

Future Solutions Now for Senior Citizens



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*Assisting Kansas communities
to better plan for and serve the
seniors of today and the future.*



Kansas Department on Aging

503 S. Kansas Avenue
Topeka, KS 66603

www.agingkansas.org

www.HealthyKansas.org

What is the Lifelong Communities Initiative?

The Lifelong Communities Initiative assists communities to plan for and better serve their community's **seniors** of today and the future.

The goal of the Lifelong Communities is to help Kansas communities become better places to live.

The quality of life for citizens of **all ages** in the community is enhanced through this initiative. Lifelong Communities, a grassroots project, provides Kansans and communities with information and the tools for **successful aging** through collaboration among local leaders, business, organizations and government agencies.

Why is the Lifelong Communities Initiative important?

- The baby boomer generation begins turning 60 in 2006.
- An estimated 483,816 Kansans will be age 60 or older at the end of the year and that number will increase as the baby boomer generation reaches retirement age.¹
- The percentage of the Kansas population age 65 and older exceeds the national average (13.3% compared to 12.4%)

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000. Kansas Quick Facts, retrieved from [HTTP://QUICKFACTS.CENSUS.GOV/STATES2000.HTML](http://quickfacts.census.gov/states2000.html)

What is the Lifelong Community Process?

The Lifelong Communities Initiative is a 4 step process:

- 1) Obtain support from local government
- 2) Complete community self assessment tool
- 3) Develop and implement action plan
- 4) Verification and designation

Communities completing the process will be designated a **Lifelong Community** by the Kansas Department on Aging.

Lifelong Community areas:

All participating communities will complete the self assessment tool and develop a plan divided into the six Lifelong categories:

Community Service
Business

Government
Transportation

Housing
Health Care

Lifelong Demonstration Communities:

Chase County
Garden City
Oberlin

Concordia
Great Bend
Topeka

Dodge City
Hiawatha
Winfield

Why Should I participate?

- A Lifelong Community can attract retirees as well as elders, offering the community an additional base of volunteers, an experienced work force and increased tax base. Economic development opportunities are numerous.
- Young families may choose to stay and age in place in communities where they have access to quality health care, affordable housing, employment opportunities and community based services and activities.

How much money will this take?

The amount of money needed to complete this initiative will be driven by each community's action plan. KDOA will research and publish existing sources of corporate, state, federal and private foundation funds as it becomes available.

Become a Lifelong Community Today!
Contact Blanche Parks at:
(785) 296-0463 or BlancheParks@aging.state.ks.us