

COMMUNITIES FOR A LIFETIME INITIATIVE

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Communities for a Lifetime is an initiative coordinated by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs to assist Florida cities, towns and counties in planning and implementing opportunities that benefit all residents in communities for their lifetime. The initiative uses existing resources and state technical assistance.

The goal is to help Florida's communities implement enhancements that will make them better places for seniors to live independently. The process of self-assessment and improvement can help a community achieve the following goals:

- To create an inventory of services and opportunities that encourage independence and quality of life for older adults in the community;
- To initiate partnerships with business, government, not-for-profit entities and the educational system, in order to promote the development of senior-friendly community amenities; and
- To begin a self-assessment and planning process to address opportunities available for people of all ages in the areas of housing, education, employment, intergenerational activities and volunteerism, transportation, health and wellness, and injury prevention.

Communities for a Lifetime staff members help communities organize and facilitate the process by:

- Providing a blueprint, additional resource information, a sample proclamation, and local and state resources to help in the self-assessment process;
- Awarding recognition certificates;
- Hosting conference calls, workshops, regional meetings and providing training opportunities for communities involved in the process of self-assessment;
- Coordinating state-level efforts in setting priorities on specific issues;
- Identifying strategies and best practices of participating communities that promote senior independence and care; and
- Maintaining the Communities for a Lifetime Web site, www.communitiesforalifetime.org, that contains contact and resource information.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Florida municipalities and counties.

TYPE OF ASSISTANCE

Technical assistance, resource information and referral assistance to other state agencies and organizations that provide assistance in community visioning, development or planning.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

Participants are notified of recently released important resource information and grant opportunities. Contact the Communities for a Lifetime community relations manager to be added to an e-mail distribution list.

APPLICATION PROCESS/DEADLINES

The Communities for a Lifetime initiative is a voluntary initiative. The communities who participate begin the process by adopting a proclamation or resolution.

CONTACT

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