



EngAGEMENT News:

Inside Aging—US Poverty by Age & Sex

Below 100% Poverty	%
Men < 65	11.7
Men 65+	7.3
Men 75+	7.5
Women < 65	13.9
Women 65+	12.5
Women 75+	14.3

Source: US Census Bureau 2004

Aging Facts: Poverty

- Poverty Rates differ by sex and race
- In 1959, 35.2% of older people lived in poverty
- For 20% of older adults, Social Security constitutes 100% of income
- 65% of older adults depend on Social Security for 50% or more of their income

2003 US Census Bureau

The EngAGEMENT Initiative is nearing the completion of the first year of activities by our six regional associations of grantmaker partners. Much has been accomplished so far. We have laid the foundation by informing members of the growing needs of older adults. Now is the time for those grantmakers to take the information that has been provided and to turn it into informed action.

The informed action has started with some funders. The collaborative efforts of several grantmakers in Wisconsin are starting new programs that not only impact seniors, but will have a profound effect on the environment. Finding new ways to

Both Sides Now!

The theme for the 2006 Grantmakers In Aging Annual Conference was recently announced: “**Both Sides Now! Win-Win Strategies for ACTIVE and FRAIL Older Adults**”

How can foundations make a difference in a field that spans a continuum of more than 40 years and two generations? Many have focused their investments on the end of this passage, developing services that meet the critical needs of the growing number of frail older adults, especially those who

have a positive impact on seniors’ lives as well as improving the overall community is one of the basic goals of the EngAGEMENT Initiative.

In other regions of the country, new ideas on how to increase funding to aging have blossomed. Seniors Count, a project that is taking shape in South Florida as well as Michigan, is gaining support from funders and the community. Seniors Count is a project to collect data on the overall well-being of older adults on a national, state and county by county basis. Once the data is collected and analyzed, it will be reported to funders and community leaders. Gaps in services would be highlighted

as funding needs. The project is similar to “Kids Count”, a national program started by the Annie E. Casey Foundation in Baltimore, Maryland.

In other areas of the country, smaller aging affinity groups are being formed to increase cooperation among funders and build an aging friendly community. Having several grantmakers in an area, sharing ideas and working together has been a very successful model. Those funders have worked together to sponsor additional programs for grantmakers new to aging.

Working with foundations to shift their funding priorities is a long and difficult process, but the work of EngAGEMENT is starting to make an impact.

are 85 and older. Other grantmakers support the successful aging of younger seniors through their years of generative maturity, engaging them in a range of community needs from education to the environment.

Rather than focus on one end of the spectrum or the other, the Conference will examine both types of funding strategies, exploring state-of-the-art responses that address the full range of concerns across the aging continuum. Importantly, the Conference will highlight ways to connect the

two perspectives recognizing that aging is not a linear process.

The Conference will include dynamic presentations and useful workshops, as well as generous time for both formal and informal networking. Grantmakers will leave connected to a stream of new ideas and colleagues who will enrich their grantmaking in the months and years ahead.

Please plan to join us in Milwaukee, Wisconsin October 25-27. For additional details visit www.GIAging.org

Web Resources for Seniors

The following list of websites are full of resources for seniors as well as people who are serving them.

***“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.”
-Aesop***



Grantmakers In Aging

Your personal connection to key people, high quality resources and state-of-the-art ideas about aging and all issues related to aging

7333 Paragon Road
Suite 220
Dayton, OH 45459

Phone: 937.435.3156
Fax: 937.435.3733
Website: www.GIAging.org

- Administration on Aging**—aoa.gov
- Aging Help**—aginghelp.com
- Age Net**—agenet.com
- Aging with Dignity**—agingwithdignity.org
- Alliance for Retired Americans**—retiredamericans.org
- Alzheimer’s Association**—alz.org
- American Assoc. of Retired Persons**—AARP.org
- American Assoc. of Homes and Services for the Aging**—AAHSA.org
- American Federation for Aging Research**—afar.org
- American Geriatrics Society**—americangeriatrics.org
- American Society on Aging**—asaging.org
- Arthritis Foundation**—arthritis.org
- Assisted Living Federation of America**—alfa.org
- Beverly Foundation**—beverlyfoundation.org
- Civic Ventures**—civicventures.org
- ElderWeb**—elderweb.com
- ExperienceCorps**—experiencecorps.org
- FirstGov for Seniors**—seniors.gov
- Generations United**—gu.org
- Gerontological Society of American**—geron.org
- Grantmakers In Aging**—giaging.org
- Meals on Wheels**—mowaa.org
- National Academy of Elder Law Attneys**—naela.org
- National Assoc. of Home Care**—nahc.org
- National Assoc. of State Units on Aging**—nasua.org
- National Council on Aging**—ncoa.org
- National Institute on Aging**—nia.nih.gov
- National Senior Citizen’s Law Center**—nslc.org
- Oasis**—oasisnet.org
- Senior Corps**—seniorcorps.org
- Senior Drivers**—seniordrivers.org
- Senior Job Bank**—seniorjobbank.org
- Senior Service America, Inc.**—seniorserviceamerica.org
- Senior Explorer**—seniorexplorer.com
- SeniorNet**—seniornet.org
- United Seniors Health Council**—unitedseniorshealth.org
- Walkable Communities**—walkable.org

**The EngAGEment Initiative, funded by The Atlantic Philanthropies, is a pilot program to introduce new funders to aging through a partnership
Between GIA and Regional Associations of Grantmakers**

EngAGEment’s National Outreach Director
Cort Eiken
ceiken@GIAging.org