

AGE FRIENDLY FAYETTEVILLE

...A Community for a Lifetime...

Jean Henry, PhD & Alishia Ferguson, PhD LMSW
University of Arkansas

What does it mean to age in community?



Aging in community – Proactive strategy of creating supportive neighborhoods and networks to increase the quality of life and happiness of older adults, while at the same time promoting health and well-being for the community.

What is an Age Friendly City or Community?

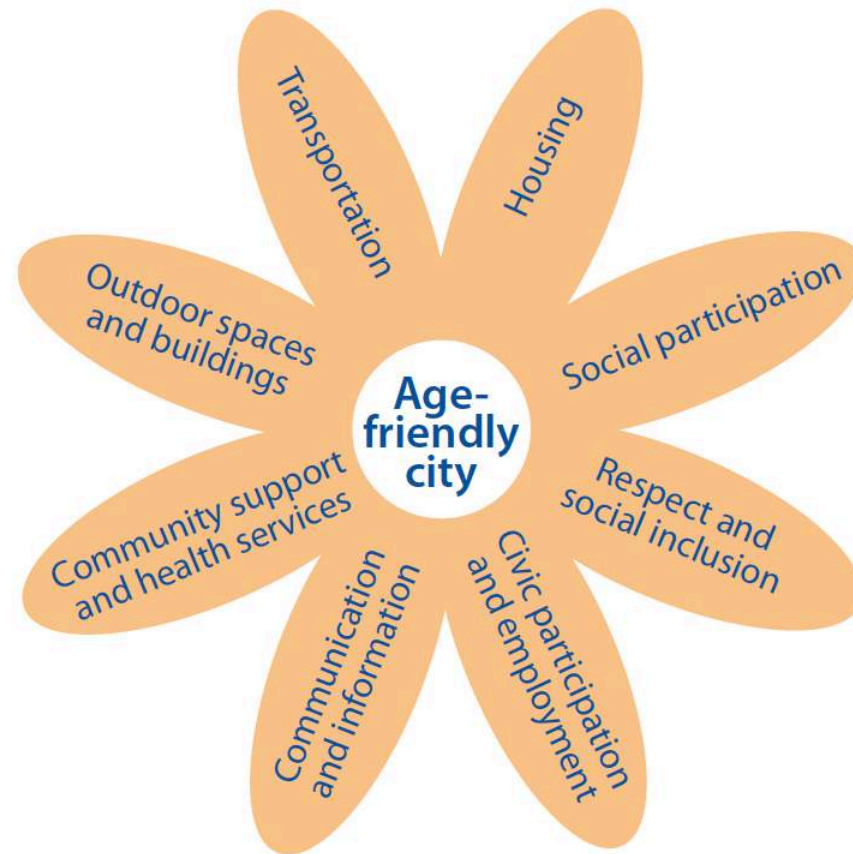
To be age friendly, a community must enable community members to live full and meaningful lives as they age consistent with the resident's age-related developmental needs & priorities. (Scharlach & Lehning, 2016).

...an inclusive and accessible urban environment that promotes active aging” [by targeting] “environmental, social and economic factors that influence the health and wellbeing of older adults” [in the community] (who.int/ageing)



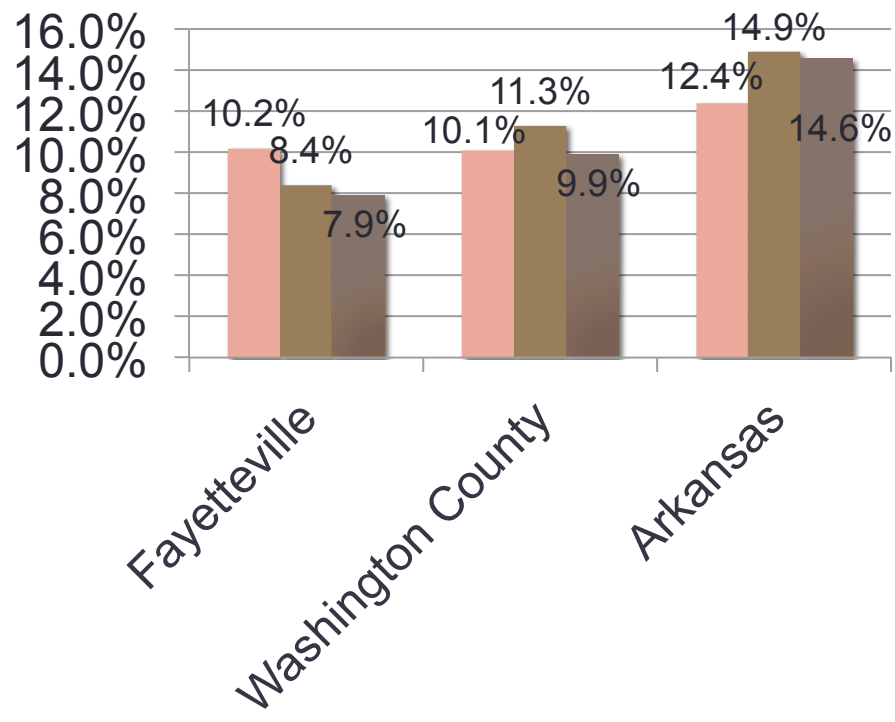
photo credit: City of Fayetteville Website

What are the components of an Age Friendly Community?



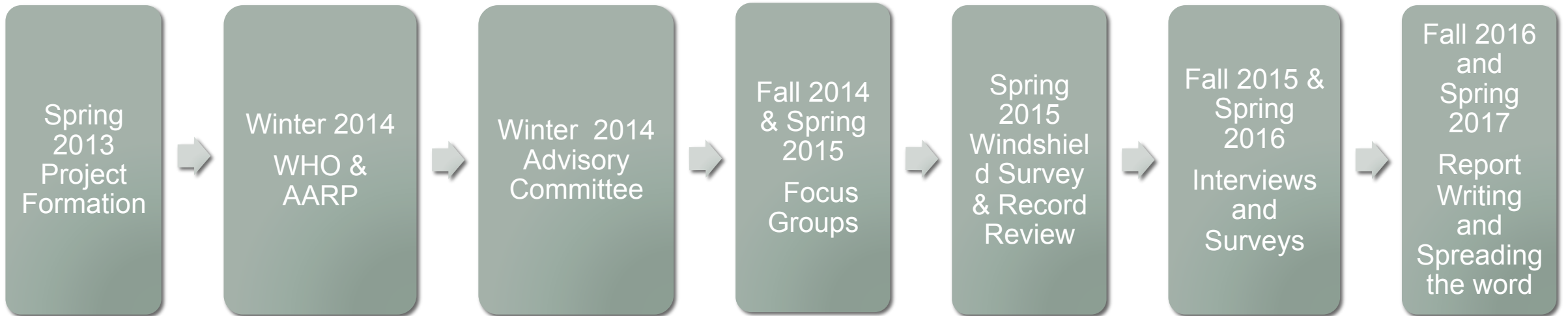
Age Friendly Fayetteville Important for our Community

- The number of older adults in Fayetteville is declining.



- Older adults are more likely to:
 - Have money
 - Own a home
 - Vote
 - Volunteer
 - Work in flexible positions
- Older adults provide:
 - Mentorship
 - Wisdom
 - Sense of Community

Timeline for the Initiative



Where do aging adults want to live?

Nationally:

AARP reports that up to 90% of Americans want to remain in their residence as long as possible and 80% stated that their current residence is where they will always live. (AARP, 2011).

Aging in place: “the ability to remain in one’s own home or community as long as desired, even when experiencing potential age-related changes in health, social & financial resources” (Scharlach and Lehning, 2016, p. 5).

Age Friendly Fayetteville:

68% of the sample have lived in Fayetteville longer than 10 years
72% of the sample plan to remain in Fayetteville as they age;
19% are undecided

Our Survey Sample

694 people took the survey either on paper or online

- ◆ The average age was 63 years; 87% of the sample was 50 years or older
- ◆ 58% own their own homes
- ◆ The median income was high at \$45,000 to \$50,000 per year; however 26% of the sample was \$25,000 or lower. (18,000 nationally)
- ◆ Mean age is 63 years; 87% of the sample is 50 and older.

Do I stay or Do I go??

Reasons to Stay

1.Friends and Family –	78%
2.Amenities –	59%
3.Services –	47%
4.Parks –	45%
5.Safety -	37%
8.Affordable Housing -	14%

Reasons to Leave

1.Friends and Family –	57%
2.Job Opportunities –	30%
3.Affordable Housing –	20%

Attitudes and Beliefs about Housing in Fayetteville

Focus Groups (8 groups)

- Need affordable housing and housing that is not student oriented

Windshield Survey (3 topic areas; 6 projects)

Need affordable housing

- Low Income Options
 - Nantucket (older adult focus)
 - Weddington Place (older adult focus)
 - Hillcrest (older adults get preferred status)
 - Peachtree Village (Farmington; also assisted living)
- Luxury Options
 - Butterfield Trail Village
 - The Gardens at Arkanshire (Springdale)
- Nursing Homes
 - Available,
 - Expensive
 - limited Medicaid options

Attitudes and Beliefs about Housing in Fayetteville

Survey Question	Results
Sufficient, affordable housing for frail & disabled older adults is available with appropriate services provided nearby.	60% disagree
Affordable housing is available in areas that are safe and close to services and the rest of the community.	56% disagree
Subsidized housing is generally safe.	40% disagree
Affordable home maintenance and support services are available.	38% disagree
Home modification providers understand the needs of older people.	50% disagree

Attitudes and Beliefs about Housing in Fayetteville

If Age Friendly Fayetteville could change or add one program or policy to make Fayetteville more Age Friendly, what would it be?

Comment category	Comments (272 total)
Transportation	36%
Community Support & Health Services	21%
Communication and Information	14%
Housing	12%
Outdoor Spaces	11%
Social Participation	11%
Inclusion and Respect	07%
Civic Participation and Employment	03%

Suggested Changes

- Housing for people of mixed ages, so that older people can age in place in an environment that is not only for people of their own age
- A program to help seniors afford to live in a rental home – modest house with small yard...get away from the excessive noise and environmental hazards of apt. living..
- Provide affordable services for seniors to have [worn] in our homes...
Example...repair of items in home, tree trimming or removal after storms.
- Please offer more building maintenance for home owners/landlords/renters.
- Housing geared toward elderly who are not ready for Butterfield Trail, or not qualified for Nantucket. Nothing geared for middle income 65+ in town but thousands of bedrooms for students.
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IDK – COMMUNICATION AND HIDDEN POPULATIONS

There were three trends that were clear across all data collection methods and prominent throughout the survey.

- The IDK category was marked consistently at 20 to 50% on most items in the survey
- Fayetteville has issues with getting the word out. This was clear in the focus groups, the windshield survey and in the survey.
- Transportation is an issue.

These three trends are related to housing for an aging population.

- IDK means that these issues of older adults are hidden or ignored by citizens
- Communication and information issues may be why the issues are hidden and may be why people don't use the services that we have.
- Spotty public transportation creates isolated adults who cannot integrate in the community.

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