

ALAMEDA COUNTY COUNCIL FOR AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Workplan Development

(Revised 7/24/18)

Process

1. Potential projects compiled from various sources
2. Council workgroup formed and met three times
 - a. List simplified:
 - i. Omitted projects not in the Four-Year Plan or otherwise responsive to the Board of Supervisors
 - ii. Eliminated minor projects and things being handled outside of Council
 - iii. Combined things where it made sense
 - b. Projects categorized as Housing, Age-Friendly, Advocacy, Data, Training, or Services
 - c. Criteria for assessing potential Council projects developed and considered:
 - High impact
 - Low risk
 - Complements existing efforts
 - Begin to see results within 1 year
 - Has champions
 - d. 10 projects recommended for current action
3. Project descriptions drafted
4. Discussion by full Council on May 11, 2018
5. Committee review between May and June meetings
6. Full Council review and discussion at June 2018 meeting

Recommended Projects

Category	Status	Project
Housing	Proposed New	Identify and advance housing solutions for seniors
Training	Proposed New	Develop and promote "Embracing Aging" training curriculum
Services	Committed	Support inclusion of the voice of older adults in significant initiatives, starting with AC3
Data / Advocacy	Committed	Promote data collection and reporting on older adults, starting with AC3
Age Friendly	Proposed New	Pursue WHO designation as an Age Friendly County
Age Friendly	Committed	Promote Age Friendly to cities
Advocacy	Committed	Join forces on legislative advocacy
Advocacy / Data	Committed	Create backgrounders on key age-friendly topics, incorporating available data
Services	Committed	Work with All In to reduce food insecurity for seniors
Advocacy	Proposed New	Build awareness around key issues

Potential Future Projects

Services	Disaster planning
Services / Advocacy	Contribute to and consult on website, a staff-led project
Advocacy	Draft legislative proposals (e.g., on group living facilities or homelessness)
Advocacy	Participate in regional collaboratives
Data	Unified report on services
Services	Advocate for increased or improved services to seniors in existing and new programs
Services	Capacity building for providers
Services	Collaborate to serve people with high needs, partnering with AC (follow-on from data project)
Services	Create payee program
Services	Determine high utilizer "hotspots" and target interventions
Services	Expand behavioral health services
Services	Expand nutrition programs
Services	Expand respite care
Services	Expand senior injury prevention programs
Services	Fund enabling services
Services	Increase coordination of elder abuse responses
Services	Provide capacity building support for providers
Services	Provide input on redesigning palliative care system
Services	Support LGBT-friendly programs

Project Descriptions

Identify and advance housing solutions for seniors

<u>Category</u>	<u>References</u>	<u>Status</u>
Housing	Countywide Plan	Proposed
<p><u>Description</u></p> <p>The Council will form a workgroup which will focus on all aspects of housing and seniors, including displacement, prevention, and homelessness, and increasing the stock of affordable housing. The Council to serve as a conduit of information about the needs of older adults to existing bodies addressing housing.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <p>A workgroup will form to explore a range of approaches, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Create a solutions-oriented platform around housing and older adults● Developing a mechanism to track new developments in housing and homelessness prevention and advocate for a focus or priority on older adults● Advocating for increasing the stock of affordable housing● Promoting and supporting anti-displacement efforts● Promoting and supporting homelessness prevention strategies● Advocating for increased service to seniors in existing or new housing initiatives● Exploring alternative housing options, such as shared housing● Supporting the development of strategies to serve the needs of homeless seniors● Build awareness around housing-related priorities <p>The project can include creating a policy platform and encouraging advocates to enter into the housing space to advocate for identified solutions for older adults and providing technical assistance and data (e.g., Margot Kushel’s data on how the population is growing) that supports advocacy efforts in many different spheres. The platform may include a call to prioritize the frail elderly. A data project could be including in intake forms a new question, e.g., <i>“In the last 60 days, have you had concerns about your housing?”</i> (Source: Wendy Peterson]</p> <p><u>Potential Partners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● CDA, BHCS <p><u>Project Outputs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Written platform		
<p><u>Questions and Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● A series of three meetings has been set up. How do we sustain this work over the long term?		

Develop and promote "Embracing Aging" training curriculum		
<u>Category</u>	<u>References</u>	<u>Status</u>
Training	Countywide Plan	Proposed
<p><u>Description</u> Using the Council’s subject matter experts, help develop and promote a training series to be made available to County staff, cities, and CBOs. This would involve looking at existing curricula, such as from AHS and Justice in Aging. This work would likely be carried out by County training staff using dedicated resources, so Council members would be in an advisory and support role.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u> This project is about permeating baseline knowledge about aging into the County in a systematic way and relates to the work of promoting the voice of older adults in a broad range of activities. This training would define the key concepts people need to know, such as basics of geriatrics, the role of stigma, and other topics.</p> <p>Could incorporate webinars and other methods. Engaging AC3 may be a productive strategy. Training could be mandatory for County staff.</p> <p>An early step is to inventory existing training resources. Requires an additional staff resource, supported by a Council Education and Training subcommittee.</p> <p><u>Potential Partners</u> AC3 participating organizations to receive trainings; County Social Services Agency or other County training department to develop and deliver trainings; AHS, for geriatrics information</p> <p><u>Project Outputs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training curriculum developed ● People trained 		
<p><u>Questions and Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This is recommended as an early project for the Council ● Create Education and Training Committee? 		

Support inclusion of the voice of older adults in significant initiatives, starting with AC3

Category

Advocacy

References

AC3 Presentation by Kathleen Clanon

Status

Committed

Description

This project aims to create a model for infusing the voices, concerns, and perspectives of older adults into existing programs and initiatives, starting with AC3.

Discussion

AC3 is already committed to including the consumer voice, and specifically the voice of older adults. This project provides practical support to help AC3 accomplish this. AC3 provides rich opportunities for learning because it includes many players and is dedicated to developing and then disseminating evidence based practices.

The following activities could be part of this project:

- Disseminating call for members of new consumer Guild and suggesting screening questions
- Affirmative outreach to nominate suitable persons
- Providing to AC3 draft questions to use in their focus group protocols (for example, what is the hierarchy of concerns, from ageism to other concerns)
- Helping to host, promote, or otherwise support focus groups and other consumer forums
- Providing information about past focus groups involving older adults
- Adding staff seats for Council members as they begin work with the Guild
- Ongoing check-in meetings and information sharing with AC3
- Providing consultative support through Steering Committee (Randy Morris, Wendy Peterson)

A later step could be working to increase representation of older adults in other places, such as existing commissions and advisory bodies.

Potential Partners

- AC3

Project Outputs

- Inclusion of persons representing the voice of older adults on advisory bodies
- Recommended questions for focus groups to explore needs of older adults
- Focus group findings
- Ongoing meetings to provide guidance related to the older adult perspective

Questions and Notes

- Randy and Wendy, who sit on AC3 Steering Committee, can support this

Promote data collection and reporting on older adults, starting with AC3

<u>Category</u>	<u>References</u>	<u>Status</u>
Data / Advocacy	Expressed commitment of Kathleen Clanon	Committed
<u>Description</u> <p>This project aims to call attention to the needs of older adults and ultimately to expand and improve services by promoting data collection and reporting in existing programs. Specifically, the Council will make recommendations about quantitative and qualitative data collection and reporting within AC3. The Council will need to make an effort to justify the requested measures and reports by researching and referencing available best practices with respect to data collection and reporting for our population. This work supports a possible future project of developing of general indicators.</p> <u>Discussion</u> <p>This project reflects a core strategy that has been used in many different contexts: in order to raise awareness about an issue, establish the habit of counting the people or services that matter. The philosophy of this approach is to start with easy asks, aiming to answer basic questions by requesting reports that can be generated using existing technology and business processes. The project starts with AC3, and may involve the following steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Meet with AC3 managers to understand the data sets engaged and key data points available, existing reports, and existing reporting capabilities.2. Identify potential sources for duals or other data that can be added to the AC3 dataset3. Data Committee to brainstorm questions that hypothesize interventions that might follow from a better understanding of AC3 data. Example: <i>“Are older adults in AC3’s service universe vulnerable to preventable injuries? If so, can we identify and target for services persons at greatest risk and then measure our impact?”</i> Or: <i>“Can your data set produce a list of high-needs individuals, defined as x, y, z?”</i>4. Data Committee drafts proposed queries and reports for consideration by AC3.5. Agreed upon reports are provided back to Council, with Council members participating in analysis and development of programmatic responses.6. Recommending areas of inquiry for AC3’s planned consumer focus group <p>The work with AC3 can serve as a model for how the Council can collaborate with other initiatives that touch the lives of older adults. For example, as part of an Age Friendly County initiative, County departments might be directed to respond to a simple survey which asks: “Are you able to generate a report that breaks out your clients by age groupings?” and “Does your data system allow you to know the cost of serving people of different ages?” and “Does your data system allow you to compare outcomes by age group?” The answer ‘no’ to this last question could motivate positive action all by itself. This project is a first step toward an eventual Council goal of developing indicators and the promulgation of best practice standards for data collection and reporting.</p>		

Potential Partners

- AC3

Project Outputs

- Recommended practices for data collection and reporting
- New reports from AC3 and other entities

Questions and Notes

AC3 staff have indicated that a wish list of recommendations should be provided soon, as decisions are being made now about the database architecture that will bake in both capabilities and limitations.

Pursue WHO designation as an Age Friendly County

Category

Age Friendly

References

Countywide Plan

Status

Proposed New

Description

The Council to recommend that the County embark on the process to be designated as an Age Friendly County. If agreed to by the Board of Supervisors, the Council to develop goals and oversee plan execution.

Discussion

This can be done in two ways: County as an entity, or working to get all the cities engaged, or both. A few goals are typically described, and these could be a subset of those adopted by the Council, which would serve as the body charged with tracking and guiding County age-friendly activities. It may make sense to align the application process with the AAA's four-year needs assessment.

The following goals might be adopted:

- Decide on the pathway: start with County or cities or doing both simultaneously
- BOS to set some expectation of County Departments relating to aging, e.g.:
 - Establish minimum requirements for data collection and reporting
 - Establish baseline plan addressing aging within the agency's operations
- Develop and promote an "Embracing Aging" training curriculum; this can be offered to County and city employees as well as CBOs

Potential Partners

- Cities

Project Outputs

- Board of Supervisors resolution to apply for Age Friendly designation
- Board of Supervisors directives implementing age friendly objectives
- Agency responses to Board directives

Questions and Notes

- First question: County first or cities first?
- Can cities that are already engaged (Fremont, Oakland, Berkeley, Emeryville, Newark, Union City, San Leandro) help lead the work with other cities?
- Need to work with County and city leadership to get input on options for approaching this - an early step could be bringing to Board staff to discuss
- There's a lot of staff work required
- The Board is looking to the Council to clarify its own role in moving the older adults agenda forward; doing this at the County level provides opportunities to work with the Board directly on action steps

Promote Age Friendly to cities

<u>Category</u>	<u>References</u>	<u>Status</u>
Age Friendly	Countywide Plan Age Friendly Committee	Committee
<u>Description</u> Encourage and support adoption of the WHO model by the 14 cities within Alameda County.		
<u>Discussion</u> This project opens with outreach to to senior centers. This includes engaging cities and local stakeholders to understand the WHO process. As cities express interest and progress, the Council can be a source of technical assistance.		
<u>Potential Partners</u>		
<u>Project Outputs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meetings across the County engaging a broad group of stakeholders• Possibly: commitment from one or more cities to engage in the WHO process		
<u>Questions and Notes</u> Age Friendly Committee should consider the sequencing of the County process vs. city processes		

Join forces on legislative advocacy

<u>Category</u>	<u>References</u>	<u>Status</u>
Advocacy	Countywide Plan	Committed
<u>Description</u> Disseminate calls to action on BOS priorities and provide a forum for Council members to invite others to support their priorities, then collaborate on specific opportunities. <u>Discussion</u> To facilitate this, a document will describe the concrete processes by which the Council collaborates and how we track outcomes. This work does not include taking official positions as a Council (e.g., Council support letters), but rather information- and resource-sharing, focusing on elevating opportunities for individual or joint advocacy and developing arguments and resources for policy change based on evidence. Where the Council indicates consensus on advocacy priorities, this is captured in meeting minutes, and staff for the lead agencies will follow up to pursue whether there should be a formal recommendation to the Board, and report back to the Council about actions taken. This may include implementation of new policy, such as the repeal of cash out <u>Potential Partners</u> <u>Project Outputs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Advocacy alerts● Actions by individual Council members● Better information sharing <u>Questions and Notes</u>		

Create backgrounders on key age-friendly topics, incorporating available data

Category

Advocacy / Data

References

Legislation and Advocacy Committee
Countywide Plan

Status

Committed

Description

Develop written pieces that “tell the story” of aging in Alameda County.

Discussion

This project involves relying on the Council’s subject matter experts to help create succinct documents which describe the current state in the County on those issues that matter most. The work is carried out within the Legislation and Advocacy Committee, with the Data Committee charged with tracking down existing data points to “tell the story” as effectively as possible. Where available, city-specific information will be provided.

The work begins with a broad explication of an issue, including data and policy considerations. This information can be reduced to short PDFs that could be downloaded and used for advocacy. All content would be available to Council members and others to customize and use in their own materials for advocacy purposes. Where possible, collect and include anecdotes, which humanize issues and engage policymakers.

For example, a member of the Aging Commission advocating for improved bus service for seniors in Pleasanton might use a backgrounder relating to transportation in her advocacy and outreach activities. The document would outline the importance of transportation in the lives of seniors and the current status of the need and service gaps as well as proposed next steps to better understand the problem or even proposed solutions where those were clear, such as expanded funding for existing programs.

Potential Partners

- Council members

Project Outputs

- Personal stories that move people
- Broad explication of an issue, including data and policy considerations
- Shorter versions, downloadable as PDFs

Questions and Notes

Work with All In to reduce food insecurity for seniors

Category

Services

References

Countywide Plan, Board

Status

Committed

Description

Working in partnership with All In Alameda County, the Council will contribute to efforts to address food insecurity for older adults. Address an information gap about how to access food.

Discussion

- Work on CalFresh enrollment, including food delivery for homebound seniors
- Discussions underway as of late July to further define the scope and activities of this project

Potential Partners

- All In Alameda County
- Farmers Market can provide \$2 of goods for each \$1 of the CalFresh benefit
- Jerri McGee Tyner, AAS

Project Outputs

Questions and Notes

- Convene ad hoc Council committee to work on this?

Build awareness around key issues

<u>Category</u>	<u>References</u>	<u>Status</u>
Advocacy	Countywide Plan	Proposed New
<p><u>Description</u> The Council will take steps to build awareness around and promote responses to key issues, such as dementia, elder justice, housing, and behavioral health.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u> At a minimum, disseminate to Council members for their further dissemination existing campaigns (e.g., C4A Infographics, Elder Abuse Awareness Month). If there is energy, Council members can carry out additional activities or develop new awareness campaigns.</p> <p><u>Potential Partners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AAA• SSA's Department of Adult Protection <p><u>Project Outputs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distribution of toolkits for awareness• Dissemination of information by Council members		
<p><u>Questions and Notes</u></p>		