CITY OF SAINT PAUL
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Annual Report
City of Saint Paul Advisory Committee on Aging

The Advisory Committee on Aging is comprised of Mayor and City Council appointed members charged to promote the dignity and independence of older residents in Saint Paul.

Mission- to fulfill the responsibilities of the Committee through collaborative initiatives that develop "communities for all ages." The Committee will:

- Advise the Mayor and City Council on age related policies.
- Recommend changes in city services, public and private sector policies and practices that will improve intergenerational opportunities within Saint Paul.
- Identify and promote community-wide awareness of issues that affect our aging population.
- Advocate for elder rights and highlight the needs and assets of older adults within neighborhoods and across communities within the City's 8-80 Initiative.
- Explore intergenerational opportunities and interaction with families, youth and children.

Highlights from 2014

- Created a strategic plan for the committee based upon recommendations cited in the 2013 Report on city readiness to adopt a *Lifetime Communities* model of planning (grant funded by Metro Area Agency on Aging and United Way). The exploratory research provided a guide for priorities and a focus on urgent topics. This has resulted in the committee seeking administrative relocation within the City infrastructure.
- Collaborated with City staff to sustain ACOA in a city department in which the committee will be efficient and utilized.
- ACOA public comments submitted to Metropolitan Council in response to their 2040 Housing Policy Plan; comments were included in transmission from Mayor Coleman and the city Planning Commission.
- Clarified and pursued the vision and key components of a *Lifetime Community* – or *communities for a lifetime* - as could be realized in the City of Saint Paul.
- Pursued collaborative opportunities with the City of Minneapolis, Office of Neighborhood and Community Relations, on cross metro technical assistance and forums.
- ACOA ongoing efforts toward realizing the *Lifetime Communities* model showcased at the MAAA Annual Community Meeting and annual staff meeting.

Directions for 2015

- Secure administrative relocation and department accountability within the City; determine specific rolls and responsibilities in relationship to that department.
- Recruit additional membership under new model, *Communities for All Ages*.
- Continue to establish connections/linkages to other key groups, including advisory groups, as well as key policymaking and planning/development groups and activities. Intent to connect with City Policy makers and City of Saint Paul Planning Commission.

Ongoing Activities for 2015

- Present the model and paradigm for Communities for All Ages to the City Planning Commission in preparation for meaningful involvement in the City's Comprehensive Plan process.
- Secure resources to adapt existing checklists/templates/guides/technical assistance materials to assist planners in a Saint Paul model for *communities of all ages*.
- Plan, secure funding for and host two events in 2015: Housing and Communities for All Ages in partnership with relevant stakeholders.
- Develop strategy to meaningfully engage Ramsey County Human Services and Public Health.
- Foster resident and local service provider engagement.
- Participate in the Metro Area Agency on Aging Lifetime Communities Work Group.