

AGE-FRIENDLY *Athens County*

Age-Friendly Athens County will create an environment that allows our citizens to age gracefully, actively, and comfortably in a sustainable, supportive, and inclusive community.



2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

MAY

ACCHD hired Amy Lipka as the Age-Friendly Athens County Coordinator.

JUNE-JULY

- Reviewed the work of Age-Friendly Athens County since its inception and researched Age-Friendly best practices from around the country and world to learn what strategies might work in Athens County.
- Conducted one-on-one meetings with members of the Age-Friendly Athens Executive Committee, Advisory Board, and domain sub-committees to determine next steps. Through these one-on-ones, a smaller working group formed to work on action planning.
- Hosted the first working group meeting.

AUGUST

- Presented at two regional events: the Coalition of Age-Friendly Communities of Ohio quarterly meeting and the Buckeye Hills Development Summit.
- Produced a one-page findings report from the community survey results and listening sessions. The findings report served as a tool to get people involved in further discussion about what solutions can help support healthy aging in Athens County.
- Built relationships with people involved in the many senior groups in Athens County through one-on-one meetings and presentations.
- The working group began the strategic planning process to create goals for Age-Friendly Athens County.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 7 Listening Sessions
- 47 Networking Meetings & 1:1s
- 18 Community Events
- 14 Age-Friendly Presentations
- Participated in the Age-friendly Environments ECHO Mentorship Program
- Attended weekly International Federation on Aging Global Café



Age-Friendly Working Group Members: Autumn Brown, Chris Chmiel, Geoff Dabelko, Sean Kidd, Christine Knisely, Joyce Lewis, Kip Rondy, Susan Urano, Jennifer Westfall, Tina Wilson, Ruth Dudding, Gary Goosman, Jack Pepper, Rebecca Robison-Miller



Interested in learning more or getting involved?

Contact Amy Lipka,
Age-Friendly Coordinator at
alipka@athenspublichealth.org
740-592-4431 ext. 591

STRATEGIC GOALS FOR AGE-FRIENDLY ATHENS COUNTY

- Enable people to stay in their own community as they age.
- Enhance the accessibility and usability of transportation services in Athens County for all ages and abilities.
- Foster a supportive and interconnected community that provides essential health and community services to enhance the well-being of older adults.
- Actively participate in the Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.
- Promote active engagement and collaboration with community organizations that serve older adults.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

- Hired Age-Friendly Graduate Assistant, Kaitlyn Cummings, with support from Ohio University College of Health Sciences & Professions.
- Identified housing, transportation, and community & health services as the top 3 priorities through a poll conducted at various community events.
- Attended convening in Baltimore for Global Learning for Health Equity grantees.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

- Facilitated strategic planning session with the Working Group to refine goals around the three community identified priorities (Housing, Transportation, and Community & Health Services), plus two organizational goals.
- Members of the working group took a field trip on Athens Public Transit to learn more about public transportation in Athens County.
- Connected with the Social Welfare International Exchange in Japan to explore services and programs that support healthy aging and community belonging in both countries.



Financial support provided by: Athens County Commissioners, City of Athens, Athens County Foundation, Sisters Health Foundation, United Seniors of Athens, Ohio University College of Health Sciences and Professions, Ohio Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention