The New Volunteer Paradigm: A Livable Community/Transportation-Based Approach
The New Volunteer Paradigm: A Livable Community-Based Approach

Presenters

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Three n4a Initiatives Represented:
1. The Aging Network’s Volunteer Collaborative
2. Livable Communities Collaborative
3. The National Center on Senior Transportation
...is the leading voice on aging issues for Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) across the country and a champion for Title VI Native American aging programs in our nation’s capital.

...advocates on behalf of local aging agencies to ensure that needed resources and support services are available to older Americans and their caregivers.
HCBS

The Aging Network's Volunteer Collaborative

The New Volunteer Paradigm
PowerUP!
Issues Facing Aging Organizations

- Multifaceted OAA authorization
- Appropriation not keeping up with authorization
- Financial scarcity
- Medicalization Drivers
- Cross-sector planning and partnerships
- Vision, role, and strategy for volunteer engagement unclear/changed amidst complexity
- Volunteer recruitment and retention challenge
Good News

ABUNDANCE!

Talent!

Complexity

Scarcity

amidst
Even Better News

New Research-based Engagement Strategy

6,000 retirees daily

ROI = 8:1 on average
What are volunteer engagement challenges?

• Lack of staff to spend time on volunteer development and funding for volunteer programs and staff is at risk.
• Nonprofits remain in dire need of human capital to address their mission objectives.
• There is a mismatch between the work volunteers want to do, and how nonprofits engage volunteers.
• Volunteers get discouraged, nonprofits don’t receive full advantage from their work, and urgent problems go unsolved.

*ONE out of THREE Boomer volunteers leave their assignment within the first year*
How do self-directed volunteer teams work?

SDV introductory video can be found at www.sdvnetwork.com.
What results from this new dynamic?

- Alignment of organizational needs with volunteer interests
- A greater return on initial investment AND sustainability
- Measurable results on critical issues and needs
- Greater organizational and staff efficiency
- Choice and flexibility of roles for volunteers
- Generativity: more volunteers, teams, ambassadors
• A national initiative that engages teams of older adults volunteers to meet the needs of aging and disability services.

• This engagement also supports older adult volunteers in powering up their own skills, health, and lifelong learning.

• Increases the network’s capacity to respond to resource challenges by releasing the energy of older Americans, currently 40 million strong and growing.

• The initiative provides researched and proven volunteer engagement resources including templates, tools, and training for use by local organizations and programs.

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**PowerUP!**

**Training**

2-3 Paid Staff:
- Online Tutorial
- 1-hour webinar
- Draft Issue Brief
- Draft Charter Agreement

2-3 Volunteers:
- Online Tutorial
- 1.5-day in-person training
- Action plan and project to address Issue Brief
- Finalize Charter Agreement
How does PowerUP! work?

PowerUP! video can be found at www.agingnetworkvolunteercollaborative.org.