



## **Aging Well Community Plan 2016 Year-End Report Summary**

- Marty Ames, the original visionary behind Aging Well, retired in 2016; Chad Federwitz hired as her replacement, bringing experience from front-range programs and a master's degree in Gerontology.
- Senior Services continues to strengthen partnerships with non-profits, governments, caregivers and entities, in Pitkin County and throughout the Roaring Fork Valley, as promotion of the Aging Well Community Plan strengthens awareness of senior issues and encourages enhanced offerings to meet senior needs.
- We look forward to robust, new programs in 2017 as we continue to complete the "action steps," and continuing to establish and engage partners.

### **Hub of Information**

- New website launched with new URL [www.pitkinseniors.com](http://www.pitkinseniors.com)
- Outreach mailing sent in the spring to 2700 seniors in Pitkin County who have not yet participated in senior programs
- New trifold informational brochure and new rack cards created on specific topics such as Transportation, Volunteering, Senior Care Navigation, Medicare, Home Delivered Meals and Aging Well
- These materials distributed at events, at the senior center, and to partner agencies

### **Housing & Aging in Place**

- Met with and participated in community input sessions with a potential developer for an assisted living facility in Basalt/Midvalley; project not moving forward at this time
- Participated in meetings regarding the formation of a Regional Housing Authority to explore options, including the possibility of banking land for proposed projects
- Met with Mike Kosdrosky, Executive Director of APCHA, to discuss ways to keep senior housing needs as part of the overall discussions
- A Friendship Advocacy Group to explore developing smaller groups of trusted caregivers; the group mostly wants independence from the Senior Center but staff will monitor progress

### **Transportation & Aging in Place**

- Worked with Roaring Fork Leadership (RFL) team and Eagle County Healthy Aging to develop DASH (Drivers Assisting Seniors for Health) which launched in April. Program recruits volunteer drivers to meet senior transportation needs

### **Access to Activities that Support Wellness**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> 55+ Spring into Summer Wellness event was held in May at the Elks Lodge. Increased participation
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Aging Well 55+ Activities Fair at the Aspen Recreation Center – improved success

### **Valley-wide Collaboration**

- Participated in regular meetings with Eagle & Garfield counties to coordinate efforts on transportation, programming, newsletter sharing, available food/meal resources, social connections and communication.
- Service gaps identified include care advocacy and memory loss programs
- Considered bringing a wellness event to the Basalt Library; it was decided to table this event for future consideration

### **Senior Council Engagement**

- Held retreat with Senior Council including a roundtable discussion of the Aging Well program and its role in the community. Subsequent monthly meetings with the Senior Council have continued discussions strategies and identified council members who will be ambassadors for individual goals, taking on certain tasks and reporting back to the group.
- Senior Council hosted booth at the Aspen Saturday Market, sharing the activities and events of Pitkin County Senior Services with hundreds of community members

### **New for 2017**

- Engaging in the development of two new proposed valley-wide programs for 2017 – Senior Law Day (set for October 9 in El Jebel) and The Aging Well Conference (possibly in May).
- Priorities to focus on in 2017 include: senior mental health, community outreach and education, and rural seniors.