

Age-Friendly Hyattsville Work Group Meeting
Friday, August 26, 2022; 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Work Group Attendees: Dawn Bohls (W-2); Rosezella Canty-Letsome (former W-1); Edna Lytle (W-4); Sherri McGee (W-2); Suzanne van Nuys, Program Director for Lifelong Learning, Prince George's Community College (W-2); Lori Simon-Rusinowitz, Associate Professor, Health Services Administration and Center on Aging, Health and Aging Policy Fellowship Alumnae, School of Public Health, University of Maryland; Winifred Weaver (W-1)

Guests: Stacy Jefferson, Senior Activities Director, Sacred Heart Home (W-2)

Staff Attendees: Reggie Bagley, Emergency Operations Manager; Shakira Louimarre, Race and Equity Officer; Marci LeFevre, Age-Friendly Program Lead

City of Hyattsville Race and Equity Initiative

Shakira Louimarre, the City of Hyattsville's Race and Equity Officer (REO), was introduced by Marci LeFevre and welcomed by work group members. Shakira discussed her REO role, city demographics, the work of the Race and Equity Task Force (RETF) and work she will be initiating.

Shakira noted that in her role as a community resource in an advisory capacity, one of her key goals is to foster *belonging*. She defined belonging as the feeling of security and support when there is a sense of acceptance, inclusion, and identity for members of all groups. Hyattsville's growing diverse population presents both challenges to and opportunities for realizing this goal.

Demographics

Shakira noted that the City's population as of the 2020 U.S. Census is 21,157, which represents a steady population increase of 20% over the last three censuses. Hyattsville is a majority-minority community. The City's racial/ethnic community compositions are as follows:

- 38% Hispanic
- 31 % Black
- 25% White
- 4 % Asian
- 2 % Other

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Terms

Shakira defined the terms "diversity," "equity," and "inclusion," and walked work group members through an equity tool (GARE model) that she and the City's Race and Equity Task Force will be applying when considering and implementing community initiatives. The model is briefly summarized below.

Government Alliance on Racial Equity (GARE) Model for Developing Equity Systems

GARE is a national network of government entities and municipalities committed to racial justice and advancing opportunities for all. The GARE racial equity model focuses on targeted universalism, which is defined as improving outcomes for everyone. The model is structured around three action categories, which include "normalize," "organize," and "operationalize." Shakira noted that these themes will be addressed in more detail at upcoming meetings.

Diversity Categories

The GARE model also incorporates categories structured around "diversity", which include:

- Gender
- Race/ethnicity

- Age
- LGBTQIA+ identification
- Disability and cognitive diversity
- National origin
- Language
- Religion
- Veteran status
- Criminal history

Defining Equity

Shakira noted that “equity” refers to fairness and justice and is distinguished from equality. The term “means recognizing that we do not all start from the same place or have the same concerns and must acknowledge and make adjustments to imbalances.” The adjustment process is “ongoing, requiring individuals to identify and overcome intentional and unintentional barriers arising from bias or systemic structures.”

Inclusion

As mentioned earlier, “inclusion” is associated with fostering belonging, or facilitating a sense of acceptance and identity for members of diverse groups.

Shakira shared that she is looking forward to partnering with City leadership, staff, and advisory committees to expand these three GARE model attributes. Shakira encouraged the work group to contact her with any questions or follow-up ideas from the meeting.

Community Input for Redistricting Committee

Shakira shared that she is participating in the City’s redistricting efforts and noted that the City’s Redistricting Commission is looking for feedback on proposed updates to the City’s Ward boundaries.

The City of Hyattsville undergoes redistricting of its five Wards every 10 years following the taking of the U.S. Census. This effort ensures an equitable population distribution among Wards for equal representation on the City Council. No Ward can hold more than +/- 10% of the City’s total population divided by five.

After the 2020 Census, it was determined that Wards 3 and 5 were no longer compliant with the +/- 10% population distribution. City Council selected a nine-member Redistricting Commission to evaluate current Census data and make recommendations for new Ward boundaries.

Shakira invited work group members to share feedback on proposed updates to the City’s Ward boundaries by visiting the City’s website at www.hyattsville.org/redistricting. Community members can also email suggestions to info@hyattsville.org.

FY23 Age-Friendly Programs Planning

Work group members reviewed prioritized age-friendly topics and themes identified as items of great interest among respondents to the City’s Senior Community Needs Survey (fielded last year). Using a FY23 Age-Friendly Activity Schedule template, members selected months for conducting outreach and workshops for prioritized items.

Items discusses and tentatively scheduled for September through December 2022 include:

September 2022

- Emergency Preparedness
 - Emergency Preparedness Outreach with Prince George's County Office of Homeland Security and Office of Emergency Management; 9.16.22 at Summer Jam, Hyatt Park
- Age-Friendly Work Group Meeting; 9.23.22 via Zoom [complete FY23 programming calendar]
- Age-Friendly Program Overview at Race and Equity Task Force Meeting; 9.27.22 via Zoom

October 2022

- Housing Assistance
 - Home Foreclosure Prevention Clinic with Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland; 10.6.22 at Hyattsville Municipal Building [Community Services Event]
- Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention
 - Fostering Resilience in Difficult Times; 10.7.22 at Driskell Community Park [Community Services Event]
- Art Works Now Fall Class Series
 - Tuesdays, 10.11.22, 10.18.22, 10.25.22 at Art Works Now
- Senior Technology Workshops
 - Date TBD at Hyattsville Branch Library
- Falls Prevention and Home Modifications Lunch and Learn Workshop
 - Workshop with Habitat for Humanity and Hyattsville Aging in Place; 10.24.22 at Hyattsville Municipal Building
- Age-Friendly Work Group Meeting; 10.25.22 [Revisit Community-Based Services Report]
- Age-Friendly Program Presentation to City Council; Date TBD via Zoom

November 2022

- Age-Friendly Ecosystem Summit; 11.9.22 via Zoom [Regional Age-Friendly Programs Event]
- Art Works Now Fall Series
 - Tuesdays, 11.1.22, 11.8.22, 11.15.22, 11.22.22 at Art Works Now
- Caregiver Resources and Self-Care Lunch and Learn Workshop
 - Workshop with Community Partners; 11.14.22 at Hyattsville Municipal Building
- Senior Technology Workshops
 - Date TBD at Hyattsville Branch Library
- Age-Friendly Work Group Meeting; 11.18.22

December 2022

- Art Works Now Fall Series
 - Tuesday, 12.9.22 at Art Works Now
- Lunch and Learn Workshop [Topic TBD]
 - Workshop with Partners; 12.12.22 at Hyattsville Municipal Building
- Age-Friendly Work Group Meeting; 12.16.22 [Holiday Fete]

Other age-friendly topics and target event months proposed by work group members for the third and fourth quarters of FY23 include:

- January: Affordable Housing
- June: LGBTQ Community Member Outreach and Engagement during PRIDE Month
- Month TBD: Emergency Preparedness and Fire Safety (work with HVL EOM and County OEM)
- Month TBD: Financial Fraud and Scam Prevention (work w/Sheriff's Office, CFPB, area churches)
- Month(s) TBD: Food and Nutrition Initiative (partner with UMD; engage graduate externs)
- Month TBD: Health and Fitness (e.g., community walks and fitness activities)
- Month TBD: Job Search Skills and Resources
- Month TBD: Long-Term Care Planning
- Month TBD: Memory Issue and Memory Strengthening
- Month TBD: Safe Driving and Transportation Options
- Month(s) TBD: Intergenerational Activities (Summer 2023; FY24)

Items proposed for the third and fourth quarters of FY23 and those outlined above for FY23 quarters one and two are captured in more detail in the FY23 Age-Friendly Activity Schedule template. The template will be circulated and completed at the September 23, 2022, Age-Friendly Work Group meeting.

Key Updates

City of Hyattsville Mobile Market

- The Mobile Market, a partnership between the City and Capital Area Food Bank, will launch on Tuesday, September 20. The food distribution event will be held at Driskell Community Park at 12:00 p.m. Volunteers will meet earlier that morning to assemble produce delivered in bulk.

Hyattsville American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Emergency Funds Application

- Emergency relief funds for up to \$25,000 for small businesses and non-profits are now available. Funds will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications are available on the City's website.
- Emergency relief funding for Hyattsville residents who have experienced economic hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic is anticipated to be available in October 2022. Funding will be available for up to \$2,500 per individual with an additional \$1,500 for each dependent child, not to exceed \$5,000 per household.

Other Business

- Home Foreclosure Prevention Clinic, October 6, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Hyattsville Municipal Building
- Age-Friendly Ecosystem Summit (Virtual Event), November 9, 2022, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Upcoming Age-Friendly Work Group Meetings

- September 23, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.
- October 28, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.