Age-Friendly NJ Advisory Council: August 1, 2023

Topics: NJ Updates; Age-Friendly Massachusetts
View Official Recording Here

Janet Sharma's Meeting notes

Budget: The recently passed NJ Budget includes $7million for Age-Friendly Community Grants and a Caregiver Hub. Breakdown and rollout details are not yet available.

Next steps for New Jersey: Internal team is compiling materials from Council input to form a Blueprint, which will be shared with leadership internally. The Department of Human Services will share the Blueprint with Council members with a Zoom presentation in September or October. There will be an opportunity for feedback but no voting. The Council is Advisory to the DHS, and the Blueprint is to be submitted to the Governor by the DHS. The official Advisory Council work is done.

Age-Friendly Massachusetts: Helped form the basis for the Age-Friendly NJ launch. Outstanding presentation by Robin Lipson - Deputy Secretary, Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs ([Slides available here](#)).

Lessons Learned:
- **Strong Leadership Matters** – Governor Charles Baker
- **Start by Listening**
- **Workable Framework**
- **ReiMAgine Aging – A Movement** – 10 years in the making

ReiMAgine Aging
Massachusetts Statewide Age-Friendly Action Plan

Mission
To amplify, align, and coordinate local, regional, and statewide efforts to create a welcoming and livable Commonwealth as residents grow up and grow older together.

Vision
Aging in Massachusetts is reimagined.
The Commonwealth is an accountable partner in supporting communities, embedding aging in all policies, and empowering residents with opportunities to age meaningfully in the communities of their choice.

Goals
1. Deepen Community Initiatives
2. Promote Information and Communication
3. Reframe Aging
4. Embed Aging in all Policies and Practices
5. Improve Economic Security
6. Create Sustainability

Sustainability Lesson: Partners matter
Massachusetts formed a **Healthy Aging Collaborative**, a backbone organization that exists outside of government and includes key partners from academia, nonprofit and government agencies.