

Council on Aging Newton Department of Senior Services



**2017-2018
ANNUAL REPORT**

Welcome



- Annual Year End Dinner
- Opportunity to Look Back
- ... and Look Forward
- Welcome new members

Key Acronyms



- COA: Council on Aging
- NDSS: Newton Department of Senior Services
- WHO: World Health Organization
- PLAAN: Planning for an All Age-Friendly Newton
- CDBG: Community Development Block Grant

COA/NDSS Vision



- Provide sustained leadership that helps Newton be a Livable All Age-Friendly City
- Who we are
 - AARP/WHO Age-friendly Network Member (since 2016)
 - Activists
 - Advocates
 - Results Oriented

What Age Friendly Means to Us - MISSION



Optimize quality of life for older adults and those who support them through...

welcoming, respectful opportunities that engage and value older people, and empower us to remain independent and be important assets in our community.

Age Friendly Domains



- **Outdoor Spaces and Buildings**
- **Transportation**
- **Housing**
- **Social Participation**
- **Respect and Social Inclusion**
- **Civic Participation and Employment**
- **Communication and Information**
- **Community and Health Services**
- **Educational Opportunity**
- **Arts and Culture**

What it means to be on the COA



- Regular Meeting Attendance
- Participation in Domain Action Teams (DATs)
 - Mission, Vision, Goals, Measurement
 - Valid information and data
 - Continually improve
 - Partnerships
 - Products
 - Communication
 - Outreach

Domain Action Teams



- Housing – Allison Sharma
- Transportation & Mobility – John Pelletier
- Social Participation & Engagement – Julie Norstrand
- Communication & Information – Julie Irish
- Buildings and Outdoor Spaces – Various
- Civic Participation – Carol Ann Shea
- Community and Health Services - TBD
- Respect & Inclusion – TBD
- Educational Opportunity – TBD
- Arts and Culture - TBD

Expectations



- Keep abreast of what is happening in the City
- Connect with similarly focused groups
- Outreach to other seniors
- Communication
- Innovative thinking

...Don't reinvent the wheel

PLAAN Overview



- 2016 : Newton accepted into the WHO/AARP Age Friendly Community Network
- 2017: Listening Sessions – what does Newton want?
- 2018: Leadership Development
 - Working Groups
 - Goal Setting

Listening Sessions



- 33 Sessions
- 300+ Participants
- Participants lived in Newton from 1 to 99 years
- Sessions Conducted in English, Russian and Mandarin
- Participants ranged in age from 14-99 years old
- Sessions included the general public, city departments and targeted organizations
- These results will inform our ongoing work

PLAAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS



- **Projects, Programs Initiatives**
 - AARP Grant to test Housing Materials
 - Newton Library Series
 - Mayoral Forum
 - City Council Forum
 - Election: Officials recognize Aging
 - Endorsements: Austin St., Washington Place, Sunrise Senior Living, Accessory Apartments
 - Senior Center Initiative: Team Members
 - New COA & COA/AB Members
 - DSS Budget: Isolation and Loneliness Money

COA Recognition



Massachusetts Gerontology Association Louis Lowy Award Recipients

Elizabeth Dugan - 2018

Marian Knapp – 2016

COA Recognition



- Seasoned Members
- New Members

Going Forward



- Age Friendly Awards
- Reading List
- COA showcases the strength of seniors
- COA cares for the needs of seniors
- Emphasizing Wisdom and Experience of Seniors
- Looking for innovative ways to showcase COA

What Next?



- The COA will recess for the summer...
 - ...but that does not mean a recess from working on Age Friendly initiatives.
- NewCAL kicking off tonight
 - Executive Building Committee: Marian Knapp
 - Advisory Building Committee: Audrey Cooper, Jo-Edith Heffron, Marian Knapp, Gordon Szerlip, Emma Watkins, (Sue Rasala)
- Homework
 - Review Listening Session feedback
 - Identify notable age-friendly practices