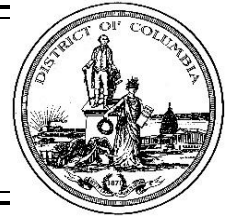

OFFICE OF AT-LARGE COUNCILMEMBER ANITA BONDS
CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION
& LABOR



February 28, 2023

Deputy Mayor Wayne Turnage
Age Friendly DC Task Force
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 223
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Deputy Mayor Turnage:

The annual performance hearing for the Age Friendly DC Task Force is scheduled for Friday, **March 3, 2023, beginning at 9:30 AM**. The hearing will be held virtually, and government witness(es) will testify following public testimony. Please plan to arrive in time to listen to the entirety of the public testimony presented with respect to the agency. Pursuant to Council rule 522(a), we ask all executive witness(es) to submit their hearing testimony 48 hours in advance of their performance oversight hearing.

Written pre-hearing questions for your agency are attached. Please provide **five hard copies** of your responses as well as electronic versions in Microsoft Word and PDF format **by no later than 5:00 PM on**

Age Friendly DC Task Force

Tuesday, February 28, 2023, to account for the time constraints in between receiving these questions and the hearing date.

If you feel that I could use additional information outside the scope of the attached questions, please feel free to include an additional written statement. If your office requires any clarification of the attached questions, please contact Amanda Chulick, at achulick@dccouncil.gov. Thank you in advance for your timely and comprehensive response.

Sincerely,



Anita Bonds

At-Large Councilmember

Chairperson, Committee on Executive Administration
and Labor

1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. ●
SUITE 404
○ WASHINGTON, DC 20004 ○

Age Friendly DC Task Force

Age-Friendly FY23 PERFORMANCE OVERSIGHT QUESTIONS

I. Agency Specific Questions

1. Please provide a full list of all the 2018-2023 Age-Friendly Task Force's members and their terms. For each member, please provide the following:

- The member's name
- Member's contact
- Member's duties
- The Ward, agency or organization the member represents
- Who appointed the member
- When the member's term expires
- The member's attendance record

Response:

- See the [attached table](#) for each Age-Friendly DC Task Force member's name, contact information, what entity or agency each member represents, and meeting attendance.
- Member Duties and Responsibilities: Task Force members meet as a group twice each year. Task Force co-chairs, James Appleby, CEO of Gerontological Society of America and Wayne Turnage, Deputy Mayor of Health and Human Services, each facilitate one meeting each year. There are four Task Force designated community relations leaders who advise the Task Force and any of its committees who seek their counsel. The other Task Force members are appointed based on the Age-Friendly DC Domain or Area of Inquiry in which s/he has knowledge and experience. Each Task Force member may appoint a stand-in to be present at meetings. Stand-ins for Task Force members are noted below, along with their contact information.
- The Mayor has delegated Task Force member appointments to the Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments (MOTA).
- Each Task Force member's term expires with the end of the Mayor's Establishment Order for the Age-Friendly DC Task Force, December 31, 2022

2. Please highlight the purpose of the Task Force, including the intent of this initiative and age groups served. Please also discuss whether the purpose has changed in the past year.

Response:

Age Friendly DC Task Force

Age-Friendly DC is a comprehensive citywide effort working to bring generations together so that we can all age in good health and with purpose.

The purpose of the Task Force has not changed in the past year, although a renewed emphasis on connections among generations has been emphasized more this year, due to influence from the World Health Organization (WHO) and its United States Agent, AARP.

The Age-Friendly DC Task Force continued to implement the Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan, while preparing for an evaluation of the progress made in that 5-year period of 2018-2023.

- 3. Please provide a list of the Task Force's meeting dates, times, attendance, and locations to date for 2018-2023. Please include information for each meeting within the Task Force's domains.**

Response:

[See meeting file attached.](#)

- 4. Please identify any progresses made towards the Age-Friendly DC 2023 Strategic Plan.**

Response:

[See the slides describing progress in FY22 presented by Age-Friendly DC Task Force members to one another and the public at the November 15, 2022 Age-Friendly DC Task Force meeting.](#)

Slides also attached.

- 5. Please provide a detailed list of all meeting dates and agenda conducted in FY22 and FY23 to date.**

Response:

[Age Friendly Task Force Meeting Attendance.xlsx](#)

- 6. Please describe the activities executed and/or implemented by the Task Force in FY22 and FY23 to date.**

[See slide 3:](#) Age-Friendly DC activities are organized by Age-Friendly DC Pillar aims, Domain goals and strategies within each Pillar.

Task Force members report on Age-Friendly DC activities at Task Force meetings. See [annual report slides](#) on actions taken to make progress implementing Domain aims, goals and strategies here. These slides are posted at the Age-Friendly DC [website](#).

Age Friendly DC Task Force

7. What are the top accomplishments of the Task Force in FY22 and FY23 to date?

Response:

By Pillar:

Pillar 1. Built Environment

[Additional accessible DC public buildings – list was created for Age-Friendly DC to distribute](#) - also attached

Completion of the Olmstead Plan – Age-Friendly DC recognizes the parallels and synergies between Age-Friendly DC and the Olmstead Plan. For example, the soon-to-be-published DHCD list of accessible housing in DC

DC is the [#1 Park system in the US](#), according to the Trust for Public Land ParkScore, with 98% of the residents living within a 10-minute walk of a park

[Safe at Home](#) – Age-Friendly DC has promoted Safe at Home since its inception.

Pillar 2. Changing Attitudes about Growing Older

[Adult education](#) – Age-Friendly DC is proud of the work of the Office of State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)

OCTO's Tech Together, DACL's iPad and Tech education programs are other examples of successful tech programs for all, including adults 50 and over.

By Domain:

Task Force members focus on the domains in which each has expertise. [See annual report slides for accomplishments listed by Domain](#) within each Pillar.

8. What challenges have the 2018-2023 Task Force faced since its onset?

Central to the work of Age-Friendly DC is the belief that aging is a process that occurs across a lifetime, beginning in childhood. As a result, Age-Friendly is focused on the aging process and intergenerational living at all stages of life. One challenge for the initiative is helping residents and stakeholders understand that being age-friendly does not simply mean focusing on older adults; instead, embedding thoughtfulness about growing older into public policy at every level. That is why every Deputy Mayor, as well as the Directors of the Departments of Planning, Employment Services, Health, Disability Services, Transportation, Community Affairs, Human Services, and the Office of the Chief Technology Officer, or their designee, are members of the Age-Friendly DC Task Force. This same challenge is also why we have implemented the

Age Friendly DC Task Force

domain, “Changing Attitudes about Growing Older.” This highlights the Mayor’s and Task Force’s commitment to creating a city where all generations can age friendly together.

Age-Friendly DC has prioritized communications as a core domain to overcome this challenge, and by doing so has turned this challenge into an opportunity. In 2022, the Age-Friendly DC Task Force Committees talked about 2023 strategies with residents in every ward, worked with AARP, Leading Age and other community partners, benefited from DC Council recognition of the initiative’s importance, and appreciated Mayor Bowser’s commitment to the initiative and her release of the Age-Friendly DC 2023 Strategic Plan.

We are also consistently working to achieve more effective data collection and analysis, as data develops and becomes more accessible. Domain leaders report on progress on each strategy, and to the extent possible, agencies across the District collect age-segmented data. Age-Friendly DC is also working with universities in the Washington metropolitan area to identify students and faculty who can analyze databases identified by the Task Force, including the AARP Livability Index, which identifies neighborhood challenges and neighborhood attributes.

9. Please discuss the top 5 areas of concerns that have been received by Age-Friendly DC. Please also provide the following information:

- a. Scope of issues raised and its urgency
- b. Potential solutions identified
- c. Costs of implementing a solution
- d. Opportunities for improvement
- e. Demographics being impacted

Scope of Issues Raised & Its Urgency	Potential Solutions Identified	Costs of Implementing a Solution	Opportunities for Improvement	Demographics Being Impacted
Affordable Housing Urgency: High	Promotion of accessory dwelling units; homesharing. Implementing Housing Equity Plan	\$5M in FY23 budget to educate	Homeowner awareness, identify/educate general contractors DMPED working with DHCD and DCRA	“House poor” residents, low-income residents
Safe Walkability Urgency: High	Vision Zero, control vehicle speeding	?	DDOT, MPD, public awareness and compliance with laws	All ages and abilities; more injuries and deaths occur in Wards 7 and 8 than elsewhere in DC
Employment of adults who need more income	DOES, WIC, Adult Charter Schools, Consortium of	?	Increase awareness of employment	More unemployed in Wards 5, 7 and 8

Age Friendly DC Task Force

Urgency: High	Universities of the Washington DC Metropolitan Area		7pportunities for low-income residents	
Care Coordination in Acute & Chronic Situations Urgency: High	Increase awareness of sources. Presently offered by DACL and DDS focus, DHCF, Services My Way, PACE, Villages, private contractors	?	Readily accessible list of resources for all incomes	Residents who experience acute trauma or who have chronic ailments
Long Term Care Careers Urgency: High	Recognition as essential workers, raise wages, testing ASAP after education	?	Bubble diagram of possible careers beginning with entry level roles, rising by compensation to geriatric physicians, nurse practitioners, LCSWs, assorted therapists, administrative roles	Residents seeking interesting next steps or more compensation for hours worked

10. What role(s) does Age-Friendly DC have in improving food security, transportation, health, isolation, and outreach?

Response:

Generally, Age-Friendly DC relies on DC agency and community organization partners to implement programs and activities that address these topics. The Age-Friendly DC role is to promote programs and activities, by inviting DC agency Task Force members to participate in cross-agency gatherings and all Task Force members to be part of community organized events that often do shed light on existing or new activities and programs that can address these issues.

Age-Friendly DC Task Force meetings feature speakers whose perspectives support the aims, goals and strategies in the Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan.

Food Security –

- In 2014 partnership with DC Health, Age-Friendly DC organized the Age-Friendly DC Nutrition Sub-Committee, which includes community organizations, DC agencies, including the Mayor’s Food Policy Council which has sharpened awareness of what each is doing to improve Food Security in DC.

Transportation –

Age Friendly DC Task Force

- WMATA launched the Waymap mobile app to help blind and low-vision people navigate Metrorail stations.
- Free bus transport in DC
- Placed 216 Leading Pedestrian intervals in intersections to better accommodate older adults and persons with disabilities
- Lime launched “Lime Assist”, an adaptive bikeshare program to increase bicycle ridership among people of all abilities and ages.

Health -

- PACE – Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly launched. PACE is the capitated Medicare program that provides holistic services to nursing home eligible residents in Wards 7 and 8.
- Focus on preventing falls by promoting programs on the topic: 70% of 911 calls are requested by residents or caregivers to pick up a resident after a fall, African Americans fall more frequently—disproportionate with the African American percentage of the population. See [Falls data](#) and [“Lift Assist”](#) Falls injure and kill more frequently as we age.
- Behavioral Health
 - DC Health’s Board of Nursing is developing a list of credentialing bodies to provide trainings pursuant to D.C. Law 23-201. Dementia Training for Direct Care Workers Support Amendment Act of 2020.
 - DBH’s self-paced training for health workers is under development. • DBd dH identified a behavioral health screening tool (DL8 20) and it is currently being vetted.

Isolation

Covid has taught us that virtual gatherings and community organization telephone contacts make a difference. We cannot forget that lesson.

Outreach

Virtual and hybrid gathering must continue. Age-Friendly DC notes, promotes and participates in the plethora of offerings both age segregated and mixed generations.

11. What opportunities can Age-Friendly identify towards lifestyle improvements of District residents of all ages? These may include areas of nutrition, transportation, economic opportunities, housing, socialization, etc.

Response:

By Pillar -

Pillar 1 Built Environment

- Promote homesharing. Income and companionship for fun and safety. (Age-Friendly DC has an intern working on LGBTQ elders with transgender youth.)
- Accelerate the installation of public bathrooms in DPR’s plans; support private sector partnerships like the Georgetown and Downtown BIDs have established with [Throne](#)

Age Friendly DC Task Force

- Adopt visitability housing standards (one zero grade entry, kitchen and bathroom on that entry floor). In the meantime, grow Safe at Home.

Pillar 2 Changing Attitudes about Growing Older

- Encourage continued work for workers contemplating whether they have ample income for long lives. Take advantage of employer training opportunities to renew skills.
- Add purpose to lives through promotion of programs like [HelpAge's Grandparents Against Covid](#) and Grandparents for Mental Health
- [Replicate walking school](#) bus with intergenerational pairings.
- Stay tech. savvy; ask for help

Pillar 3 Lifelong Health and Security

- Promote concentration on lifelong habits for health (for ex. continue exercise, healthy eating, time with others, lifelong learning)
- Make in-person visits to medical practitioners unusual; instead rely on telemedicine for most contacts. National Library of Medicine studies support. Saves transportation, missed visits, easier on patients with chronic ailments.
- Follow the advice of ZeroWasteDC; help the next generation and save resources for yourself by [educing, reusing, repurposing](#)

12. Please provide the total number of residents who provided feedback throughout the lifetime of the Task Force by Ward.

Response:

These are estimates, based on the following, Age-Friendly DC has:

- AARP and faith-based organizations that urged the Mayor and Council to commit to prepare the District for a future with more residents 50 and over than 18 or younger.
- the largest commission/task force ever appointed by the Mayor.
- 26 DC agencies and hundreds of community organizations that support the implementation of the Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan
- attended gatherings in every ward every year
- Age-Friendly DC has Task Force members who live in every ward
- Wherever there are Villages, Age-Friendly DC is known.

Ward	Residents Who Provided Feedback
1 Due to the Vida Senior Center-Oyster School Intergenerational Walk for Health and work with the Council and Caucus for Black Aged	Maybe 1,000
2 Due to collaborations with Georgetown University and George Washington University where 1 st co-chair, University president Steve Knapp lived there and promoted participation by student volunteers.as well as visits to Shaw and Mt. Vernon neighborhoods	Maybe 2,000

Age Friendly DC Task Force

<p>3 So much walkability in this ward. Visits to DCPL for Emergency Preparedness Training sessions with disabled residents prepared to lead, once trained. Intergenerational tech sessions offered service learning to local youths</p>	<p>Maybe 1,000</p>
<p>4 Due to the Mayor’s tenure in DC Council, representing the Ward and the second Task Force co-chair, Kim Alfonso, resided there.</p>	<p>Maybe 2,000</p>
<p>5 Due to invitations from Age-Friendly DC Task Force members and-ANC commissioners as well as the groundbreaking Brookland Intergenerational Village that invited all ages and races, Age-Friendly DC known in some circles.</p>	<p>maybe 2,000</p>
<p>6 Because the Age-Friendly DC Coordinator, Gail Kohn, lives there as does the current co-chair, James Appleby. Kohn worked there prior to the launch of Age-Friendly DC, CM Charles Allen invited her to accompany him and listen in affordable housing residences there</p>	<p>Maybe 2,000</p>
<p>7 Because of the Age-Friendly focus on equity, initial listening sessions, visits to affordable housing, libraries, Block-by-Block Walk, Livability Survey</p>	<p>Maybe 2,000</p>
<p>8 Because of the Age-Friendly focus on equity, initial listening sessions, visits to affordable housing, libraries, Block-by-Block Walk, Livability Survey</p>	<p>maybe 2,000</p>

13. How does the information gathered in each meeting translate into deliverable programs, services, or work products?

Response:

Age-Friendly DC Task Force members report at meetings directly following each Task Force meeting about the value of the Task Force meetings. Notes are not maintained for those meetings. Nonetheless, information is recovered as projects supported by Age-Friendly DC strategies are examined for progress. Examples are scattered throughout these responses.

See below for a summary.

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

DC now has 141 murals in neighborhoods providing wayfinding markers and references to neighborhood history.

Age Friendly DC Task Force

ReadytoPlay – 20 year plan that includes recreational opportunities for all ages, including residents 50+

Transportation

WMATA launch the Waymap mobile app to help blind and low-vision people navigate Metrorail stations.

Free bus transport in DC

Placed 216 Leading Pedestrian intervals in intersections to better accommodate older adults and persons with disabilities

Lime launched “Lime Assist”, an adaptive bikeshare program to increase bicycle ridership among people of all abilities and ages.

Housing

Launch of mortgage relief program with \$50 million from the American Rescue Plan in October initially helped 110 condo owners in Wards 7 and 8. Since citywide launch in June, over 1,700 applications have been submitted with almost \$1.7 million in assistance to 350 individuals. Visit www.haf.dc.gov to apply.

FY22 DHCD is adding 22 projects to its affordable housing trust fund including [Pipeline link](#)

Social Participation

Covid increased participation thanks to Virtual meetings

DACL Events by Ward daclevents.splashthat.com, features conversations, continuing education, fitness, hobbies, LGBTQ

Working with Age-Friendly DC on Future of Aging and State Plan, focus on equity, preponderance of voices heard in ward 7 and 8

Respect and Social Inclusion

Intergenerational Walks with Vida Senior Center and students from Oyster School

Olmstead Plan 2022 Summit on Housing led to list of accessible units coming soon

Age-Friendly DC focus on LGBTQ 60+ homesharing with LGBTQ trans youth

Civic Participation and Employment

DOES mentorship/apprentice program to retain long term care workers

Over half of the Mayor’s appointments to DC’s Commissions and Task Forces are 50+

Employment rose for DC residents, including those 65+. Ward 8 16.02% while DC overall 6.53%, Ward 7 14.76% See more detail dchealthmatters.org

Communication and Information

Age Friendly DC Task Force

May 2022 Mayor New initiative to bring high speed low or no-cost internet to DC residents with special hubs in Wards 5, 7 and 8

DCPL African American Experience: The American Mosaic

Importance of virtual meetings

Community Support and Health Services

PACE

Falls 70% 911 calls pick up after a fall

[Falls data](#) AA fall more than any other race disproportionate with % of pop. [“Lift Assist”](#)

Nutrition

Increase awareness of and access to healthful foods and promote healthy living through improved nutrition.

DC Health’s Produce Plus Program provided more than 6,000 residents [majority seniors] with weekly benefits for fresh fruits and vegetables at District Farmers’ Markets via a digital card.

Food and Friends provided weekly medically tailored home-delivered meals and shelf-stable groceries to 2,079 District residents with serious medical conditions, many of whom are seniors.

Behavioral Health

Increase health workers’ and residents’ knowledge of behavioral health and substance abuse

DC Health’s Board of Nursing is developing a list of credentialing bodies to provide trainings pursuant to D.C. Law 23-201. Dementia Training for Direct Care Workers Support Amendment Act of 2020.

DBH’s self-paced training for health workers is under development.

DBH identified a behavioral health screening tool (DL8 20) and it is currently being vetted.

Emergency Preparedness and Resilience

[Climate Ready DC](#)

Community Resilience Hubs – [Pilot Ward 7](#)

Red Cross responded to 172 disaster incidents and opened 305 cases helping 792 people.

Despite COVID Red Cross continued blood drives that resulted in thousands of units collected in DC.

Age Friendly DC Task Force

Villages across DC have continued to work to keep the neighbors across DC informed about protection from COVID. <http://dcvillages.org/volunteering>. Membership in all Villages grew in FY22 to 2,399 members.

Abuse, Neglect and Undue Influence

Recognizing and reporting Presentations to groups 4,132 in FY22, Significant drop from FY21 due to staff turnover and training

[Mandated reporters](#) Youth

[Mandated reporters](#) Elders

[Association between youth and elder abuse](#) – Natl study

90% of the elder abuse and neglect incidents with a known perpetrator, the perpetrator is a family member.

Two-thirds of the perpetrators are adult children or spouses.

Financial Security

[New DC employee Enrollment in deferred savings plans](#)

[Continuing sources to increase deferred compensation – catch up](#)

OCFO May 2022

Here is the information I received from the OCFO's Office of Finance and Treasury:

These are the participation numbers as of 12/31/21:

UDC & DCPS also each have a separate 403(b) contribution plan (in addition to being able to participate in the 457 plan) which is why we look at 457(b) plan participation percentages with and without them. The participation numbers have steadily increased over the last several years.

The percentage of auto enrollees that stay in the plan have been high, with a retention rate over 90 percent.

Here is the information for the Office of Tax and Revenue

32 presentations in FY22 on consumer protection and advocacy by DISB

There were 54,732 taxpayers with Federal AGI of \$20,000 or less who did not file the Schedule H for 2020. For the same tax year, there were 9,330 taxpayers with Federal AGI of \$20,000 or less who did file the Schedule H with their Income Tax Form D40.

Unbanked in DC - Data suggest an opportunity exists to develop strategies to address the needs of Unbanked pre-COVID DC Households: Black 13.5%, 12.2% Hispanic, 5% White

Age Friendly DC Task Force

(up due to the pandemic, Washington Times 3/21) 8% of DC residents (93,500) unbanked or underbanked.

Lifelong Learning

[OSSE funds 12 community-based organizations to offer adults Integrated Education & Training to District residents.](#)

Public Safety

The Mayor's private [security camera rebate program](#) has resulted in over 20,000 cameras placed on homes and businesses across the District, and the program is still active and offering rebates.

This program also works with the Department of Aging and Community Living to support rebates through the Safe at Home Program.

Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement <https://onse.dc.gov/> seeks to work with those most at risk of committing or being impacted by violent crime and working with the communities that hang in the balance of these actions. While these services are not offered exclusively to seniors, supporting safer neighborhoods helps all residents feel safer at home. Crime Prevention Training is offered to adults 60+. Robberies in the District rose by 5% compared to 2021.

Caregiving

[SeeMe Program](#) in every Smithsonian Institution for participants with dementia and caregivers to experience collections and participate in self-expression

[DACL focus on caregiving](#)

[DC Caregivers Institute](#) – help with options and affordability. “Most caregivers request respite.”

[Iona Senior Services Caregiver Support groups](#)

DC Villages

14. Please provide an overview of the primary areas of focus for the 2018-2023 Age-Friendly DC Task Force.

The Age-Friendly DC Task Force followed the path of listening to residents before developing the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan. Age-Friendly DC relies on promoting actions for equity within all fourteen areas of focus divided among its three Pillars: Built Environment, Changing Attitudes about Growing Older, Lifelong Health and Security.

15. Please provide a detailed description of activities and/or meetings held by the Task Force with other agencies and/or groups. Please list, including dates and times:

a. Activities and meetings with other DC Government Agencies

Age Friendly DC Task Force

- b. Activities and meetings with the Department on Aging and Community Living**
- c. Activities and meetings with Commission on Aging**
- d. Activities and meetings with Senior Villages**

Response:

- a. Please refer to the activities and meetings with other DC Government Agencies listed in the response to question 6. Other meetings with DC government agencies are attended by the Age-Friendly DC Coordinator or Age-Friendly DC Task Force members upon request. Often Age-Friendly DC is consulted for perspectives acquired from exposure to cross-agency perspectives.
- b. Department of Aging and Community Living and Age-Friendly DC benefit from one another. DACL leads more strategy information collections than other DC agencies. Exchanges of information include conversations as well as meetings.
- c. Commission on Aging's mandate is oversight of the Department of Aging and Community Living and a source of listening across DC's wards for DACL. Commission on Aging members, including Guleford Bobo and Maria Wilson send informative information periodically. Until the Covid disruption, Age-Friendly DC's Coordinator was invited to attend most meetings. Since then, Judge Mary Terrell, who serves as a member of the Age-Friendly DC Task Force has virtually attended Commission on Aging meetings. Her reports are informally shared with other Task Force members.
- d. DC Villages include Age-Friendly DC on updates to interested persons. Age-Friendly DC brings research, funding and internship opportunities to Villages as they emerge. Those publications are read as time permits. The Age-Friendly DC Village Shout Out hosted by Kingdom Care Village served as an opportunity to hear from experts and for each village to share their proudest accomplishments.

16. What are the Task Force's current measurable goals for FY22 and FY23?

Age-Friendly DC relies on Task Force members from DC agencies and community organizations to describe progress on goals. Responses are assembled on slides presented to one another prior to biannual meetings and to the public on the Age-Friendly DC website (www.agefriendly.dc.org). [Here is the most Nov 15, 2022](#) deck with the most recent domain updates.

Some Age-Friendly DC domains can produce numbers that demonstrate progress, but most Age-Friendly DC domains must rely on the feedback of DC residents to evaluate progress. In FY23, Age-Friendly DC plans to hold listening sessions with special populations brought together by MOCA leaders and Ward-by-Ward gatherings, brought together by MOCRs beginning in March and continuing through July. Age-Friendly DC welcomes the Committee's assistance inviting participants to these meetings. All meetings will include a virtual option.

Age Friendly DC Task Force

17. What recommendations would you make for the future of the Age Friendly Task Force given its impending expiration on December 31, 2023?

Quoting an Age-Friendly colleague in Quebec, Canada, “It takes 20 years for leaders and residents to become engaged in the perpetual improvement journey of Age-Friendly communities.” Age-Friendly DC, with its breadth of community and agency connections working together should continue with a new five-year plan for 2024-2028, or become an ongoing DC agency and community organization source. A continuation in some form would allow Age-Friendly to work to promote transforming DC into an easier jurisdiction in which to age lifelong, whether through five-year cycles with evaluations or something more permanent.

Progress on Selected Age-Friendly DC Strategies

• Built Environment

Slow Progress – Homesharing, Accessory Dwelling Units

Making Progress – Affordable Assisted Living (Three new buildings, two in Ward 8, one in Ward 5)

Making Progress – Integrating Age-Friendly DC strategies into DC Govt. agency plans (ex. access to bathrooms)

No Progress – Vision Zero

Making Progress – Increasing proportion of dedicated bike and bus lanes, accessible buildings/drop-off zones/automatic opening doors (Both private sector and DC Govt. offers bikes to residents with disabilities, including balance issues.

• Changing Attitudes about Aging

No Progress – More 50+ year old Workers, particularly in Long Term Care

Completed – Implementation of paid leave for caregivers

No Progress – Report on the contribution of volunteers in DC

Making Progress – Tech connectivity, device ownership, training

No Progress – State of Volunteerism Report

Completed – 2020 Census

Making Progress – Increasing value of 50+ year old students to colleges and universities

• Lifelong Health & Security

Making Progress – PACE, Services My Way (increased participation every quarter)

Making Progress – Addressing Behavioral Health (newest initiative Grandparents on Benches)

Making Progress – Cross-Agency energy around Emergency Preparedness & Resilience (Plans will be revisited in 2023)

Completed – DC employees begin employment with required payroll deductions for retirement savings



4

II. Racial Equity and Social Justice

Age Friendly DC Task Force

18. Please list three opportunity areas, programs, or initiatives that Age-Friendly may facilitate to address racial inequity.

1. Continue to promote implementation of the [Housing Equity Report](#).
2. Continue to promote lifelong learning through [OSSE's Adult Education and Training](#).
3. Continue to promote the [MoveDC Plan](#)

19. Please discuss whether there are any areas or programs that Age-Friendly has been successful in building racial equity in FY21 and FY22 to date. Please also include any shortcomings.

[DC Paid Family Medical Leave](#): The District started administering Paid Leave benefits effective October 1, 2021:

- The District expanded leave types and durations, and it prohibited Short-Term Disability Offsets.
- February 1, 2022: All D.C. employers are required to post an updated version of the Notice to Employees.

This program has already served thousands of adults of color who have used the new paid leave to support older family members, and is expected to grow as the 60+ population grows.

AARP-DC and DACL funded HelpAge to administer [Grandparents Against Covid-19](#).

This program encouraged residents of all ages to get vaccinated and then stay up-to-date with boosters. Focused on residents of color who are 60 years and older, Grandparents Against Covid-19 participants are motivated by the results they have achieved getting people vaccinated, and are interested in pivoting from this work to implementing a new, tested support program to become trained counselors as part of Grandparents for Mental Health.

This new HelpAge program is seeking funding from Foundations and other sources with encouragement from the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH).

[Villages](#)

A neighbor-to-neighbor support organizations that bring communities and generations together to support aging in place are focused on building racial equity. The District has more Villages per square mile than any state. With expertise from established Villages launched with community and individual contributions, DACL funding has enabled faith-based communities to work with surrounding neighborhoods to organize and launch.

A **[Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly](#)** (PACE) recently opened to nursing home eligible residents in the SE and NE to stay at home with wrap-around medical and social services. Delays in opening were addressed with assistance from DHCF. Age-Friendly DC will continue to promote PACE for other quadrants of DC.

Age-Friendly DC successfully promoted raising the reimbursement daily rate for affordable assisted living with annual inflation adjustments. Now, three residences are open:

- [The Residences at Kenilworth Park](#)

Age Friendly DC Task Force

- [Livingston Place DC](#)
- [Abrams Assisted Living](#)

All 3 of these residences have vacancies due to residents experiencing qualifying delays.

20. Please discuss one operational data point and one performance data point where you already collect race information or could collect such information.

Food Insecurity – In FY15 Age-Friendly DC initiated a Nutrition Subcommittee with the Department of Health. Even then the consensus of the group of community organizations and DC agencies was that food insecure residents could obtain food, if sources of food and funding for food were more readily available. Together, community partners, led by DC Hunger Solutions DC, assembled and all Subcommittee members distributed a food and nutrition resource guide for older adults, “How to Get Food in the District of Columbia.”

In 2018 DC Hunger Solutions found that one in seven households in Washington, DC is food insecure. The majority are African American and live in Ward 7 and 8.

In FY22 DACL took the lead coordinating collaborations among community organizations and DC food access programs. According to a 2022 Capital Area Food Bank survey, “Nearly 1 out of 3 people living in the Washington region struggled to access food last year.”

Additionally, DC Hunger Solutions, which regularly attends the Nutrition subcommittee meetings presented the following observations on their website. The prevalence of food insecurity was 55% among Hispanic residents, 50% among Black residents, and 13% among white residents.

21. How could Age-Friendly use race information for future programmatic decisions? Please include weaknesses and opportunities in including race for future decisions.

Age-Friendly DC, like all Age-Friendly jurisdictions across the nation and around the world, are focused on equity. Attention by DC agencies and community organizations will continue to be directed to areas of the city where populations, identified by race, who are struggling with incomes at or below poverty are located.

Age-Friendly DC will continue to shine light on issues that need our community to come together and address. Presenting data on residents most affected by issues addressed in each area of focus within the Age-Friendly DC Strategic Plan will continue until disparities among races is history.

22. In considering a racially equitable District of Columbia, please discuss the three ways that Age-Friendly would reflect such achievement.

1. Reductions in deaths and injuries by race in Vision Zero, administered by the Department of Transportation.

Age Friendly DC Task Force

2. Changing lifelong health disparities by race, including diabetes, cardiovascular challenges and brain health.
3. Continuing to promote lifelong job training and apprenticeships that lead to employment, resulting in income well above poverty levels.

23. Please list three metrics that Age-Friendly already uses or could use to measure progress towards racial equity.

Age-Friendly DC relies on DC agencies to assemble and present reports that address racial equity. Here are three programs that Age-Friendly DC promotes that measure racial equity.

1. Accessory Dwelling Units – DHCD has funds to promote permitting, design, construction and becoming landlords of accessory dwelling units in designated areas of the District. Emphasis has been placed on identifying residents to benefit from this program in Wards 7 and 8. Age-Friendly DC looks forward to receiving data on the impact of this program on house-poor residents, who, with DC assistance can increase DC's affordable housing stock, while earning much needed income.
2. Health Disparities - DC Health, which co-leads the Community Support and Health Services Age-Friendly DC domain, is mindful of the importance to address racial health disparities. These data are used to measure interventions that Age-Friendly DC supports through planned strategies that DC Health and community partners work to address.
3. Employment at Any Age, including age 60 and over – DOES provides Age-Friendly DC with unemployment data by age and by Ward. Our aim is to promote programs that offer employment opportunities to any who want to work. Unemployment in DC is at an all-time low, but continues to be higher among those of color at any age.