



Department of
Aging and Adult Services

Seniors' Agenda Network Summit Executive Summary January 29, 2014

On January 29, 2014, one hundred and fifty-five participants gathered at the Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) to celebrate 6-month accomplishments and identify opportunities to work together on common solutions for the older adults of Santa Clara County through the effort of the Seniors' Agenda.

The event opened with welcoming remarks by Bruce Wagstaff, Director, Social Services Agency and Supervisor Cindy Chavez, Chair, Children, Seniors and Family Committee. James Ramoni, newly appointed Director of the Department of Aging and Adult Services chaired the meeting along with Diana Miller, Project Manager.

Happy Hollow Park and Zoo Foundation announced a new early morning walk exclusively for older adults 50+: Senior Safari Walkabout. On these select Thursday mornings: March 27th, April 24th, May 22nd and June 26th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Happy Hollow Park and Zoo will offer free parking and admission to older adults to participate in the Senior Safari Walkabout. The café will be open for breakfast and older adults will be encouraged to walk 10,000 steps (more or less) while meeting and greeting animals along the way. Walking groups are encouraged to attend. Thanks to Kaiser Foundation and the City of San Jose's Happy Hollow Park and Zoo for this event. For more information, please call 408-794-6400 or visit www.hhpz.org. *A copy of the Senior Safari Walkabout flyer is included as a separate attachment.*

Following the Senior Safari Walkabout announcement, Don Weden, retired planner for Santa Clara County and active speaker and consultant gave a presentation, "**Solutions in Common**" **Increasing Our Effectiveness by Working Outside our Silos.**" His informative and entertaining presentation stressed the need to look at diverse problems such as, climate change, land use, transportation changes as we plan for a future of an increasing older adult population. Mr. Weden will have notes from his presentation available in a few weeks. He can be reached at weden@ix.netcom.com.

After the presentation the attendees were asked to huddle in small groups and brainstorm the question, "How can we work on common solutions for the aging populations? And who are some different "silo" that we could work together with on common solutions?" Those ideas will be presented to the Work Teams.

Seniors' Agenda Work Teams had almost ninety accomplishments posted on the wall and everyone was encouraged to take five stars and highlight the accomplishments they thought most deserved a star. *A list of the accomplishments is included as a separate attachment.*

The team's top star accomplishments included:

1. Transportation

- Senior Nutrition safety-net Mobility Management Program – 10 stars

- Twenty –six accessible vans were purchased by OUTREACH – 7 stars
- Pedestrian Safety: walking clubs, safe walks, walking advocates – 7 stars

2. Information and Assistance

- AGENTS for Change distributed over 5,000 copies of “A Good Place to Start” brochure in four languages; English, Chinese, Spanish, Vietnamese. – 24 stars
- Sourcewise and Silicon Valley Independent Living Center are working toward an Aging Disability Resource Center (ADRC) in spite of lack of State funding and have cross trained forty staff in options counseling. - 6 stars

3. Education and Outreach

- Santa Clara County Fire Fighters are distributing Senior Resource Packets to seniors in their homes. – 17 stars
- Fifty one seniors from Mayfair and Alma Community Centers participating in Walk with Ease program lead by Public Health Educator. – 11 stars

4. Volunteerism and Civic Engagement

- The Community Volunteer Network launched same day emergency transportation and services called “In a Pinch” through Heart of the Valley Services for Seniors with funding from The Health Trust. – 12 stars
- AGENTS for Change brought together senior advocacy organizations to explore common issues and way to collaborate. – 11 stars

5. Policy and Funding

- Proposed inventory of senior services to Seniors Policy Council and was passed by acclamation in January 2014. – 8 stars
- Researching permits for non-medical in home workers (not IHSS) and working on creating a policy to further protect vulnerable elders and disabled. – 8 stars

6. Housing

- Work team is compiling a list of affordable senior housing from a variety of sites. – 24 stars
- Goal to increase the availability of affordable housing on seniors 60 years and older who are 50% of below the average Median income in Santa Clara County. – 17 stars

A list of the upcoming work team meetings for February was distributed. *A list of the meetings is included as a separate attachment.*

The collaborative spirit of the seventy six organizations present included a community nursing class from San Jose State University. All of the Board of Supervisors, as well as State Senators Jim Beall and Paul Fong sent a representative.

Special thanks to Happy Hollow Park and Zoo Foundation for providing the safari theme decorations for the summit and DAAS for the continental breakfast.

The next Senior Agenda Network Summit will be on Wednesday, May 28, 2014.

For further information contact Diana Miller 408-755-7695 or Diana.miller@ssa.sccgov.org or visit the DAAS website at www.sccgov.org/daas