



Age-Friendly ★★★DC

Using World Health Organization Guidance
to Transform DC into an Easier City
in which to Grow Older



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Task Force Meeting

FY2021 Progress on Goals and Strategies by Domain

The following slides have been updated by and for Age-Friendly DC Task Force members on Age-Friendly DC FY2021 progress implementing the Age-Friendly DC 2023 Strategic Plan.



Timeline Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023



Completed:

- ✓ Mayor Muriel Bowser issued the Age-Friendly DC Second Establishment Order 3-22-18
- ✓ [Recommended a 2023 Strategic Plan to Mayor by August 2018 - \(Released by the Mayor 10-29-18\)](#)
- ✓ [Two-Year Progress Report was released by the Mayor January 2021](#)

Ahead:

- ☐ Continue monitoring and reporting on plan implementation 2021-2022).
- ☐ Evaluate and report plan results to WHO and AARP by October 2023





2023 Task Force Domain Committees are organized into 3 Pillars



Built Environment – *Outdoor Spaces & Buildings, Transportation, Housing*



Changing Attitudes about Growing Older – *Social Participation, Respect & Social Inclusion, Civic Participation & Employment, Communication & Information*



Lifelong Health and Security – *Community Support & Health Services, Emergency Preparedness & Resilience, Financial Security, Public Safety, Lifelong Learning, Caregiving*



Outdoor Spaces and Buildings — *A city where everyone has access to recreational facilities, activities, and services, moves easily indoors and out, and routinely experiences nature.*

Co-chairs: Ana VanBalen and Tama Duffy Day

Progress:

- [DC Comprehensive Plan Amendment](#) was approved by DC Council, thereby addressing equity in DC for all residents.
- Public input for [“Ready2Play” 20-year DPR plan](#) launched..
- With community engagement with each installation, DC now has 141 murals in 72 neighborhoods providing wayfinding markers and references to neighborhood history.



Housing — *A city that provides access to a continuum of safe and affordable housing options that allow residents to age in place.*

Co-chairs: Drew Hubbard and Dr. Katrina Polk

- [Stay DC](#) is now closed having spent or allocated all Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds from Treasury. DC is #1 per capita among all states for funds dispersed and #2 behind NJ in % of allocation. Applying for more funding and ERAP is available.
- The Mayor made \$400 million in HPTF available in DHCD's consolidated RFP. The announcement was made intentionally on the site of 218 Vine Street, a 129-unit senior affordable housing project selected by DHCD from the 2018 Consolidated RFP, celebrating a topping out in the construction process. [Pipeline can be found here](#)
- Continuing efforts to promote Housing Equity including with the release of the Tax Abatements for Affordable Housing in High-Needs Areas (HANTA) Proposed Rulemaking for public comment. [Track progress towards #36000by2025](#)
- Within the HPTF investment, the District will undertake an Accessory Apartments (ADU) Demonstration initiative to pilot a program of financial incentives to make it easier for eligible homeowners to create accessory apartments, building on the work of UPO, CSG and the Citi community.



Transportation

– A city with a variety of transportation modes, including walking, biking and scooters; that are safe and affordable for travelers of all ages and abilities, easy to find and use, and connect residents/visitors to jobs, goods and services.

Co-Chairs: Nana Bailey-Thomas, Zach Smith and Rachel Maisler

FY21 Highlights:

- **Updated moveDC 2021** plan with equity as a key consideration in transportation decision-making
- Launched an **online traffic safety investigation dashboard as part of the Vision Zero Program** for residents to report a potential traffic safety issue and stay up-to-date on the investigation, research and safety solutions
- Implemented the **“Lock-to” infrastructure requirement** for scooters to keep sidewalks and public places open and free from obstruction with plans to install 1,000 additional bike racks in FY22 to support the legislation

FY21 Age-Friendly Transportation Goal Highlights:

- **Repaired 25 miles of sidewalks** while improving accessibility at **39 bus stops**
- **Replaced/Installed 11,474 signs** that are easy to read and well-lit at night
- **Installed 9.8 miles of bicycle lanes** and shared-use paths
- **Installed 126 high-visibility crosswalks** to facilitate the safe movement of pedestrians and cyclists
- **Placed 237 Leading Pedestrian Intervals in intersections** to better accommodate older adults and persons with disabilities



Social Participation - *A city where leisure, cultural, intergenerational and creative activities widely available and accessible for residents age 50 and over*

Co-chairs: Winona Lake and Jackie Reyes-Yanes,
Monica Waters, Stand-in

- Covid changed participation from face-to-face to virtual with more participation in all forms of activities engaging more participants than ever--virtual participation must continue for those unable or who prefer to remain home
- AARP, DC's 13 Villages and several agencies, including the Department of Aging & Community Living, were in regular contact with DC residents, particularly those living alone
- Smithsonian Institutions continued the [See Me program](#) with six museums offering art experiences to residents with dementia and their caregivers





Respect and Social Inclusion — *A city that actively empowers older adults by improving public and private services, as well as public perceptions of aging.*

Co-chairs: Mathew McCollough and Ron Swanda

Progress:

- Continued focus on recognition and inclusion for the LGBTQ community
- New Olmstead Plan



Communication and Information – *A city that uses all forms of communication to keep older residents connected to their community, friends and family.*

Co-chairs: Lindsey Parker, Sarah Procaccini, stand-in and Susan Donley

Progress:

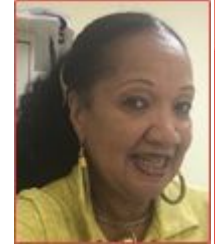
- [Tech Together](#) launched to connect, offer devices and train DC residents of all ages.
- Isolation prevention by DC agency and community organizations
- Mindfulness regarding inclusion with virtual options to participate in meetings and events.



Community Support and Health Services

A city that promotes wellness and active aging through achieving excellent health outcomes at all ages

Co-chairs: Dr. Jacqueline Watson and Dr. Sandra Owens Lawson



FY2021 and FY2022 Domain 8 Highlights

Goal 8.1 Increase consumer awareness of preventive, primary, urgent, and long-term care options.

- DACL fielded 38,972 calls to their Information and Referral/Assistance line and attended 168 outreach events.
- DC Health's Brain Health Initiative (BHI) will soon launch its website, an online resource for cognitive health, prevention, education, and services tailored for Alzheimer's Disease Related Dementia patients, caregivers, healthcare workers and community members.
- DHCF's Program for All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) continues to make progress towards launch.

Goal 8.2 Promote health, wellness and an active lifestyle in the community.

- DC Health IT and OCTO will soon implement the latest version of the web-based Falls Dashboard.
- DC Health is finalizing a senior-focused polypharmacy pamphlet to address poly pharmacy or drug-to-drug interactions that result in hospitalization and emergency room visits.

Goal 8.3 Increase awareness of and access to healthful foods and promote healthy living through improved nutrition.

- DC Health's Produce Plus Program provided more than 1200 seniors with weekly benefits for fresh fruits and vegetables at District Farmers' Markets.
- Food and Friends provided weekly medically tailored home-delivered meals and shelf-stable groceries to 2,079 District residents with serious medical conditions, many of whom are seniors.

Goal 8.4 Increase health workers' and residents' knowledge of behavioral health and substance abuse

- DC Health's Board of Nursing is developing a list of credentialing bodies to provide trainings pursuant to D.C. Law 23-201. Dementia Training for Direct Care Workers Support Amendment Act of 2020.
- DBH's self-paced training for health workers is under development.
- DBH identified a behavioral health screening tool (DL8 20) and it is currently being vetted.



Emergency Preparedness and Resilience – *A city that ensures the readiness, immediate safety and resilience of all residents and communities before, during and after an emergency.*

Co-chairs: Joe Lenz and Chris Rodriguez
Progress:

- Red Cross responded to 172 disaster incidents and opened 305 cases helping 792 people.
- Despite COVID Red Cross continued blood drives that resulted in thousands of units collected in DC.
- 13 Villages across DC have continued to work to keep the neighbors across DC informed about protection from COVID. <http://dcvillages.org/volunteering>
- The HSEMA Interagency High-Rise Building Evacuation Task Force released its Gap Analysis Report on how the District can improve its approach to evacuating individuals with disabilities and older adults from high-rise buildings. A couple of the gaps centered around *Public Awareness and Education* and *Evacuation Devices*.
- HSEMA in partnership with seven District agencies were selected for federal grants totaling over \$45 million in mitigation funding from FEMA. These projects will support climate resilience through flood reduction, back-up power generation, and extreme heat planning. Partner agencies include DGS, DOEE, DMPED, and DPR.
- In FY21 HSEMA's Resilience Bureau conducted 152 community preparedness trainings or events with District residents and stakeholders.



Abuse, Neglect and Undue Influence – *a city where older adults can expect to live free of financial exploitation, neglect and physical, sexual and emotional abuse.*

Co-Chairs: Denise Roper and Laura Zeilinger,
Dr. Sheila Jones. stand-in

Progress:

- Increased the types of activities to disseminate information that has led to engaging more participants continued significantly in FY2021.
- Using various platforms (Webex, webinars, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, etc.) as well as, cell phones has provided increased opportunity and invitation for more persons to participate, become more comfortable, learn and gain understanding of the potential impact of reporting abuse, neglect, or undue influence.
- In FY21, through the use of the various platforms, **12,084 individuals participated.**
- Added to the array of platforms was social media (Twitter). This led to **10,123 Twitter impressions and 459 unique visitors to DCTROV with regard to abuse.**
- The continued outstanding partnership of many agencies and organizations have significantly contributed to the Domain Ten progress over the last two fiscal years which include, but not limited to is The Office of the Attorney General, DCTROV, DACL, ElderSafe, DISB, and MPD. Fiscal year 21, despite the pandemic proved to be very successful in educating and increasing awareness of Abuse, Neglect, and Undue Influence.



Financial Security— *A city where financial well-being of DC residents and strategies for savings are promoted throughout life.*

Co-chairs: Karima Woods, stand-in Idriys Abdullah and Susan Saunders McKenzie

Progress:

- The current economic environment indicates a need for locality specific research on the impact of Covid-19, underemployment, and unemployment on low to moderate income resident
- Locality specific research should include data on savings rates as an indicator of financial security among low to moderate income residents
- Data suggests an opportunity exists to develop strategies to address the needs of Unbanked pre-COVID DC Households: Black 13.5%, 12.2% Hispanic, 5% White (up due to the pandemic, Washington Times 3/21) 8% of DC residents (93,500) unbanked or underbanked.
- Virtual DISB programs to educate and provide financial protection to older residents increased significantly due to the use of technology resulting in production of 50 consumer protection and advocacy presentations, 12 community-based information events, 4 virtual city-wide public forums and the Elder Abuse Prevention Committee Social Worker Training Conference for 100 +/- attendees



Lifelong Learning — *A city where residents of all ages have opportunities to fill knowledge gaps, pursue interests and new career directions.*

Co-Chairs: Michelle Johnson, Romaine Thomas, Connie Spinner

Progress:

Implementation of Strategies 12.1.3, 12.1.4 and 12.2.1 have been ongoing.

- 12.1.3 - OSSE, UDC, Trinity University, Metropolitan College and other postsecondary education institutions in the metro area, create and disseminate information postsecondary education options available to District residents via agency websites, mail, telephone, Career Coach DC, meetings, conferences and other events.
- 12.1.4 - OSSE funds 12 community-based organizations to offer Integrated Education & Training to District residents. Adult learners of all ages, including persons ages 50 and over, have an opportunity to enhance their basic digital literacy skills; learn about, acquire and/or use a variety of technology devices; and access/sign-up for free internet service for 1 year through the Internet for All Program, sponsored by OCTO, Comcast and RCN. DCPS and DCPSCB adult serving agencies, UDC, DCPL and other government and community-based agencies also provide DC residents with opportunities to enroll in classes to enhance their computer skills, engage in online learning and social media, and learn how to access services and resources using technology.
- 12.2.1 - OSSE, DOES, DHS, DCPS, DCPSCB, UDC, DCPL, DCHA and other government agencies and providers promote awareness of adult education, workforce preparation and training opportunities, supportive and transition services for District residents via agency's websites, mail, telephone, meetings, conferences and other events so that District residents can access programs and services needed to pursue and achieve their desired career path and/or personal and professional goals.



Public Safety – *A city where residents 50 and over feel safe no matter the time or location.*

Co-Chairs: Michelle Vanneman and _____. The Mayor will soon appoint Public Safety-focused Task Force member



Progress: The Mayor's [private security camera rebate program](#) has resulted in over 20,000 cameras placed on homes and businesses across the District, and the program is still active and offering rebates. This program also works with the **Department of Aging and Community Living** to support rebates through the **Safe at Home Program**.

Additionally, the Mayor's new **Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement** <https://onse.dc.gov/> seeks to work with those most at risk of committing or being impacted by violent crime and working with the communities that hang in the balance of these actions. While these services are not offered directly to seniors, supporting safer neighborhoods helps everyone feel safer at home. Crime Prevention Training is offered to adults 60+..

Data comparing crimes in [2021 to 2020 can be viewed here](#).



Caregiving – *A city that supports unpaid residents who care for others 60 and over.*

Co-chairs: Laura Newland, Stand-in Dari Pogach and Stacy Canan

Progress:

- [Smithsonian See Me Program](#) continued to expand into all the Smithsonian museums
- [Department of Aging and Community Living](#) is providing case management for residents who want help organizing care
- [DC Paid Family Leave](#) used by over 700 DC residents in FY 2021 for caregiving. Starting in October [paid family leave benefits](#) for DC residents have been expanded.

