

Age-Friendly Oradell

Senior Summit I

What is the Age-Friendly Initiative?

- ▶ Started by the WHO to “make communities better places to grow old”
- ▶ AARP is a leading advocate in the United States and maintains a Network of Age-Friendly Communities going back to 2006 - Montclair and Princeton are on the list for New Jersey
- ▶ Locally, The Taub Foundation has given grants to five Bergen County communities for their age-friendly initiatives:
 - ▶ Teaneck
 - ▶ Englewood
 - ▶ Garfield
 - ▶ Ridgewood
 - ▶ Westwood

Key Areas to Examine in the Community

- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Safety - pedestrian, in-home, borough facilities
- ▶ Community support
 - ▶ Health Services
 - ▶ Non-profit & state/county/local services
- ▶ Social participation
 - ▶ Recreation Department programs
 - ▶ Volunteer opportunities/Employment

Goals of Oradell's Age-Friendly Initiative

- ▶ Convene several Senior Summits to begin the dialogue and further the conversation
- ▶ Create and conduct a survey of Oradell's 55 and older residents
- ▶ Develop an Action Plan for how to improve quality of life for borough seniors with information learned from Senior Summits and the survey
- ▶ Implement the Action Plan in Phase II of the Initiative
- ▶ The Senior Citizen Advisory Committee will eventually oversee the implementation of the Action Plan
- ▶ Smaller committees may be formed and tasked with following up on individual areas of examination if needed

Important Statistics for Oradell

- ▶ Total population - just under 8,000 residents
- ▶ Population age 65 or older - nearly 17%
- ▶ 65 or older who live alone - nearly 8%

Key Players Needed to Reach Our Goal

- ▶ Emergency Services
- ▶ Local clergy & members of those religious groups that do community outreach
- ▶ County agencies
- ▶ Non-profits
- ▶ Community groups
- ▶ Elected Officials
- ▶ Local business owners
- ▶ Oradell seniors!!!

Things Currently Underway

- ▶ New senior van will arrive at the end of October
- ▶ Expanded recreation programs and trips
- ▶ New partnerships - Care One
- ▶ Annual holiday dinner
- ▶ Obtained a more comprehensive list of borough seniors for better outreach
- ▶ Met with Bergen County to see how many of our seniors are utilizing programs and services - there were **only 37** calls last year
- ▶ Creation of a “Senior Binder” available in Borough Clerk’s office
- ▶ Exploration of grant opportunities to expand programs/service and improve facilities

Roundtable Discussion

Now the floor is open and we want to hear from you!

What are the main issues Oradell seniors are facing?

What suggestions do you have based on your experience for improving quality of life for borough seniors?

What are we doing well? Where are we falling short? What aren't we doing that you think would work well here in Oradell?