

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY VILLAGE GATHERING

Tuesday September 27, 2017

Scribe: Lylie Fisher

## **PARTNERSHIP – IT TAKES PARTNERSHIPS TO SUSTAIN A VILLAGE**

**Stephanie Chong – Northwest Neighbors Village**

**Peggy Gervasi – Silver Spring Village**

**Marsha Weber, Onley Home for Life**

**Eva Cohen, Bradley Home for Life – Moderator**

### **Stephanie Chong – NWNV**

- It takes a village to carry a village. Small budgets and considerable expectations
- Significant partnerships:
- Forest Hills (was Methodist Home)
- Free use of office space, meeting rooms.
- Originally were meeting in people's homes issues will sustainability, accessibility and parking.
- Aware about the need to diversity and hold events in natural (non-senior) venues
- Examples: libraries, community centers, faith based communities

### Senior Services Organizations

- Stephanie Chong is a social working
- Iona Senior Services – aging a disability resources center for the Ward that cover NWNW
- Free case management – with waitlist (independent of income)
- Members can use care management – that is a fee based service
- Partnered with Iona to develop the Medical Note Taking program
  
- Home Care Companies
- Decluttering
- Money Management
- Home Maintenance -HVAC, plumbing, roofing etc.

NWNV need to determine that is appropriate for volunteers and what should be referred to a fee for service vendor.

Partnerships are required because some requests are either not a good match for a volunteer, not appropriate, or necessary to provide a social services referral or vendor.

- This kind of partnership model is also effective for fundraising
- Need to vet vendors
- Follow list serve
- Washington Consumers Checkbook  
Member referral

- When a request comes in the volunteer coordinator there is considerable time to vet and that the vendor is the best fit. They do check with license, recommendations etc.
- Informal Partnership
- Local realtors – when they are promoting the neighborhood include Villages (marketing and fundraising)
- Other Villages – monthly meetings with ED and joint programming for space and events
- The need to identify inefficiencies in each village and partnering with other villages on events, lobbying and big picture planning.

### **Peggy Gervasi – Silver Spring Village**

- Not a formal relationship with Iona, but has contact Iona Senior Services seeking guidance and support.
- Currently has a virtual office
- How they achieved partnership connections:
  - Silver Spring Day School – Members children attend and made an introduction
  - High School Student – Montgomery County Certification for Service Learning (within the limitations and exclusions of participation) photography, office events.
  - Silver Spring Town Center – space, room and collaboration with the marketing for events
  - Health and Wellness partnership with MCG, events at senior centers and recreation centers. Underutilized recreation center that could be developed – 55+
  - Holy Cross – utilizing existing programs and collaborate. Including sending speaker out
  - Fire Department – smoke alarm and safety checks
  - Meetings in residential care facilities
  - Discounts at local restaurants – meetings and social activities in quiet times
  - Book club at library. Use the library for free and the Village does all the facilitation
  - Easter Seals
- All this requires: “relentless schmoozing” – Personal Contact – Reach out through members and board members
- SSV has unique mailing list. Cross marking potential
- 1,200 mailing list – button on website, very active acquiring mailing list and interests
- From the floor: vote registration lists, table at voting place

### **Marsha Weber, Olney Home for Life**

- 4 cities, rather than neighborhood
- No fees – key service areas – transportation, friendly calls and visitors
- Partnerships

- Medstar – office space, room, marketing team. Anyone in cancer treatment – OHFL provide transport
- Brookgrove Senior Residence – space use for meetings
- Olney Library – space (tech time also in partnership with JCA)
- Challenges – faith-based community – who do you need to talk to (not clergy)
- But are developing an excellent relationship with Friends House
- Identified the need to be relentless to undertake outreach for partners (and folk to receive services)

## COMMENTS

1. Question about Leisure World and the question about support to residents with similar “Village” neighbor to neighbor” supports.
2. ADA needs of members and residents
3. County passed legislations to Uber and Lyft 25cents per trip. This fund will (when passed) will support disability focused transportation (this is a very thumbnail of the pending legislation)
4. Sharing of resources between Montgomery County villages
5. Getting support for no fees to use libraries and community centers
6. Shared resources – Grants, Office Administration costs, back room, printing, legal support, applying for grants, social events, speaking engagements
7. Could Montgomery County provide back office administration support. An extension on what Pazit Aviv does
8. For example: office space, meeting areas, accounting, printing. For example, 1 or 2 county staff personal to take on the administration responsibilities.
9. Chevy Chase Region Villages are considering to form a 501(c)3 to form a consortium for back room administration.
10. Village Rides – a grant funded program through Jewish Community Center, a volunteer transportation management program – partnering with the County. Funding has continued but reduced. 3-4 villages have been using Village Rides. Tracking and providing free rides. The program being reduced with limited funded cannot cover background checks, training and marketing. Very user friendly software program.
11. Rockville Senior Center is an amazing resource and support for developing villages. With higher taxes the Rockville City Council is recruiting a village coordinator.
12. Faith-based communities – have a demand for assistance with transportation. Often there are members who don’t live in the neighborhood of the church. So if Villages are partnering there is a need to find mutual benefits.