Community for All Ages Coalition

Civic Engagement Committee

Statement of Principles, Goals and Strategies

Goal
To ensure that our Eastern Jackson County community effectively harnesses the energy and talents of our growing age 50 and better population to improve area communities.

People
We believe that all persons who are age 50 and better:

• Desire to live active lives with opportunities to improve their own and the lives of others.
• Have a wealth of experience and knowledge that is needed by their communities.
• Have a wide range of reasons for wanting to be engaged in their communities but generally share a common desire to feel needed and to have social interaction.
• Have improved physical and emotional health if they are involved in their community.
• Should have access to information in a variety of forms on a wide range of opportunities for community involvement.

Thus the foundation through this committee will make it easier to obtain information on community engagement opportunities through print and electronic media, including a robust internet site that appeals to persons age 50 and better.

Organizations
We believe that when organizations improve their ability to involve persons who are age 50 and better in meaningful roles, there will be a broad positive impact on the overall operations of the organization.

Thus the foundation through this committee will employ training, networking and program grants to increase the capacity of all organizations, including non-profits, governments, religious institutions, etc.:

• To know and value the unique strengths and needs of age 50 and better persons throughout all levels of the organization.
• To implement policies and procedures to effectively recruit, train, deploy, supervise and reward age 50 and better persons.

Communities
We believe that all communities in Eastern Jackson County will experience a growing population of age 50 and better citizens over the next decade. Creating an age-friendly environment that supports the continued engagement of these citizens will contribute to the economic and social strength of these communities.

Thus the foundation through this committee will increase public awareness of the impact of a rapidly growing age 50 and better population and the impact of active civic and community engagement on indicators of community health through paper and electronic media, group presentations, etc.