (Chore Service); Rebuilding Together; Habitat for Humanity; Jewish Home/Safely@Home; Habitat for Humanity; AARP (passive); Bergen County Community Action; Center for Food Action; PSEG; Women's Rights Information Center; Englewood Construction Code Compliance; Planning Board; City Council; Mayor; Englewood Tax Office

Updates: **Year 3 in BOLD**

Hosted Housing Options conference May 2017 – 140 registered/105 attended (bad weather)
Provided info about all topics.

Will present additional programs on these topics in Year 3

Priority Domain: OUTDOOR SPACES & BUILDINGS

Promote and advocate for improved public amenities

- Audit existing parks, sidewalks & crossings
- Explore the concept of “complete streets,” designed to be safe for all modes of transportation, including walking.

Collaborating Organizations: Mayor; Englewood Department of Public Works; City Engineer; Volunteer sidewalk & street assessors; Coalition Partners

Working with City Engineer to advocate for more benches

Conducted Walkability Study May 2018. **Report to be shared with City etc.**

Developing Public Arts project with several collaborating organizations and artists

Priority Domain: TRANSPORTATION

Improve/Enhance network of transportation options to increase mobility of older adults and provide access to a broad range of activities

- Provide education about available public transportation
- Explore alternative transportation Services
- Improve the safety of older adult drivers

Collaborating Organizations NJ Transit, B.C. Community Transportation; EZ-Ride; Independent Travel Network (ITN), Englewood Economic Development Corp.; Mayor/Council/City Manager; Uber/Lyft; GoGoGrantparent; SESCIL, JCC, Flat Rock Brook; Actors' Fund Home, Board of Education (buses), Dwight-Englewood School, Houses of Worship (buses); AAA, Jewish Home at Home, AARP

Priority Domain: COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR HEALTH SERVICES

Goal: Promote & provide access to available health & social services
Provide health-related informational and vaccination programs

- Promote the broad range of accessible and affordable fitness activities
- Distribute refrigerator magnet with pocket to contain critical personal information to 1,000 older adult residents of Englewood

Collaborating Organizations: Department of Health, Englewood Hospital, "Disease" organizations, Coalition Partner organizations providing Health-related and/or fitness activities; Police/Fire/EMS; Houses of Worship.

Priority Domain: CIVIC PARTICIPATION & EMPLOYMENT

Goal: Successfully integrate older adult residents of Englewood into the life of the community

- Encourage businesses to adopt age-friendly practices that attract and retain older adults as customers and potential employees
- Engage older adults in civic life of the community
- Assure sustainability of Age-Friendly Englewood

Collaborating Organizations: Chamber of Commerce, EEDC (Englewood Economic Development Corp.); Mayor/Council/City Manager; Volunteer Center, nonprofit organizations, agencies of City government, Coalition partners, Houses of worship

Hosted Transportation Options conference Sept. 2018 attended by 100 Developed & circulated chart of various transportation options; included in Directory

- Promoted GoGoGrandparent, Ryde4Life & B.C. Community Transportation
- Promoted driver safety programs
- Promoted Economic Benefits Checkup

Continue ALL in Yr 3

Promote & continue to promote info about wide variety of health-related & fitness programs.

Promote & continue to promote info about Caregiver support groups in Yr 3

Advocate for EHMC to open Urgent Care center in central business district

Promote & continue to promote Age-Friendly Businesses with SID. Visit businesses and provide Checklist. Certify as "Age-Friendly"

Advocate creation of Senior Advisory Council

Promote volunteering through Volunteer Center

Promote employment opps for older adults

Continue to Consult with other towns to become Age-Friendly

Priority Domain: SOCIAL PARTICIPATION & INCLUSION

Goal: Promote and ensure access to a range of activities that integrate older adults into the life of the community

- Increase Number of Older Adults participating in existing activities
- Reach out to Isolated Older Adults
- Help older adults understand options in retirement
- Promote intergeneration programs that bring all ages together.

Collaborating Organizations: Numerous Coalition Partners offering activities, Dept. of Health, DPW, Bergen PAC, Recreation, CofC, EEDC, Houses of Worship; Housing complexes; Providers of Meals on Wheels; High Schools/students; Mayor, City Manager; Police/Fire/EMS; Village to Village Network

Priority Domain – COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION

Goal: Improve access to information about programs and services

- Utilize effective Communications Strategies across all activities as needed
- Utilize existing resources to promote Age-Friendly programs and services (city website, DPW calendar, Div. of Senior Services materials, AARP)
- Increase access to information (technology, reach out to caregivers)

Collaborating Organizations: Coalition Partners, Local Media, 2-1-1, City Communications manager; Bergen County Caregiver Coalition.

Prepare materials for Englewood to become designated as an **Age-Friendly City** by AARP and the World Health Organization. Process has been streamlined to accommodate work already done. Requires letter from Mayor, which Mayor Huttle has said he will provide

Promote & continue to promote existing activities

Promote technology opps

Partnered with BergenPAC to promote Older Americans Month 5/2018. Will repeat in Yr. 3

Hosted breakfast for local clergy on 7/10/18, attended by 13. Will follow up in Yr. 3

Hosted Latino focus group on 6/13/18 attended by 18 older adults. Will follow up in Yr. 3.

Community celebration of Milestone Birthdays and/or arts project

Develop & Promote intergenerational programs with schools, scouts, etc. in Yr. 3

Develop & Promote technology sessions for older adults

Continue communication initiatives

- Monthly E-news sent to 900+ email addresses
- website updates
- Facebook posts & ads (now up to 415 “likes” and 35,540 people reached through ads)
- Timely and relevant press releases
- Inform/ engage older adults residents of Englewood through blast emails about activities & events
- Update, print and distribute 2nd edition of Guide to Older Adult Services (2,000 distributed in March 2018)
- Create Database from entries in Directory
- Survey older adults about knowledge and effectiveness of Age-Friendly Englewood
- Include AFE blurbs in DPW calendar
- Provide articles for “My Englewood” newsletter