# Aging-in-Place: The "Village" Concept

Andrew Scharlach, PhD University of California, Berkeley

23<sup>rd</sup> Annual John K Friesen Conference Simon Fraser University May 29, 2014

# Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services



#### **Mission:**

Improving services for the elderly through research, collaboration and education

### **Examples of aging-in-place projects:**

- California Villages Project
- ElderHelp Concierge Club
- Motion Picture and TV Fund Aging Initiative
- Contra Costa for Every Generation
- Creating Aging-Friendly Communities
- Strategic Plan for an Aging California

### What Do Aging Boomers Want?

- Remain in their own homes or neighborhoods
- See friends, social networks
- Get to shopping, health care
- Be safe
- Be healthy
- Be involved in the community

	Aging in Place	Aging in Community
Underlying motivation:	Reactive	Proactive
Goals:	Avoid institutionalization	Foster interdependence
Responsibility:	Individual	Communal
View of Aging:	Avoidance	Opportunity
Service delivery:	Unidirectional	Reciprocal
Elder Role:	Care recipient	Participant

(Based on work by Janice Blanchard, Janet Stambolian and William Thomas, MD)

### Aging in Community – Logic Model

Facilitate Service Access

**Build Community** 

**Promote Elder Empowerment**  Individual Capacity

Physical and psychosocial wellbeing

**Community Capacity** 

Social Capital

Improved service delivery system

Aging in Community

The "Village" Concept

### Neighbors Helping Neighbors Salt Lake City, UT









# Senior Membership Associations

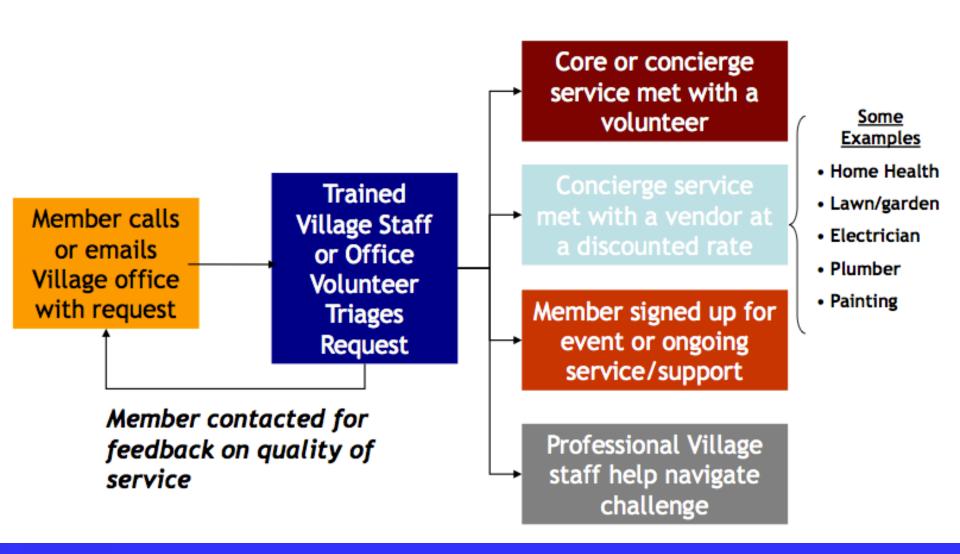


### "Village" Model

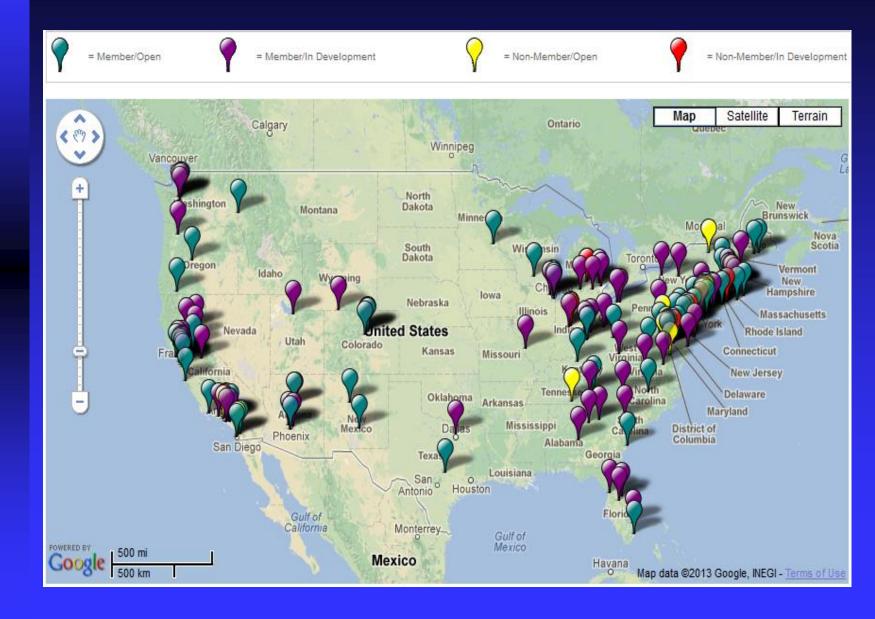
"Villages are self-governing, grassroots, community-based organizations, developed with the sole purpose of enabling people to remain in their own homes and communities as they age."

[from Village-to-Village Network website]

### How A Village Works



### Villages in the US – Current and Future



### UC Berkeley Villages Project

- Evaluation of individual Villages
  - Service use
  - Member satisfaction
  - Member outcomes
  - Cost-effectiveness
- National surveys of Village organizations
  - Factors associated with sustainability and effectiveness
- Longitudinal studies of Village members
  - Impact of Village programs

### Village Impact Pathways

#### **Social Engagement**

- Social Activities
- Educational Activities
- Transportation

#### **Assistance and Support**

- Companionship
- Housekeeping
- Home maintenance
- Safety modification

#### Wellness/Advocacy

- Care coordination/advocacy
- Care management
- Medical transport

#### **Civic Engagement**

- Volunteering
- Participating in governance

#### Social support

- Increased social connections
- Increased participation
- Civic engagement
- Reduced isolation

#### Access to services

- Awareness of services
- Use of services
- Getting the care you need when you need it

#### Health/Well-being

- Quality of life
- Well being
- Health

#### Self efficacy

- Confidence with self care
- Confidence with home care
- Confidence aging in place

Aging in Community

# 2012 National Village Survey\*

- Data from 69 of 80 operational Villages (RR=87%)
- Average organizational age = 3.1 years
- 77.5% freestanding
- 31% urban, 31% suburban, 17% rural, 21% mixed

\* A collaboration of researchers from Rutgers University, University of California-Berkeley, University of Michigan, and University of Maryland, with support from the Silberman Foundation

## Village membership

■ Median = 96 members (range 13-550)

- Individual membership cost
  - ◆ Average= \$428.51/yr (range \$25 \$948)

- Household membership cost
  - ◆ Average= \$572.93/yr (range \$50 \$1,285)

## Village members vs. US population 65+

	Village Members	US population 65+
Gender	69% Female 31% Male	59% Female 41% Male
Living Arrangements	<b>51% Alone</b> 49% With others	31% Alone 69% With others
Race & Ethnicity	94% White 2% African American 2% Hispanic 1% Asian/Pacific	83% White 8% African American 6% Hispanic 3% Asian/Pacific
Economic Status	12% "Impoverished" 12% "Insecure"	<b>16%</b> < SPM* <b>33%</b> 100%-199% SPM*

<sup>\*</sup> SPM = Supplemental Poverty Measure (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011; Short, 2011)

## Funding

- Total Yearly Budget
  - ◆ Median yearly budget = \$82,643
  - $\bullet$  Minimum = \$1,000 Max = \$674,000
  - ◆ Average of \$1036.23 per member
- Funding Sources
  - ◆ 50% membership dues/fees
  - ◆ 24% donations
  - ◆ 12% foundation or corporate grants
  - ◆ 12% non-profit organization contributions
  - → 2% government grants

# Services used most often

Service	Provided by member volunteers	Provided by Village staff	Referred to outside providers
Transportation	83%	46%	54%
Recreation/Socializing	70%	51%	31%
Companionship	69%	28%	4%
Grocery Shopping	<b>59%</b>	21%	14%
Reassurance calls	49%	42%	9%
Healthcare advocacy	24%	25%	7%

### Member to Member engagement

- 41% talk to other Village members at least weekly
- 21% see other Village members at least weekly
  - ◆ 49% at least monthly
- 44% of members provide volunteer services
  - ◆ 29% assist other Village members
  - ◆ 17% serve on planning or governance boards
  - 9% do administrative work
  - ♦ 7% help with marketing or outreach

# Health and Social Impacts

	Percent
Health & Well-Being Better Quality of life Happier Healthier	53% 45% 33%
Social Functioning Know more people Talk to more people Feel more connected Participate more Leave home more Less lonely	81% 63% 62% 53% 40% 39%

# Service Access and Aging in Place

	Percent
Service Access  More able to get help  Know more about services  Use services more  More able to get medical care	81% 76% 41% 28%
Age in Place  More able to stay in home  Taking care of home easier  Taking care of self easier	75% 26% 25%

### **Community Impacts**

- 38% of Villages work on making their community more aging-friendly
  - ◆ 22% are engaged in political advocacy
  - ◆ 10% work on improvements in the built environment
  - ♦ 6% sponsor public educational events

### Villages – Promoting Aging-in-Place

- Improving Service Access
  - Meeting needs
  - Improving ability to access needed services
  - Reducing cost of services
- Building Community
  - Social engagement
  - Social support
- Promoting Elder Empowerment
  - Participation in meaningful roles

### Housing-Integrated Program Models

- Motion Picture Television Fund
- Eskaton
- Navigage

### Motion Picture & Television Fund



Residential Care
Independent Living
Assisted Living
Memory Care
Skilled Nursing Care

### **Community Programs**

Health Centers
Geriatric Assessment
Case Management
Home Modifications
Community Councils



### Eskaton

- Residential Care
  - ◆ Continuing Care Community (CCRC)
  - ◆ Memory Care, Pre-memory Care
- Community-Based Programs
  - ◆ Eskaton Village: "Live Well at Home"
  - Home Care and Adult Day care
  - **◆** Transportation Service
- "Smart Home" Design

### Navigage

- CCRC
  - Marguerite Gardens
- Virtual community ("SherpaLife")
  - Concierge
  - Activities
  - Products
  - Life planning

### The best way to predict the future

is to invent it.

Peter Drucker

### THANK YOU!

Andrew E. Scharlach, Ph. D.

Eugene and Rose Kleiner Professor of Aging
School of Social Welfare

<scharlach@berkeley.edu>