

Age Friendly Louisville Social Inclusion Workgroup Meeting Agenda

August 12th, 2025 | 2:00 - 3:30 PM | Edison Center, RCS, 701 W Ormsby, Louisville, 40203

Attendance: Cayley Crum, Sandra McGuire, Jim McNally, Shayla Branch, Chris Clements, Marcy L. Kelley, Erin Cummane, Justin Magnuson, Nicole Hayden, Rita Morrow, Greg Willet, Suzanne Bittenbender, Debbie Tuggle, Lauren Anderson, Vickie Johnson, Whitney Boswell, Sophia Banks.

Facilitator: Justin Magnuson, Rita Morrow, Diane Clark Curtis*

*not present

Notetakers: Cayley Crum, Justin Magnuson, Sophia Banks.

Key Takeaways

- HUG literacy program presented by KY program director Shalya Branch, as an opportunity for intergenerational engagement.
- Village movement initiative progressing with Highland Community Ministries as a potential hub.
- Intergenerational card-making project successful; focus now shifting to 5 key partner schools.
- Planning expanded library partnerships for intergenerational book areas and programming.

Item	Discussion
Introductions	Introduction of anyone new to the group → Update Names & Email on sign in sheet, assign notetaker for general meeting
Speaker Presentation Shayla Branch	<p>H.U.G. Help Us Grow Reading Initiative Presentation & Q&A</p> <p>Overview of H.U.G.'s mission & programs, followed by an open discussion for questions and collaboration opportunities.</p> <p>HUG Literacy Program Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Free program for Title I schools, focusing on 1st–3rd grade students slightly below grade level.• 91% of students show measurable improvement in reading performance.• Uses evidence-based curricula and interactive platforms, including Reading Eggs.• Seeking volunteer tutors, especially seniors and college students.• Currently implemented in 5 JCPS schools; expansion challenged by administrative red tape. <p>Year long volunteer Jim McNally described his experience as a HUG volunteer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Retired educator with a background in business education and substitute teaching, passionate about literacy and food security.• Volunteers with HUG by running classrooms via Zoom, pairing tutors with students, and providing support.• Sees the program as beneficial for both students (improving literacy, encouragement, relationships) and seniors (purpose, engagement, overcoming tech fears).• Highlights that just 1.5 hours a week can make a big difference, with tutors ranging from high school students to retirees.

	<p>Q&A Highlights – HUG Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-person meetings: Limited; some schools allow celebrations (book signings, cookies, meet tutors), but many restrict access due to policies. • Security clearance: All tutors must complete a background check; higher clearance levels may allow school entry. • COVID impact: Pre-COVID tutoring was in person across 10–15 schools; since then, stricter red tape has limited expansion. • Current reach: 5 JCPS schools involved; ~300 students served. Capacity may expand with university partnerships (Bellarmine, UofL). • Barriers: Administrative hurdles with JCPS; advocacy from principals, parents, and school board reps helps. • Opportunities: Exploring after-school/community center partnerships; strong interest from family resource coordinators. • No cost: Program is free to schools, which surprises many administrators.
<p>Item 1: General</p>	<p>September 9th Meeting at ElderServe at 631 S 28th St, Louisville, KY 40211</p> <p>ElderServe has kindly invited us to hold our workgroup meeting at their facility, where we will also receive a brief tour. Please note: the meeting time was shifted to 2:30 PM to accommodate other events at the location.</p> <p><i>Celebrating Aging in Children’s Books</i> – Sandra will share details about the 2025 Krout and Elmore Book Awards and how these resources can be used to promote intergenerational engagement and positive aging narratives.</p> <p>→ Library Partnership Expansion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning a winter initiative to create intergenerational book areas in 4 library branches. • Coordinating with libraries to schedule winter programming. • Leveraging Sandra’s expertise on intergenerational children’s books.
<p>Item 2: Subcommittees’ activities</p>	<p>Workgroup members shared updates from the current subcommittees’ activities with the large group.</p> <p><u>Goal 1 & 2: Intergenerational Initiatives & Connections - Engagement & Education</u></p> <p>Intergenerational Back to School Card Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 1,000 cards made and distributed to ~20 retirement homes/community centers. • Refocusing efforts on 5 key partner schools representing diverse areas of Louisville. • Planning to expand engagement beyond cards to service components. • Aiming to involve principals and counselors in addition to Family Resource Centers. <p>Back-to-School Card Initiative – older adult communities sent encouraging cards to K–12 students. 16 older adult communities/groups participated and cards were delivered to 16 local schools! Future outreach was initiated.</p>

	<p><u>Goal 3: Village Movement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ad Hoc Highland Communities Village committee updates for July: Coordinated conference registration; potential for a new staff member to dedicate more time to outreach. Next Ad Hoc HCM committee meeting on August 20. ● Efforts underway to connect with Bowling Green; members attending Village Network-aligned events in August and will provide updates. ● Village Movement Outreach: Presentation to the Jefferson County League of Cities on Tue, Sep 30, to promote, inform, and educate about the Village Movement → expanded to all AFL initiatives.
<p><u>Item 3:</u> Breakout into subcommittees and subsequent report out</p>	<p>The workgroup broke into the Intergenerational Engagement & Education and the Village subcommittees and afterwards gave a recap of what was discussed:</p> <p>1. <u>Intergenerational Engagement & Education Breakout Group Recap (Cayley)</u></p> <p>Highlighted Schools (Top 5 Focus Schools):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greenwood Elementary – Southwest Jefferson County 2. Assumption High School – Highlands area 3. Holy Trinity – Clifton/Crescent Hill area 4. Norton Commons Elementary – Eastern Jefferson County 5. Zachary Taylor Elementary – Off Westport Road <p>Note: These schools were chosen for their history of participation and strong relationships. The group discussed maintaining them as core sites to reduce staff turnover disruptions and maximize continuity.</p> <p>Group Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educate students about the services and experiences of older adults and veterans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promote awareness through storytelling, visits, and shared activities. 2. Deepen and sustain intergenerational relationships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Move beyond just card exchanges to more meaningful, ongoing connections like classroom visits, collaborative events, and library programming. <p>Key Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Veterans Engagement: Invite veterans from American Legion and VFW posts to schools to share personal stories and service experiences. ● Library Collaboration: Partner with Louisville Free Public Library branches to promote intergenerational children's literature and programming. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential to create intergenerational book sections and host read-aloud events. ○ Opportunity to align programming with seasonal themes (e.g., Thanksgiving, Halloween). ● Children's Book List: Leverage a curated list of children's books addressing diversity and intergenerational themes; possibly distribute to partner schools. ● Holiday & Thematic Opportunities:

- Integrate holiday-themed intergenerational events (e.g., Thanksgiving readings).
- Create a topical category under “holidays” in the intergenerational book list.
- **Sustainability through Key Contacts:** Build relationships with **principals or counselors** at each school to maintain continuity, especially with staff turnover in family resource centers.
- **Scale Down to Scale Up:** Focus energy on five core schools rather than spreading thin across too many; use success stories to inspire wider participation.
- **Cards + In-Person Hybrid:** Continue seasonal card exchanges but integrate in-person engagements where possible (especially easier with Catholic/private schools due to fewer bureaucratic hurdles).
- **Future Planning:**
 - Target **Veterans Day (November)** and **Thanksgiving** for next key events.
 - September meeting to finalize activities and planning timelines.

Action Items:

- Reach out to Louisville Free Public Library to explore partnerships and potential for intergenerational programming.
- Create and share book list recommendations for intergenerational reading.
- Maintain regular contact with key staff at focus schools, especially principals and counselors on top of family resource centers as there are job changes more frequently.
- Plan themed events (Veterans Day, Thanksgiving) for Fall 2025.
- Continue cards initiative as a consistent engagement tier.

2. The Village Breakout Group Recap (Justin)

Subcommittee members: **Greg, Whitney, Lauren Anderson, Deb, Justin**

Objective #1 – Host an Event to Inform and Promote the Village Movement

Discussion Summary:

- Focusing on community and faith-based organizations.
- Planning the first information session with the **League of Cities on September 30**, Session will use a streamlined Generations United presentation highlighting key facts and clear asks.
- Organizations could provide volunteers, members, or act as community spokes to expand outreach.
- HCM ad hoc committee to review the presentation on **August 20 to refine content and messaging.**
- Session intended as a springboard for broader engagement and future outreach.

	<p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finalize presentation and talking points. ● Confirm roles of HCM and other stakeholders. ● Identify additional community partners for the Village Movement.
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Next Meeting: September 9th, 2025, 2:30 PM ElderServe at 631 S 28th St, Louisville, KY 40211

Meetings are always the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

Item 4: Sharing of Current Events & Resources

Opportunity for members to highlight relevant programs, events, and tools that could benefit the group's work. Send any event and resources to agefriendlylouisville@gmail.com to share in newsletter and with workgroup members.

- The Louisville Metro Office of Aging and Disabled Citizens updates its **Senior Resource Guide** twice a year, offering a comprehensive list of helpful services and supports for Kentuckians. View the July 2025 Updated [senior guide on OADC website here](#).
- **Music in the Park** : Free for seniors 55+, enjoy lunch, ice cream, live music, vendors, and raffles at local parks on 2nd Thursdays (June–Sept) from 11 AM–1 PM; call 502.398.4490 for details. **Thursday, August 14th : Farnsley-Moremén.**
- **Caregiver Conference Survey:** Please take a few minutes to complete the Caregiver Conference survey by **August 25, 2025**, to help DAIL tailor the upcoming virtual conference to better meet caregiving needs (QR code on flyer).
- **TRIAD Meeting - Communities Educating Older Adults About Crime**
Second Tuesday, Networking 11:00 am, Lunch 11:30 am, Meeting 12:00-1:00 pm, LOCATION: Our Mother of Sorrows Cafeteria, 770 Eastern Parkway
- **Louisville Rapid Upskilling Initiative:** Louisville Central Community Centers offers free tech training with industry credentials to empower underrepresented locals and boost workforce skills. For more information call 502 - 583-8821 or email info@lccnews.org
- **Walk to End Alzheimer's** on Sunday, October 19 at Lynn Family Stadium | 350 Adams St Louisville, Ceremony at 2:30 PM, Walk starts at 3 PM. Contact Lisa Young for more info | 502.473.5341 | layoung@alz.org
- Join a **FREE six-week Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP)** to learn about healthy eating, blood sugar monitoring, physical activity, avoiding complications, and risk reduction. See flyer or visit loom.ly/GOKZp4k
 - **Session 1:** Tue, Sept 16 - Oct. 21, 1- 3:30 PM
 - **Session 2:** Thursdays, Sept. 18 –Oct. 23, 6–8:30 p.m.
- Support the University of Louisville Trager Institute in celebrating older adults thriving in later life by sponsoring the Gold Standard of **Optimal Aging Award Ceremony** on Thursday, **September 11** at the Olmsted that honors continued service, generosity and resilience. Explore the available sponsorship levels at [HERE](#), or contact Natalie Gober at natalie.vickous@louisville.edu.
- A Loneliness study by UofL's Envirome Institute and Simmons College is surveying adults 50+ this summer on neighborhood factors and loneliness; More info at UofL.me/ubn2
- **The Program to Encourage Active, Rewarding Lives (PEARLS)**, free counseling program from UofL Trager Institute for adults 60+. It supports mental well-being by addressing depression, life challenges, and social isolation. Teletherapy available. Call 502-588-3471 or visit tragerinstitute.org/PEARLS
- **MHM - My Health Matters:** Community Health Education and Support → Every **Monday at 6:30 pm**, virtual

- Veterans from all branches of the military can join a new support group, **Brave Minds**, a veteran mental health and wellness support group in person at the Trager Institute or virtually every Monday from 10 – 11 a.m.
- **Social Club** the Optimal Aging Clinic/Trager Institute, aiming to combat loneliness through social and wellness activities. 2nd Friday of each month 12:30 - 1:30 pm. All welcome to join; see the flyer for details.