



DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES/ LIFELONG MONTCLAIR

Accomplishments

Planning in Partnership

Lifelong Montclair collaborated with Jewish Family Service of MetroWest, Toni's Kitchen, Salvation Army, United Way of Northern NJ Caregivers Coalition, and American Legion Crawford Crews Post 251 to secure funding for and implement Planning in Partnership. This program provides preventive case management for Montclair-area residents age 55+.

The ChangingAging Tour

In November, 2018, we hosted the ChangingAging tour, featuring world-renowned geriatrician Dr. Bill Thomas. This three-day event was a success thanks to our partnership with our Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Valley Health System, and other community partners. We distributed pre- and post-test surveys to assess any changes in attitudes toward Alzheimer's disease/dementia and ageism. We are currently collaborating with Montclair State University to publish these findings.

Senior Activities at Edgemont Park House

During our second full year of operation of Senior Activities at Edgemont Park House, we fielded 1558 calls and welcomed 7081 walk-ins and program participants.

Montclair Senior Bus

In our first full year of partnership with EZ Ride to operate our Senior Bus, we provided 6118 rides, which represents a 146% increase in ridership from 2017 and results in an over 50% reduction in cost per ride.



The MILL

The Montclair Institute for Lifelong Learning is an initiative of Lifelong Montclair. The MILL is funded in part by Partners for Health Foundation and the community and is a collaborative effort of the Montclair Public Library and its Adult School Department, the Montclair Art Museum, the Montclair History Center, Connections at Home NJ, the YMCA of Montclair, and Montclair State University. In 2018, there were 1848 registrations, and we transitioned to an online-only registration system. We also coordinated with TV34 and Connections at Home NJ to livestream a MILL class and provide a call-in option, so that homebound older adults could also participate.

Qualitative Evaluation

Thanks to funding from the Partners for Health Foundation, we partnered with Montclair State University's Center for Research and Evaluation on Education and Human Services (CREEHS) to evaluate the implementation and short-term outcomes of our Age-Friendly Community Action Plan activities in the domains of housing and transportation. Results will be disseminated in 2019.

SIT

During 2018, we transitioned to a process where the administrative burden on both the Health Department and the riders was reduced; riders reserved rides with participating companies and requested the senior discount of 50% at the time of their reservation.

Age-friendly Designation Requirements

The Lifelong Montclair Age-Friendly Action Plan was accepted by AARP/WHO in 2018.

Honors and Awards

- Received Partners for Health Foundation's Community Impact Award
- Presented at the International Foundation for Aging's Global Conference on Aging in 2018

- Presented at the NJ Foundation for Aging’s Conference in 2018
- Funding applications:
 - 5310 grant through NJ Transit, which would offset half of the cost of the Montclair Senior Bus
 - Additional hours for MILL support through Partners for Health (approved)
 - 3 year case management funding through Partners for Health (approved)

2019 Priorities

- Migrate Online Directory of Senior Services to Township website to reduce costs and increase access
- Increase awareness and use of Operation Blue Angel
- Conduct public-facing awareness campaign using self-portraits created by older adults in Faces of Aging project to take place during Older Americans Month (May)
- Facilitate intergenerational story slam in collaboration with Montclair High School, Montclair Film, and Montclair Fund for Educational Excellence
- Increase partnerships in the community to expand MILL offerings
- Coordinate with other Township departments to complete outstanding projects