

NEW PARTNERSHIPS

This small group discussion considered the following four questions:

1. The work of individual agencies on senior issues is necessary, but it is not sufficient. To create an age-friendly region, city and county government needs to work in partnership with communities and nonprofit institutions to achieve meaningful results. What benefits could you envision from increased partnerships?
2. How can communities, nonprofits and government each work in stronger partnership?
3. Could your agency/nonprofit organization be involved in this effort in some way?
4. What kinds of systems or structures would need to be in place to move from idea to action in an ongoing way?

Here are the insights and ideas that the group produced:

- Make Meals on Wheels an “opt-out” service upon discharge for high risk
- Educate each other as partners, consumers, providers etc. about what services you provide and what “aging-friendly” means
- Have major providers lobby CMS to include CBO services in their contracts
- Alameda County must apply to WHO to be an age-friendly county
- Data sharing across all sectors so less people fall through the gaps
- Sharing of services, resources including money, clinicians, innovations, and evidence-based programs
- Focus on the whole person across sectors (including CDSM)
- Assess missing community stakeholders (i.e. undocumented, ethnic minorities, mobile homes, human rights groups) and bring them in
- Use the strong communication forums for referrals and capacity building
- Assuring multiple forums for strong and regular communication across sectors
- Require contractors to write contracts that mandate an active plan for transfer from acute health care to community
- Stop focusing solely on being a “stand out agency”. We need to focus on how we can fill in the gaps for each other. Stand out = stand alone.
- Make a requirement that bring major contractors together