



A Community #ForAllAges

February 2019

1 CommUNITY, 25 Questions

Do you know what the biggest asset in an age-friendly community is?

That's right ... it's YOU!

An age-friendly community is about focusing on, and listening to, the aspirations of its people. It's about being family-friendly, animal-friendly, and ability-friendly. Everyone has a stake in becoming age-friendly, and a true community #ForAllAges benefits all of us and is owned by all of us.

The [Florida Department of Health](#) has joined with [Age-Friendly Sarasota](#) to conduct an **anonymous**, county-wide community assessment --

1 CommUNITY, 25 Questions.

The reason for the online survey is so [Sarasota County Government](#) can continue to support efforts to make our region age-friendly and to give our region a chance to share its voice.

Questions include topics about affordable housing, Universal Design, public transportation, outdoor spaces, safe walkable/bikeable neighborhoods, etc.

The community assessment takes between 5-10 minutes to complete.

Here's to our region for coming together and guiding our community toward shared aspirations for our future.

[TAKE THE SURVEY IN ENGLISH](#)

[TAKE THE SURVEY IN SPANISH](#)

*We encourage you to share this survey with your network by using the social media icons at the top of this newsletter.



"Exploring Shared Housing"



Looking for affordable living arrangements in Sarasota? Friendship Centers is helping to match older homeowners with working professionals aged 23-60.

"One out of every three houses in Sarasota has just one person living in it, and many working singles find it challenging to find affordable housing," said Erin McLeod, president & CEO of [Friendship Centers](#). "Affordable housing is such a gaping need in our community; we view home sharing as a logical solution."

Friendship Centers and the Living in Community Network will be holding an information session on shared housing on Wednesday, February 13 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. The overview, entitled "Connection! - Information! - Action!" will present the important components of shared living for those exploring the possibility. The event will be held at 1888 Brother Geenen Way in Sarasota.

Friendship Centers oversees a thorough application process, facilitates the creation of a home share match, and offers follow up and support once a match begins.

[**LEARN MORE**](#)

Housing Possibilities: Exploring Options

Authors, longevity experts, and thought leaders shared insights and innovations on living optimally at any age at our nation's first [Age-Friendly Festival](#).

One discussion presented innovative housing options that support aging in community. This video explores universal design features, cooperative house-holding, and a network to connect with others for home sharing.

Panelists:

- Karen Bush - President, [On Track Sarasota](#)
- Tracy Lux - Vice Chairperson, [Universal Design Coalition](#)
- Jeannette Watling-Mills - Co-Facilitator, [Living in Community Network](#)

Moderator:

- Kathy Black, Ph.D.- Professor, [University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee](#)



[\(total time: 39 minutes\)](#)

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LOCAL



Growth Mindset

"UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County is dedicated to developing knowledge in agriculture, human and natural resources, and the life sciences and to making that

knowledge accessible to sustain and enhance the quality of life for the residents of Sarasota County." - UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota

UF/IFAS offers a variety of classes for free or low cost to all residents, including

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HOT OFF THE PRESS:

[Sarasota County](#) is hiring a full-time Aging System Policy Coordinator to monitor, develop, and implement age-friendly policies and programs in Sarasota.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the duties, minimum qualifications, preferred qualifications, and more.



classes on Universal Design, pressure canning basics, rain barrel workshops, energy upgrade workshops, the ABCs of Florida fruit trees, and more. [Click here to explore the possibilities!](#)



Strengthening

To share news or information, contact the editor at ssternberg@thepattersonfoundation.org.