

Summary of Summit County Breakout Group Discussions

Yellow Group (facilitated by Jim Riesberg / Amber Minogue)

Priorities and Gaps in Services:

1. Housing: affordable subsidized senior housing
2. Communication: how to outreach to seniors
3. Access to skilled / independent / assisted living and nursing
4. Caregiver support and coordination
5. In-home services: access, workforce, etc.
6. Rehab care facilities: medically underserved community
7. Aging in community/Aging in place
8. Let's make care facilities to meet Summit County Needs
9. Respite care
10. Lack of affordable health care
11. Social isolation
12. Western Slope advocacy
 - a. mechanism to coordinate and distribute funds between rural and urban
13. Aging in place
14. Mobility: transportation catchment areas
15. Cross-county communication and coordination
16. Affordability for long-term care
17. Broadband/ cellular access/cost
18. Continuum of care facility
19. Transitions in care
20. Workforce housing vs. senior housing (competing interests)
21. Subsidized assisted living
22. Special need services
23. Technology barriers
24. Information overload
25. Planning for long-term care / Long-term care
26. Access to long-term care

Solutions:

1. Issues are dependent
 - a. Facilities for aging in community
 - b. Includes transitions in care
 - c. Continuum of care facility
2. Plan for aging and dying
 - a. Community focused
 - b. Culture shift

3. Ease communication and navigation about resources plus services available for seniors
4. Build system of supports for all kinds of caregivers
5. Educate and communicate to entire community about issues
6. Develop partnerships
 - a. Cross-generation
 - b. Cross sector
 - c. Cross community

Green Group (facilitated by Wade Buchanan / Jarett Hughes)

Priorities and Gaps in Services:

1. Senior housing (aging in place)
2. Improve transportation services
 - a. door to curb service
 - b. traffic circle education
 - c. funding issues
 - d. county to county services
3. Assisted living / skilled nursing
4. Planning for later life
 - a. insurance, healthcare literacy
 - b. legal documents, advance directives
 - c. take socioeconomic status into consideration
5. Regional solutions
 - a. combined funding
 - b. rural communities
6. Educating younger adults on aging issues (political divisions)
7. Intergenerational community-based solutions (e.g. nutrition programs with high school aged youth)
8. Need for more long-term support services (full continuum of care)
9. Education and empowerment (self-management)
10. Moving/relocating older adults
11. Workforce development
12. Transient nature of specific counties and regions effects on caregiving
13. Respite care

Solutions:

1. Housing
 - a. Intergenerational community housing
 - b. Intentional community development
 - c. Range of services
 - d. Pedestrian friendly

- e. In-home support services
- f. Public funding
- g. Incentives for IHSS providers and caregivers in rural areas
- 2. Transportation
 - a. Make grant funding more available
 - b. Explore CDOT resources
 - c. Door to curb services
 - d. Mountain mobility
 - e. Driver safety education
- 3. Assisted living / skilled nursing
 - a. Funding of LTC ombudsman
 - b. Construction and availability
 - c. Costs of care and building LTC facilities
 - d. Education on housing options
 - e. LTC ombudsman
- 4. Planning for later life
 - a. Advance directives
 - b. Power of Attorney/Medical Durable Power of Attorney
 - c. Life skills
 - d. Financial literacy
 - e. Retirement planning
 - f. Debt forgiveness
 - g. More public service announcements
 - h. Education campaigns

Red Group (facilitated by Ben Moultrie / John Barry)

Priorities and Gaps in Services:

- 1. Caregiver Staffing and Development
 - a. Need for non-skilled caregivers
 - b. Lack of workforce base
 - c. Lack of affordable housing for young workforce members serving seniors (e.g. caregiving)
- 2. Medical Providers
 - a. Including mental healthy and specialists
 - b. Regularly scheduled access to specialists
- 3. Educating and Encouraging County Commissioners and Government Leaders on Aging Issues
 - a. Exodus causes problems
- 4. Building Down-Sizeable Options
- 5. Lack of assisted living / independent living (skews health data)
- 6. Transportation (local, regional, medical)

7. Need for Independent Senior Living
8. How to Engage Isolated and Non-Engaged Seniors
9. Lack of Resources
10. Aging at Altitude
11. Talking “at” Seniors vs. “to” Them
12. Addressing Complacency
13. Senior Living Community
14. Local Cost of Medical Care (Front Range Specialist Care Cheaper)
15. Age Discrimination in Hiring (affects caregiver workforce)
16. Community Awareness / Support

Solutions:

1. Free up Senior Housing
2. Increase Workforce Housing
3. Volunteer Seniors Can Help Meet Workforce Needs