



CLARK COUNTY
COMMISSION
on
AGING

2022
ANNUAL
REPORT

CLARK COUNTY
COMMISSION
on
AGING

Presentation to City Council

Spring 2023

Agenda

- Background
- 2022 Work Program
 - Focus
 - Findings
 - Recommendations
- Aging Readiness Plan
 - Implementation Progress
 - 10-year Update
- Discussion



Commission on Aging

- Nine-member volunteer commission.
- Provide leadership in addressing the special needs of the aging population
- Manage and assist with implementation of the Aging Readiness Plan
- Update the Aging Readiness Plan as needs change



Existing Aging Readiness Plan

- Developed with community input
- Plan includes five chapters and 91 strategies
- Focuses on topical areas shown here
- Annual progress reports created yearly

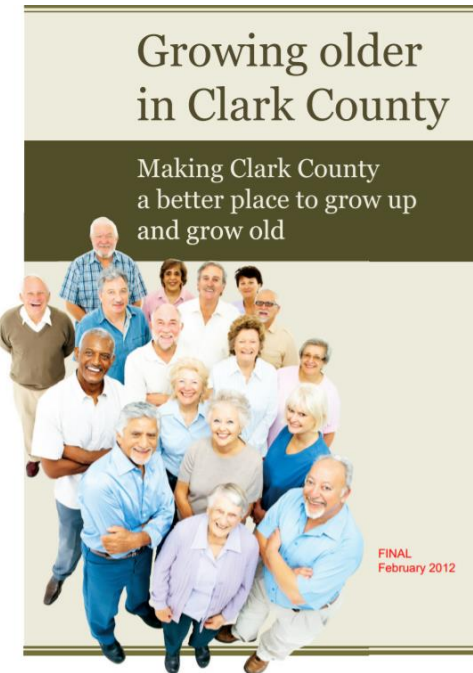


2022 Work Program

Focus:
Innovation through Connection

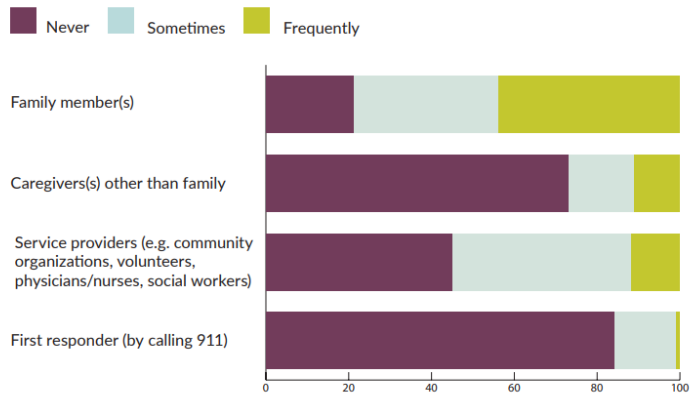


Project:
Aging Readiness Plan
Update

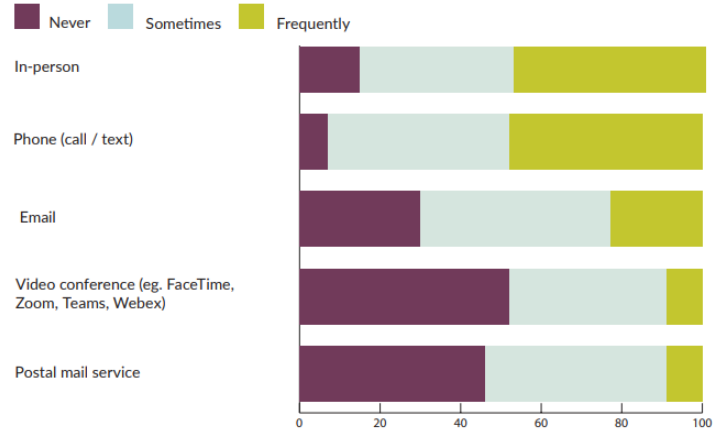


2022 Focus: Innovation through Connection

Q1. Who supports or speaks with you on a regular basis when you need assistance? Please indicate the amount of time you seek assistance from others.

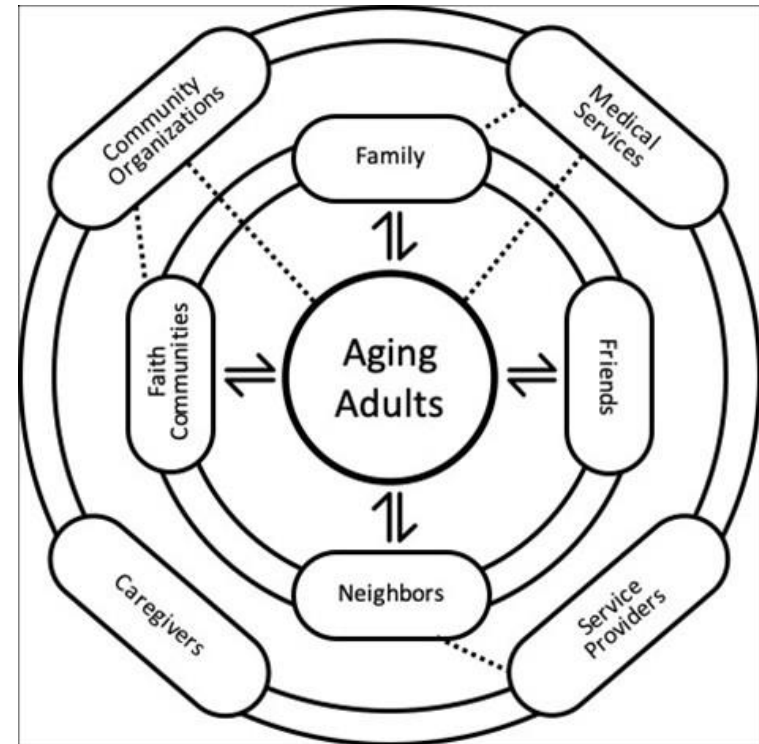


Q4. What are your preferred ways to connect with service providers and community organizations?



2022 Focus: Innovation through Connection

- Service Provider Roundtable
- Community Activists
- Faith Communities
- Peer-to-peer Educators
- Volunteer Coordinators
- Support Technology/Innovative Communication Providers
- Caregivers



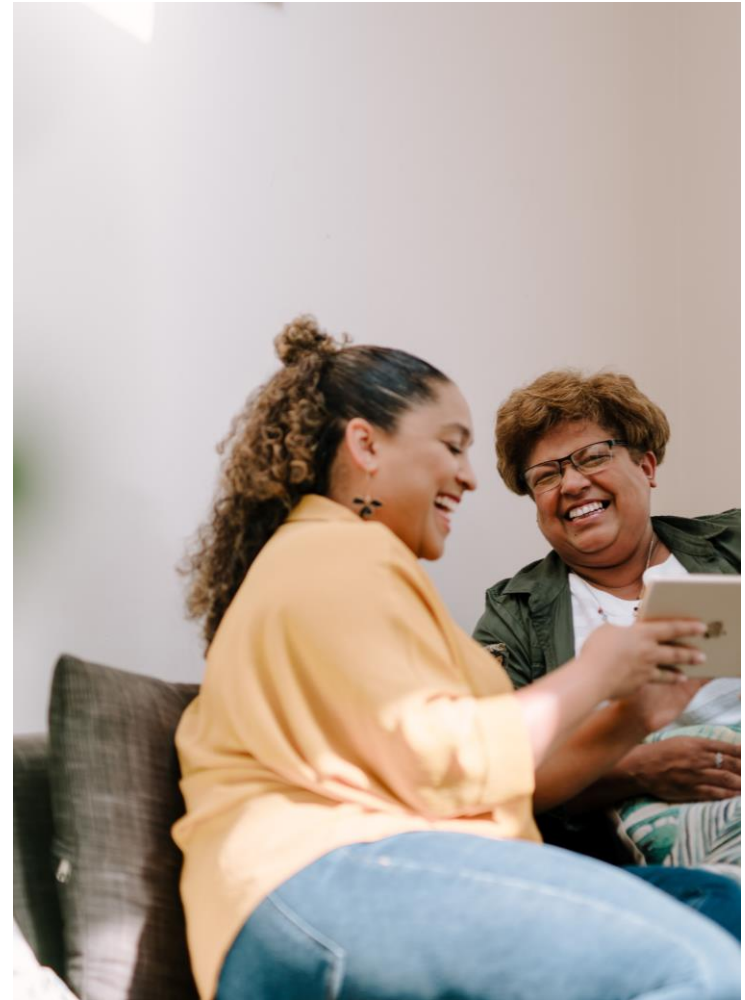
Findings

- Community service providers pivoted & offered more services during the pandemic & continue to experience gaps reaching more older adults in the community.
- There is high demand for volunteers to help community organizations deepen their connection and offerings to community members.
- Unpaid family, friends, faith community members, and neighbors are an essential part of the local support network both as connectors and service providers.



Findings

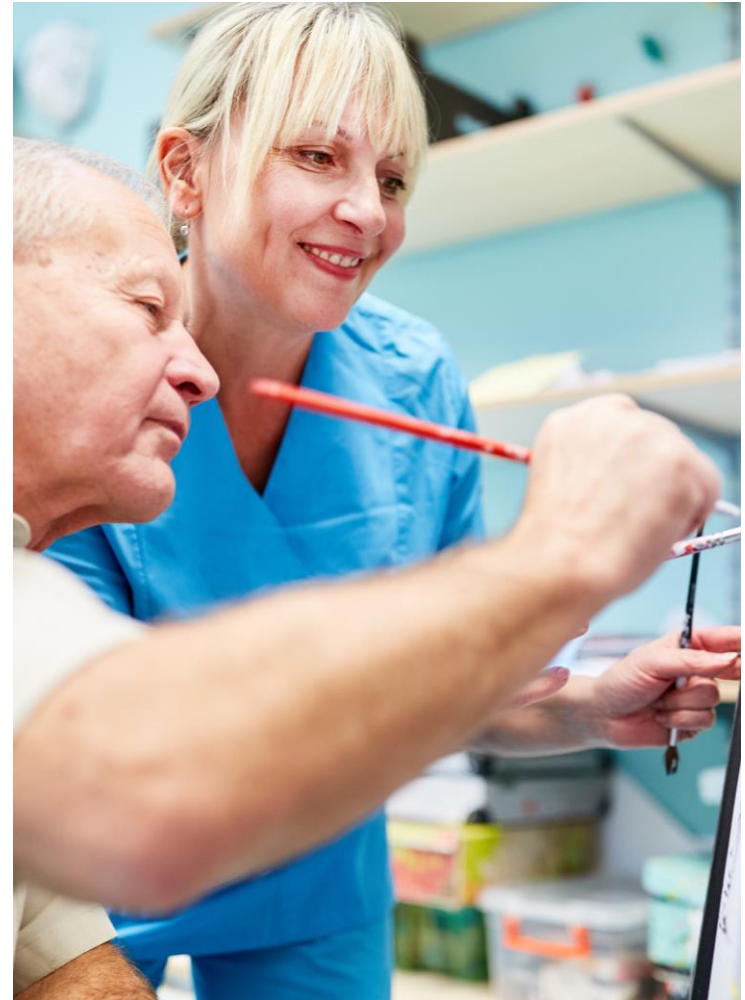
- Although family, friends, and faith community members provide critical caregiving roles, the health care system and community often do not sufficiently take care of the needs of caregivers, which can lead to issues like burnout, distress, and depression.
- Growing demand for professional caregivers with geriatric expertise is a gap in available resources.



Recommendations

Consider and address the following questions in the Aging Readiness Plan update project:

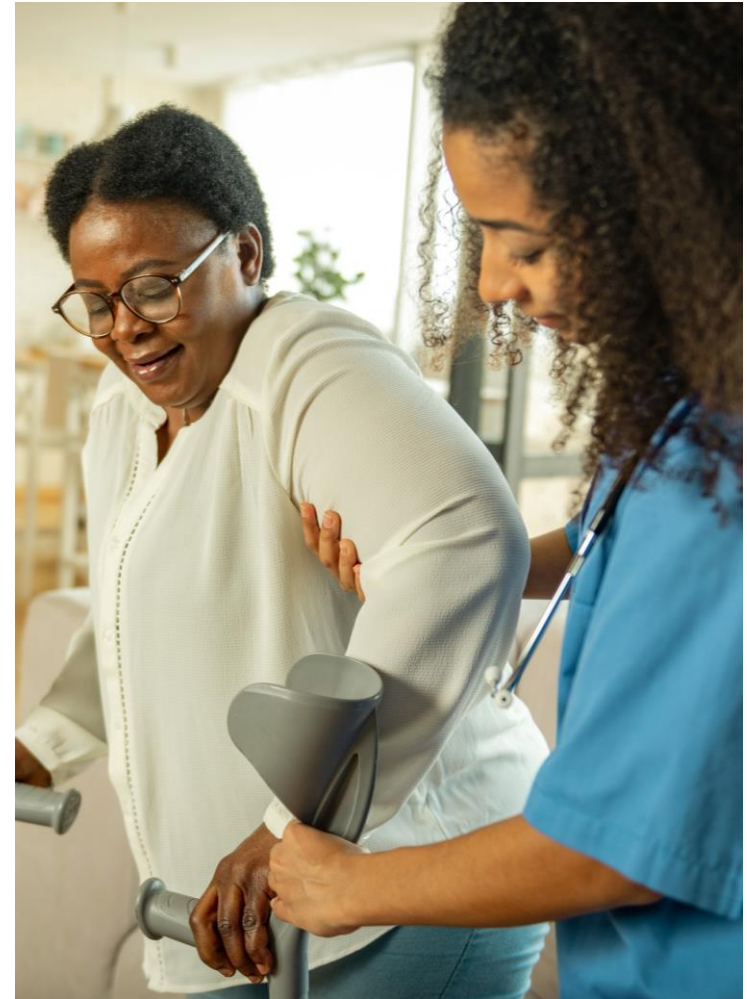
- How can the commission and other community organizations support AAADSW as the go-to, one-stop-shop for aging resources?
- How can the ARP better address the needs of unpaid family/friend/faith caregivers?
- How can the ARP better address the professional caregiver shortage in the county?



Recommendations

Consider and address the following questions in the Aging Readiness Plan update project:

- How can the ARP better support community organizations remove communication barriers to access their programs, i.e. if someone speaks a language other than English?



Recommendations

Consider and address the following questions in the Aging Readiness Plan update project:

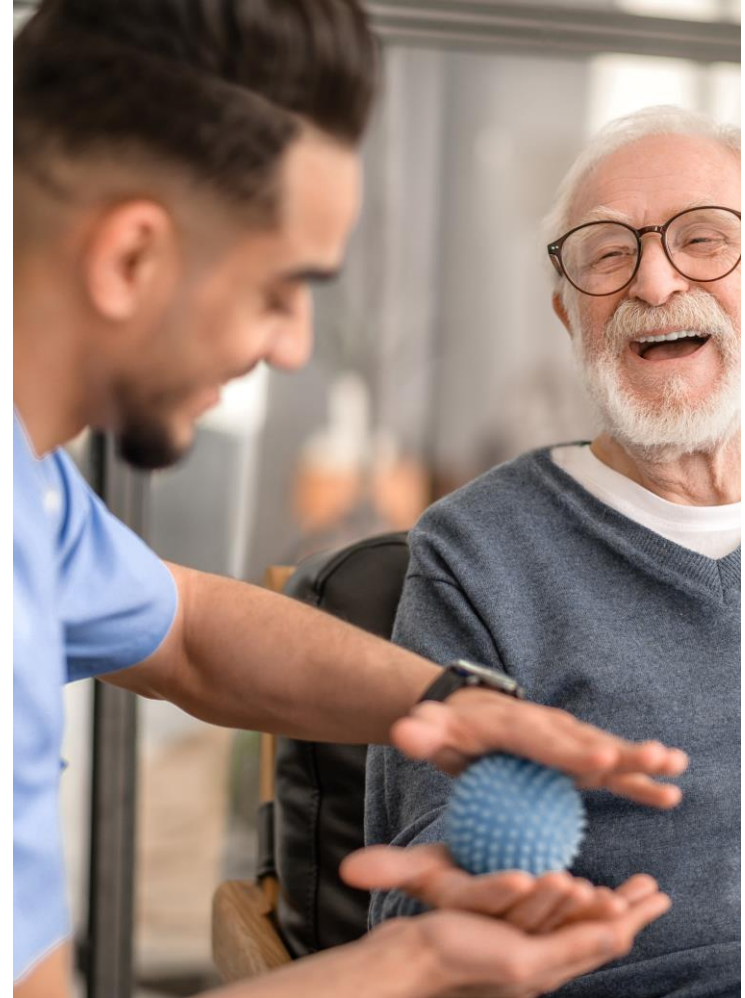
- How can the ARP support the innovative solutions community organizations developed during the pandemic, with particular focus on 1) revising policies/laws to allow those programs/adaptations to continue; and 2) identification of sustainable funding sources to replace time-sensitive emergency funding?



Recommendations

In 2023, the CoA should:

- Implement intentional, strategic and active communication and community engagement throughout the year related to the ARP update project and implementation of plan strategies.
- Use its role as a convenor/facilitator to move forward ARP strategies during the second half of 2023.



Aging Readiness Plan Implementation

- Shared housing programs
- Housing options, visitability, and universal design
- New supportive service programs
- Education, awareness, and advocacy
- 2022 Silver Citizen Award recipient: Katlin Smith



Aging Readiness Plan Update

- New Emergency Preparedness chapter
- Incorporate what we've learned from the pandemic
- Include new information, technologies and innovations
- Monitor progress



Project Timeline



Thank you!

Commission on Aging

- Webpage: <https://clark.wa.gov/aging>
- Phone: 564-397-4968 or 564-397-4516
- Email: Cnty.Comm-aging@clark.wa.gov

Aging and Disability Resource Center

- Webpage: <https://www.helpingelders.org/>
- Phone: 360-694-8144
- Email: clarkadrc@dshs.wa.gov

