

**Age Friendly Louisville**  
**Joint Social Inclusion and Outdoors Enhancement Workgroups**  
**November 12, 2024, Minutes**

A joint Age Friendly Louisville meeting took place November 12, 2024 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The following were in attendance: David Allgood, Tewsdaay Babicka, Sophia Banks, Suzanne Bittenbender, Damera Blincoe, Abby Bauer, Diane Clark Curtis (facilitator), Chris Clements, Erin Cumanne, Danny Fortier, Eric Gurevich, Nicole Hayden, Beth Mathis, Rita Morrow, Becky Peak (facilitator), Sarah Teeters, Deb Tuggle, Greg Willet, Pam Yankeelov.

Diane Clark Curtis, the facilitator for the Social Inclusion Domain, welcomed those present and asked for introductions and updates. There was a gentle reminder to sign in and to pick up any literature that might be of interest from the display table. News about upcoming events of interest to peer organizations and/or those we individually serve were also shared.

The Social Inclusion and Outdoor Enhancement workgroups met jointly for the first time because of an overlap of committee goals. In November, the agenda significantly focused on an impactful intergenerational program in the Newburg Neighborhood already underway. Becky Peak, facilitator for the Outdoor Enhancement Domain introduced the leader of that intergenerational program, Nicole Hayden with 50/50 Mentoring Collaborative.

Established in 2019 by Ms. Hayden, the mission of 50/50 Mentoring Collaborative is to create and nurture a vibrant pipeline of mentorship to introduce youth to diverse careers and experiences. Young women and men are equipped with tools for self-expression in a number of ways including through art, technology, social media, and community engagement.

Ms. Hayden collaborates with several organizations across Louisville, among the entities she works significantly with is the Office of Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods or OSHN. OSHN is a source of some of 50/50 Mentoring Collaborative's grant funding.

Ms. Hayden gave an in depth presentation about 50/50 Mentoring Collaborative. For our group, a great deal of time was spent around the Intergenerational Beautification Projects that took place in the Summer of 2024. A powerpoint of this presentation can be found [HERE](#).

Ms. Hayden highlighted teenagers in the program, describing how teenagers carried out a number of activities including overseeing a community garden. The teens selected plants and created raised garden beds in the community, gardens of vegetables and flowers. Each student was required to do research on the plants themselves and how to plant and care for the plants. In addition, the teens also created informational videos which could be accessed by those who visited the raised garden beds. Ms. Hayden shared a number of these videos. Individual guests to the community garden could access the information about the plants and gardens by utilizing the QR code that was on a sign by each of the plants. The video playlist can be accessed [HERE](#).

Another program highlighted, pairing teens with Seniors to help with the outdoor maintenance of area homes. The teens were trained in engaging with adults in a professional manner, and the safe and efficient use of tools - anything from trimmers to mowers, as well as booking appointments and keeping track of their time. The teens learned a variety of interpersonal and business skills. Many relationships and friendships were forged between the teens and the Seniors. Seniors felt invigorated because they were called on to mentor, teens felt empowered

because they learned new skills and helped the Seniors with their yards and home exterior. An adult supervisor from 50/50 Mentoring Collaborative was always on site.

Ms. Hayden talked of how this has fostered friendships across all ages and strengthened the Newburg Community. The program also helped to lower police or school authority related incidence in and around the school, the Newburgh Library and the Community Center.

A time for questions and sharing took place. Requests were made to identify next steps with Ms. Hayden and to also reach out to the Office of Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods for other similar programs they may have at this time. Diane gave an overview of the Department of Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods and volunteered to contact OSHN as she attends monthly meetings.

Various committee members offered their own insights and summaries from the Strategic Plan Showcase in October. The upcoming Generations United Conference was discussed as well as possible submissions. Members of both groups also discussed how they could further work together. Sandra and Diane collaborated and agreed to get more information and to work together on being liaisons for Age Friendly as well as fostering admissions.

As the meeting came to a conclusion, Diane and Becky shared the following dates were noted:

**Social Inclusion: December 10<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.**

**Outdoor Enhancement: December 24<sup>th</sup> is canceled.** January's meeting will take place January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Notetaker: Diane Clark Curtis