

Partnerships in Howard County, Maryland

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True partnerships change the way business is done.

Creates sustainability for the community

Opens eyes to new opportunities

Provides place for organizational problem solving

Howard County

Challenges

- Fast growing aging population
- Increasing number of immigrant population
- Fragmented health-community service system
- Information hard to find for persons chronic conditions

Assets

- Local governmental support for change
- AAA staff known for innovation
- Strong organizational relationships in community
- Willingness of stakeholders to find “shared missions”

Seeking An Effective Model

- **UMBC research on Denmark's system**
- **2003 study trip with Lis Wagner**
- **Cost effective**
- **Person, not setting**
- **Functional health emphasis**
- **Extended life expectancy**



Vision in Howard County

Goal

**Improve lives of persons with chronic
conditions**

Strategy

Transformational

Sustainable

Community wide impact

Horizon Foundation and Office on Aging Collaboration 1999-2002

- **Jointly developed Aging in Place Initiative**
 - **single access point, public private partnerships, sustainability of services**
 - **first survey of seniors**
 - **began significant planning efforts in Aging**
- **Funded trend analysis of 13 community reports on senior needs**

Horizon Foundation and Office on Aging Collaboration 2002-2007

- **Partners in Maryland Access Point (MAP)**
 - **searchable data base, marketing, training, and staff**
 - **Collaboration noted by Administration on Aging in 2003 grant announcement**
- **Jointly consulted with national leaders about direction of local efforts**
- **Advised and co-funded first evidence based program on chronic conditions**
- **Highlighted at 2006 Grantmakers in Aging**

Creating the Howard County Partners Group - 2003



- Examines issues from different points of view
- Serves as problem solving group
- Incubates local and state initiatives
- Supports for single organizational activities
- Horizon Foundation and Aging as co-conveners

Partners Group - *Fluid Membership*

- **Horizon Foundation**
- **University of Maryland, Baltimore County**
- **University of Maryland School**
- **Howard Community College, Allied Health**
- **Johns Hopkins Center for Health and Aging**
- **Lorien Health Systems**
- **Howard County General Hospital**
- **Consultants**
- **HC Department of Citizen Services**
 - **Office on Aging**
 - **Administration**

Partners Group

Trying to Sing on Same Page



- **Met with federal agencies**
- **Direction of national agencies**
- **Trend report from 13 local reports on aging**
- **Reviewed CMS demos**
- **Studied evidence based programs with national significance**

Two Office on Aging Initiatives Supported by Partners Group



Take Charge of your Health



MARYLAND ACCESS POINT

YOUR LINK TO HEALTH & SUPPORT SERVICES

Partners Group as Incubator

- Improvements in nursing home direction, focus on person regardless of setting
- Cross training for Howard County General staff on community resources on discharge
- Expansion of Living Well program community wide by 2009
- Medicare waiver proposal to improve health care access to Medicare beneficiaries

Partners Group Impact on Howard County

Increase community capacity

Continual benefits

Continual program activities

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