

Community Innovations for Aging in Place

Project Summary

Grantee Organization: Atlanta Regional Commission

State: Georgia

Project Title: Building a Lifelong Community in South Cobb County

Project Period: September 30, 2009 to September 29, 2012

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Project Summary:

The Atlanta Regional Commission, the designated Area Agency on Aging for the ten county Atlanta region, proposes a community capacity building project for aging in place to be implemented with support from Cobb County Senior Services and in collaboration with the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, Visiting Nurse Health System, and other community partners.

Goals and Objectives:

The goal of *Building Lifelong Communities in South Cobb County* is to build the capacity of a local community in becoming a *Lifelong Community* where individuals of all ages can live throughout their lifetime through comprehensive planning, design, programming and community involvement. The objectives are: (1) to improve the design of the built environment to promote connectivity, retail and services, and housing stock needed to age in place. (2) to implement the NORC (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community) Model to enhance the system of long term services and supports that wrap around the built environment, and (3) to conduct outreach to involve and train residents to advocate for their own needs in the long range process of developing a Lifelong Community.

Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated outcomes are: (1) increased awareness of Lifelong Community Principles among community leaders, (2) improved health outcomes for frail elders, (3) greater resident access to services and supports that facilitate aging in place, and (4) increased civic engagement among older adults in the community. The deliverables are: (1) increased connectivity, retail and services, and housing stock for older residents (2) cross-training and cross-referral protocols among local service providers; (3) the development of the South Cobb NORC, and (4) a model program that can be replicated regionally and statewide.