Age-Friendly New Jersey Advisory Council: May 2, 2023

Topic: Age-Friendly Blueprint Recommendations
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Janet Sharma's Meeting notes

Housing
1. Expand capacity of individuals to age in place (e.g., PACE, CAPABLE, assisted living)
2. Recruit existing residences to accommodate older adults
3. ADUs
4. Use Medicaid as a platform to cover housing costs

Health & Well Being
1. Strengthen direct care workforce
2. Increase support for in-home services and community housing options that enable aging in place
3. Advocate for or enact policy that supports provision of medical care in the home
4. Increase case management services to navigate healthcare system

Transportation
1. Ensure transportation options to senior centers and age-related activities
2. Complete streets – takes measures to provide alternatives to excessive driving and make streets more pedestrian-friendly
3. Encourage mixed-use development that prioritizes walkable access; retrofit existing development (office parks, shopping malls) to fulfill these conditions

Socialization
1. Integrate long-term care facilities into communities
2. Make socialization efforts available to older adults with different capabilities
3. Improve (para)transit options for older adults for socialization, civic engagement, and employment

Communications & Outreach
1. Ensure that all services and supports are accessible, in multiple languages, and available in person, online, by mail and by phone; ensure use of ASL interpreters, closed captioning, large fonts and simple language
2. Increase awareness of Area Agencies on Aging
3. Expand digital access initiatives to older adults, including broadband coverage and cellular service

Common to all groups:
- Digital access, increase funding for PACE and JACC, sharing of services, access to home- and community-based services.
- Many services are the responsibility of local municipalities and/or county