



Partnership for a Greater Salt Lake Conference Call – Aging

June 20, 2016

The biggest challenges with regard to the aging are:

1. The lack of awareness and connection to existing systems and supports
2. The lack of coordination among many existing programs and resources and
3. The fact that we tend to age differently based on our demographics, environment and lifestyles - aging is a process, not a number.
4. Based on the diversity of lived experiences, age alone is not an adequate indicator of quality of life or need.
5. Based on a growing aging population, there will be a need for resources to grow.
6. The needs and senior population density vary across the County meaning that investments need to be strategic and targeted to areas of greatest need and density; develop a “vulnerability” and senior density map in order to highlight the areas where investments have the potential to impact the greatest number of our most vulnerable seniors. This mapping may be useful as the Partnership begins to propose specific strategies (2017).

Principles for Guiding Policies, Programs and Investments:

1. **Promote independence, not isolation.** Programs that support independent living need to make sure they don't contribute to isolation. Helping seniors remain at their current address is only a positive investment until it begins to limit their access to food, medical care and actively living. So making investments that help seniors age where they want to age, and to do so in the context of a supportive community are as important as investing in aging in place.
2. **Value seniors as assets rather than just service-users.** How can we create opportunities for seniors to make an impact in the lives of other seniors and younger generation in whom seniors invest their time.
3. **Push for early intervention.** Preventing injuries, illnesses, and crises in the life of older adults is important to maintaining quality of life as well as improving cost savings for seniors and support systems. Investments that help prevent falls, malnourishment, and other costly and potentially deadly outcomes are both economical and empathetic.

Key Senior Needs:

1. **Senior connections and access.** Awareness of access to places, assistance and resources for older adults needs to be improved. Can we provide new and more efficient ways to help seniors and their caregivers navigate through existing programs and resources?
2. **Provider coordination.** How stakeholders coordinate across domains.

Other issues for consideration.

1. Immigrants and people of color; LGBT.
2. Multigenerational programming and use of facilities - housing, senior centers
3. Mental Health

Small Group Age-friendly cities domains:

1. Community Support and Health Services
2. Housing
3. Transportation/Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
4. Social Participation/Respect and Inclusion

Homelessness Shared Outcomes

Below is the list of 14 strategically linked outcomes in four key areas of focus as priorities for the community:

1. Outcomes for County Residents Experiencing or At Risk for Homelessness:
2. Outcomes for the County's Homeless Service and Housing Systems:
3. Outcomes for County Residents Experiencing or At Risk for Homelessness:
4. Outcomes for Communities and Public Spaces:

Outcomes for County Residents Experiencing or At Risk for Homelessness:

1. We recognize and meet the distinct needs of these at risk and homeless populations:
 - Families with children
 - Transitional-aged youth
 - Single men and women
 - Veterans
 - Domestic violence victims
 - Individuals with behavioral health disorders (including mental health and substance use disorders)
 - Individuals who are medically frail/terminally ill
 - Individuals exiting prison or jail
 - Unsheltered homeless
2. We successfully divert individuals and families from emergency shelter whenever possible.

3. We meet the basic needs of those in crisis.
4. We provide individuals and families with stabilization services when they need them.

Outcomes for the County's Homeless Service and Housing Systems:

5. Salt Lake County's homelessness rates decrease over time.
6. Coordinated entry and a common, consistent assessment tool provide appropriate, timely access to services across the system. There is no 'wrong door.'
7. Individuals who are homeless have a relationship with a caseworker or similar individualized support.
8. Individuals who exit homelessness will be employed and/or have increased income/financial stability.

Outcomes to Prevent Homelessness:

9. Salt Lake County's housing supply meets the demand and needs of all residents.
10. People have access to the specific services and supports they need to avoid homelessness.
11. Children, adolescents and adolescents transitioning to adulthood do not experience homelessness.
12. If individuals and families become homeless, we prevent it from happening again.

Outcomes for Communities and Public Spaces:

13. Neighborhoods that host homeless service facilities are welcoming and safe for all who live, visit, work, recreate, receive services, or do business there.
14. Neighborhoods offering services also offer access to employment, job training, and positive activities during the day.