



Greater Richmond Age Wave **GeroTrifecta Work Group**

March 4, 2015 @ 3:30pm – 4:30pm

AARP, 707 E. Main Street, Suite 910, Richmond, VA 23219

GeroTrifecta Work Group

Facilitator: James Brooks

Notes: Sara Morris, Greater Richmond Age Wave Coalition

Objective: The GeroTrifecta is a university and community partnership which will utilize students and alumni to perform community canvassing (via walkability audits), conduct pre-emptive interventions in care and engagement and build on existing initiatives. This Work Group will create a grassroots advocacy network comprised of students, seniors and local community leaders that canvass communities.

Guiding Ideas

- Reinforce the concept that “age-friendly” is beneficial to people in all stages of life.
- Language needs to be open to reinforce concept of all-ages.
- AARP and volunteers can assist in recruiting senior community members to work with GeroTrifecta as representatives and team members.

The Meeting

Update Since Last Meeting

James Brooks is to change positions to the AARP National Office in the Office of Volunteerism and Service (OVS) as an Advisor for Training and Outreach. With the position change, comes a change in AARP representation to the GeroTrifecta Work Group. James will be transitioning out of the work group as our Chair, but intends to continue to volunteer as a member of the work group. James is ensuring for a smooth transition as AARP remains committed to this work and partnership.

Important Dates:

- March 27th is the Age Wave Leadership Committee Meeting taking place at the Weinstein Jewish Community Center. This meeting will feature the release of the *Age Wave 2015 Strategic Update*.
- April 6th at 6:30pm at Senior Connection VCU students from the Operationalizing Age Wave Readiness course will present initial findings for community feedback. We invite everyone to attend to hear the students’ presentations and help provide guidance.

Richmond won the 2015 Best Intergenerational Communities Award from MetLife Foundation / Generations United. On February 11th representatives from the Age Wave coalition took a trip to Washington, D.C. to receive the award. The visit included a tour of Capitol Hill and meetings with Virginia legislators. We received a certificate and letters from Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner.

The Virginia Association of Museums will host a Workshop and presentation at Monticello in Charlottesville, VA about our demographic changes and the role of arts and cultural institutions planning programming, resources and services to accommodate patron desires. The VMFA has spearheaded this workshop which will include presentations from Celeste Fetta, James Brooks, and Sara Link on the importance of aging and



museums. Also, Sara Link will be doing a panel presentation at the Urban Land Institute on March 25th with a planner working in Atlanta, Georgia.

Chesterfield County Age Wave Coalition met with Jay Stegmaier, County Administrator. He was impressed with the County's work thus far developing a county specific plan and the coalition presented their proposal to consolidate website to include a comprehensive page for older adults (volunteerism and services) as well as possibility of hiring a part time coordinator to work on the Age Wave.

Met Uvonne Andoh, GeroTrifecta Intern

Uvonne Andoh is in her second semester of the VCU's Gerontology program. She was originally born in Ghana and has been in the states for the past 6 years bringing a new perspective on aging. Uvonne's first project with the GeroTrifecta has been to compile a comprehensive inventory of the work groups progress and achievements to this point.

Student Update

The name of the Age Wave Class has been changed to "*Operationalizing Age Wave Readiness.*" A blog component has been added to the course. The blog is a way to create visuals of the community and to provide information about different services, programs and assets specific to that neighborhood. Students are able to engage at the community level via the blog, information sessions with leaders/elders as well as increase visibility about their efforts. The course consists of two Master's of Gerontology students and 6 pharmacy students. The students have been working to operationalize questions in the assessment under each category and are building off the work of the summer session cohort. Students are currently engaging with community members and learning more about the neighborhood through informational interviews and canvassing.

Andrew Terry, James Brooks and Sara Link met with key community representatives of the Civic Association in Woodlake. The meeting was very productive and there was great interest in our efforts. However, due to some internal changes within the association the project has been on hold. However, momentum is being built as students meet with various community members to garner more public engagement and gather additional information about the neighborhood.

Reflections

One thing we should be looking at is what we will do with the data (once collected via assessment tool); advising with the city, counties, communities, etc. Uvonne will help work on how to analyze/compile the data, so that it can be shared with a broad audience of our coalition stakeholders and/or other interested partners. Analysis of each neighborhood should include components (recommendations) specific to their community in terms of assets and gaps.

As we test and learn as much as we can about the three communities (Union Hill, Woodlake and Willow Lawn), we are also thinking about when we can begin to expand to other communities, as the assessment is solidified and uniform. The Age Wave website will assist with the education and advocacy of the long term plan.

It may be more about gaining acceptance into new communities. We can potentially expand our reach to other students and/or we could look into other academic areas such as Urban Planning. Dr. Welleford and Sara Link recently met with the Center for Urban and Regional Analysis, so a relationship has started. We hope to solidify key components around the intersection of social connectedness (reducing risk of social isolation) and the physical environment (e.g. Transportation, access to services, housing, walkability, etc.).



NEXT STEPS

- ✓ Attend the Leadership Committee meeting on March 27th
- ✓ Attend Operationalizing Age Wave Readiness Student Presentations on April 6th at 6:30pm at Senior Connections

NEXT MEETING

The Meeting Wizard will be sent out prior to our next meeting.

The Leadership Committee will meet on March 27, 2014 at the Weinstein Jewish Community Center, 5403 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA 23226. This will be our Strategic Update Release Party!

ATTENDEES

Name	Organization Affiliation
Uvonne Andoh	GeroTrifecta Intern
James Brooks	AARP
Harvey Chambers	Seniors Helping Seniors
Sheryl Finucane	VCU Physical Therapy Department
Lynn Ivey	HomeKeepers
Sara Link	Greater Richmond Age Wave Coalition
Amy Marschean	Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)
Sara Morris	Greater Richmond Age Wave Coalition & CATCH Healthy Habits