Next Chapter Kansas City

A community-based program of Shepherd’s Center of Kansas City, Kansas and partner organizations
Next Chapter Kansas City

A program that develops meaningful opportunities for persons 50 and older as they explore options for work, service, and learning in life’s next chapter
Next Chapter Kansas City

It was developed based on strategies promoted by Civic Ventures (a national think tank now known as Encore.org)
Next Chapter Kansas City
Key Components

- Focus on purposeful aging
- A community-based program
- Wyandotte County Boomer Survey provided important guidance in programming
Next Chapter Kansas City
Key Components, cont.

- A program committee consisting of persons 50+ who are willing to plan, attend, and invite friends to activities has been important

- Connecting persons to meaningful involvement
Next Chapter is a Resource
Purposeful Aging

➢ For persons who either have or may soon be leaving their primary career

➢ For persons who are in employment or retirement transition
Next Chapter Provides Opportunities

Purposeful Aging

➢ To engage in meaningful self-discovery

➢ To identify one’s passion and purpose in life
Next Chapter Provides Opportunities

Purposeful Aging

➢ To encourage persons to be involved in social purpose work (paid and unpaid) in the second half of life
Next Chapter Kansas City Founding Partner Organizations

- Shepherd’s Center of Kansas City, Kansas
- El Centro, Inc.
- KCK Area Chamber of Commerce
- KCK Community College
- KCK Public Library
- Landon Center on Aging
- Leadership 2000 (Civic Leadership Training Council)
- Liveable Neighborhoods, Inc.
- Workforce Partnership, Inc.
- Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging
Next Chapter Kansas City

➢ Wyandotte County Boomer Survey was completed by persons who lived, worked, or volunteered in Wyandotte County
Findings from the Wyandotte County Boomer Survey (2009)

- 90% of persons ages 45 to 70 who live, work, or volunteer in Wyandotte County see part-time work in the next phase of their lives as important.
Findings from the Wyandotte County Boomer Survey (2009)

- Volunteerism is a part of most Boomers lives
- Boomers intend to serve and support their community
- Opportunities to make a difference and build social connections motivate Boomers
Findings from the Wyandotte County Boomer Survey (2009)

➢ Just under half of boomers did NOT know where to go to find what’s next for them (job, volunteer, learning opportunities)

➢ No one was able to identify a specific resource designed to assist them with their transition
Next Chapter Activities are based on

- Top findings and program recommendations from the Wyandotte County Boomer Survey
- Next Chapter guidelines as determined by Civic Ventures (now Encore.org)
- Feedback and suggestions from participants
- Program Planning Committee
- Suggestions from Focus Groups
Next Chapter Activities

- A non-financial life planning class - Aligning Passion and Purpose in the Next Chapter of Life
- Next Chapter Book Group – meets monthly
- Next Chapter monthly Informational/Networking forums
Aligning Passion and Purpose Class
Two three-hour sessions

- The Third Age Perspective – What does life look like in the “Encore Chapter”
- Looking Inward: A chance for meaningful self-discovery
- Visioning and exploring possibilities
- Making choices and implementing goals
Aligning Passion and Purpose Class
Next Chapter Activities

 Book Group and Forums focus on carefully chosen topics of interest for Boomers and Persons 50+ in employment or retirement transition

 Meet in early evening to accommodate persons on their way home from work

 Offered in cooperation with KCK Public Library
Next Chapter Book Group
April 4, 2016
Informational/Networking Forum
Three Transition Stories: Discovering What’s Next After Your Primary Career
April 26, 2016
Informational/Networking Forum
Tiny Houses: Keeping What’s Essential in Life
February 23, 2016
Challenge: How do persons ages 50+ get connected to organizations/projects

- Nonprofit organizations are invited to speak briefly at forums about paid and unpaid opportunities
Business Basics 4 Boomers Conference
For persons ages 50+ interested in starting a business
December 2014
Membership

$30 Annual Membership Fee

- Members receive discounts
- Membership helps Next Chapter KC develop and provide quality programming
Next Chapter Kansas City Funding

- Jewish Heritage Foundation
- George H. Nettleton Home, Inc.
- Willard J. and Mary G. Breidenthal Foundation
- Partner Agencies
- Individual Contributions/Memberships
For more information

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Stay connected to your community

Your sense of purpose

Your ability to make a difference