

# **BNOA 2022 Accomplishment Report**

## **Housing & Transportation Committee Report for 2022**

The Housing & Transportation Committee is a joint committee of BNOA and Kirkland Senior Council (KSC) members.

### **Transportation**

Committee members participated in the planning phase of the Sound Generations pilot project, Eastside Mobility for All, aka Rides & Smiles. Assisted in coordinating focus groups for this project. Rides & Smiles is now operational, serving 4 cities on the Eastside.

Transportation matrix updated and added to the BNOA 'bag' of outreach resources.

Collaboration with city and regional partners, such as EERC, on mobility and transportation solutions with a focus on options for older adults.

### **Housing**

Committee members attended and provided input at several 2044 Comprehensive Plan Meetings.

Invited CoB Planning Manager and ARCH staff to update committee and BNOA and to answer questions on affordable housing for older adults. Several Committee members went on the bus tour of affordable housing in Bellevue.

Formed a working group to research, gather data and information, and analyze options for affordable housing. After a 4-month effort, the final report with findings and recommendations was approved by BNOA members to send Parks and Community Services managers.

Contacted AARP and received a supply of AARP HomeFit guides. This publication, in several languages, offers tips and suggestions for retrofitting homes to help older adults age in place, and has been added to the BNOA 'bag' of outreach resources.

Committee members continue to monitor the City of Bellevue Weekly Permit Bulletin, Downtown Bellevue Building Updates, and updates from affordable housing advocacy organizations.

The ARCH website has been revamped, and the list of senior housing resources is no longer available on the website.

## **Outreach Committee Report for 2022**

The Outreach Committee held Zoom meetings on the third Thursday of the month for all twelve months. They worked on the following:

**Revising the BNOA resource guide for older adults.** The guide is on-line and in a paper copy. It refers to such non-profit organizations in the Puget Sound as Adult Abuse Prevention, Alzheimer's Association of Western Washington, Asian Counseling and Referral Services and the City of Bellevue Major Home Repair Program.

**Bellevue Farmers Market Program.** The committee had tables at the markets for May, June, July, September, October, November and December with four volunteers at each market day. The tables had brochures for the elderly, brochures on Bellevue parks and information of general interest about Bellevue such as the Neighborhood News. Farmers market visitors stopped at the table for the brochures and to ask questions.

**Senior Day.** Senior Day occurred on the first Thursday of August. The committee brought together vendors/agencies who specialize in and provide assistance/info to seniors -- Sunrise Living, Hopelink

transportation services, Sound Generations, ENN, Hearing Loss Association, BNOA, YMCA. NBCC's band provided music. Several door prizes were given away.

**Neighborhood News articles.** There were articles in eleven of the monthly Neighborhood News. The articles included ones on Dementia Resources, Remodeling/Retrofitting your Home and Shingles. In addition, there was an insert with the June Neighborhood News on Legal Resources, prepared by Diana. The articles and insert provided useful information for older Bellevue residents.

**Neighborhood News Distribution:** The number of locations receiving Neighborhood News increased to nineteen during the year. The locations included libraries, medical clinics, a food bank and Crossroads; all in Bellevue. About 500 copies are distributed each month. Before the Outreach Committee began distributing Neighborhood News, Bellevue residents could only access the publication on-line and get paper copies at the Community Centers.

**Updated BNOA slide show** It is used as a general outreach tool for community, civic, and neighborhood presentations. It describes the general role of BNOA, services and opportunities for Bellevue's older adults. The entire slide deck was revised in September for presentation to the Parks Board, which occurred on 9/13 and presented by Abigail. Attendees included Dan Lassiter, Shelly Brittingham, John Stokes, and Michael Shiosaki.

## **Activities of the Joint Bellevue Network on Aging and Kirkland Senior Council**

### **2022 Advocacy Committee**

1. At our monthly meetings we discussed our state legislative agenda
2. We developed a pass-out to give to state legislators.
3. Residents of the BNOA from the 41<sup>st</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> Districts met on-line with legislators from our districts AND E-mailed our state pass-out to them. Some members sent the legislature on-line comments on various bills. Kirkland Senior Council members E mailed our state pass-out to their legislators
4. We spent considerable effort learning about ACO Reach, a Medicare program that starts this month.
5. Developed a federal legislative agenda and a pass-out on federal issues impacting seniors. Met with legislative assistants from the offices of Representative Smith and Senator Murray. E- Mailed our federal legislative agenda pass-out to Representative Cantwell and Representative DelBene. Some members of our committee attended a meeting on federal issues with Representative DelBene, which was organized by AARP and the Seattle King County Area Agency on Aging.
6. Invited a speaker from AARP, who is involved in the AARP senior employment program, to speak with us and thus learned about the AARP employment programs.

7. The co-leader of the committee, in order to keep up-to-date on legislative issues, attended the monthly meetings of both Washington State Senior Citizen's Lobby and the Advisory Council of Seattle King County Aging and Disability Services. She also attended the meetings of the Dementia Action Collaborative and the meetings of the AARP advocacy committee.
  
8. We discussed possible issues for a local agenda.