Making the Case: Empowering People and Communities to Address a Changing Region

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

We make life better!

Ashley Kaade, Outreach Specialist

March 13, 2015

DRCOG Overview

- **Non-profit, public agency dedicating to serving local governments**
- **Local officials working together to address the region's challenges**
- **Each community has voice in regional decision-making**
- **Program areas:**
  - Advocacy
  - Aging Services
  - Environment
  - Regional growth and development
  - Shared services
  - Transportation and traffic operations

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

www.drcog.org

AAA Responsibilities

- **Administer and implement 40 services programs to help people live independently**
- **Advocate on behalf of older adults and their families**
- **Regional planning to understand needs**
- **Coordinate regional services and activities**

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

www.drcog.org

Why are we involved?

DRCOG Boomer Bond video

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

www.drcog.org

Impacts of Aging Population

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

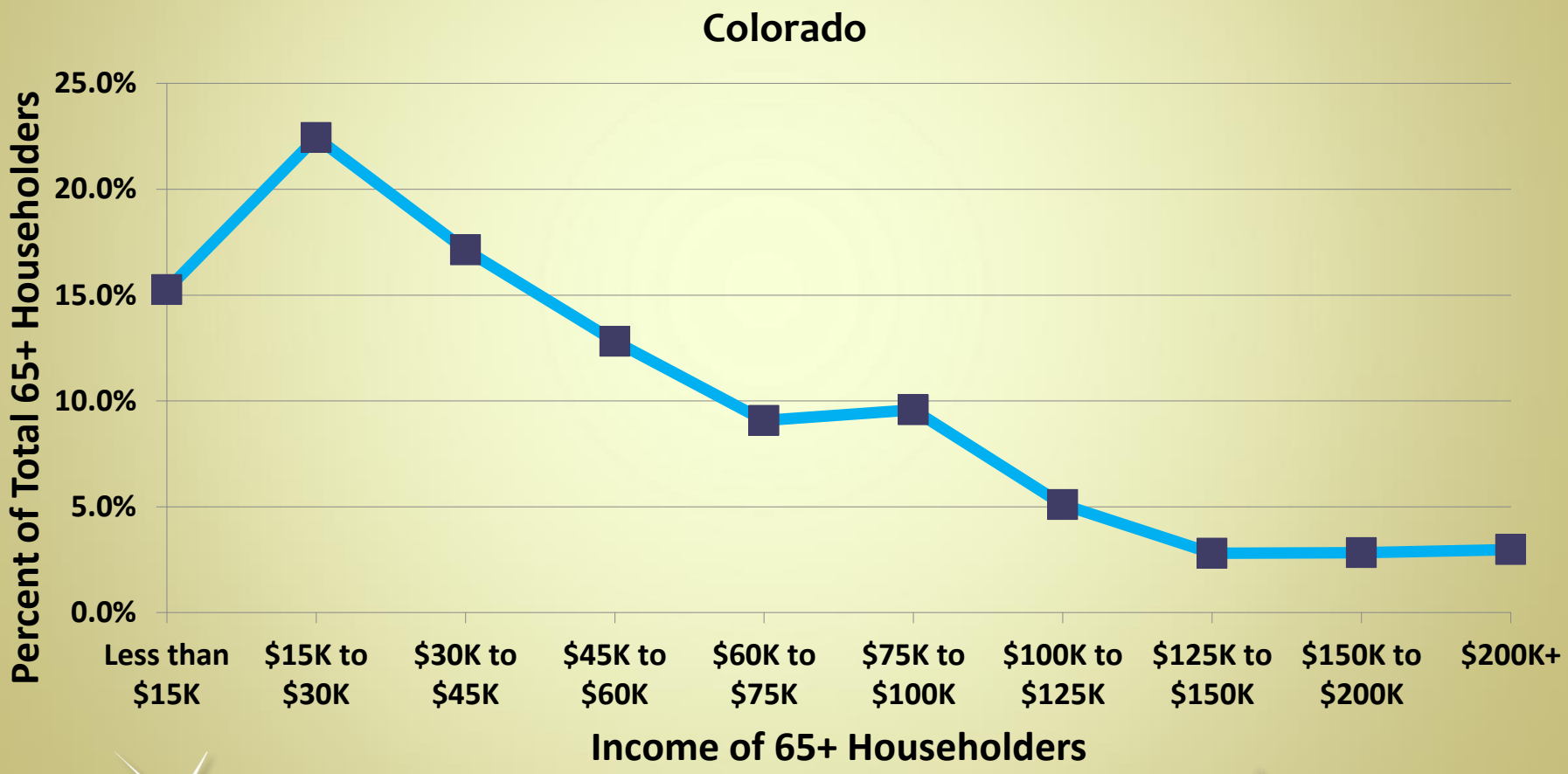
Housing Impacts

- **Affordability**
- **Accessibility**
- **Community design is more important**
- **Nursing homes and assisted living should not be the only options**
- **Paired with supportive services**

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!
www.drcog.org

CO Income 65+ Householder

U.S. Census Bureau; 2008-2012 American Community Survey



DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

www.drcog.org

Economic Impacts

- Different spending patterns
- Shift in tax base
- Smaller work force
- Changing industries and business
- Medicaid costs will impact the state's general fund

Labor Force

- Increased retirement
- Loss of institutional knowledge
- New hiring/training
- Meeting demands of new retirees

Ratio of Working Age to Elderly Population, by Year

Year	Ratio of working age to elderly population
1970	5.7
1980	5.4
1990	5.0
2000	5.0
2010	4.8
2020	3.7
2030	2.9
2040	2.8
2050	2.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, International Database (see http://www.census.gov/www/idbprint.html).

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

www.drcog.org

Health Care

- Increased health care costs
- Smaller professional pool to serve a growing population
- Increased disabled population
- Increased demand for home and community based services

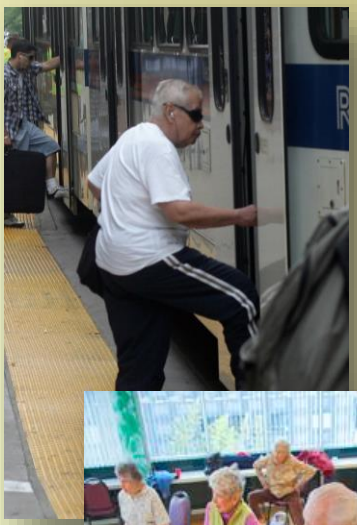
A New Focus:
The Whole Community

www.drcog.org

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

What is the community role?

- **Nationally 21% of 65+ don't drive**
- **Physical barriers impact older adults more than other residents**
- **Older adults struggle finding housing options**
- **Increased demand for home and community based services**
- **Civically and socially engaged older adults are happier and healthier**



DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

www.drcog.org

Communities for Lifelong Living

- **Communities can facilitate or create barriers to successful aging**
- **Promote physical activity and community engagement**
- **Reduced burden on caregivers**
- **Older adults as community resources**
- **Age-friendly communities benefit all ages**

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

www.drcog.org

Boomer Bond Assessment Tool

- **Initially developed by group of stakeholders**
  - **Mobility and Access**
  - **Housing**
  - **Community Living**
  - **Support Services**

- **“Beta-tested” by 3 communities**
- **Tri-County Health Department worked with DRCOG to update to current version**

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

AARP℠
The power to make it better.®

Tri-County Health Department
Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties, Colorado

www.drcog.org

Why an Assessment Tool?

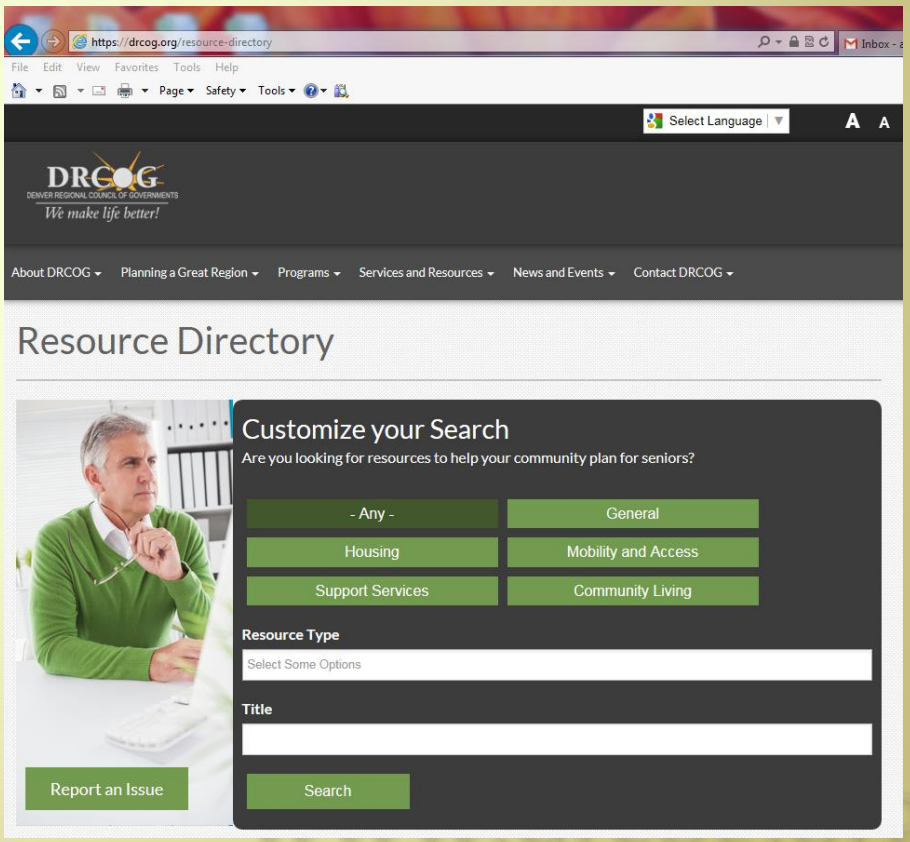
- "Conversation starter" at the local level (including partners)
- Provide structure to what might be an otherwise overwhelming conversation
- Resource for local staff leading initiative
- First step in defining "problem statement" and/or local priorities

EXISTING Public Sidewalk Elements	A LOT of improvement needed	MODERATE improvement needed	A LITTLE improvement needed	Fully accommodated
Continuous sidewalk system providing access to essential services for older adults	☐	☐	☐	☐
Minimum sidewalk width of five feet	☐	☐	☐	☐
ADA ramps at intersections	☐	☐	☐	☐
Visual and physical cues at ramps	☐	☐	☐	☐
Level landings where driveways intersect public sidewalks to retain a level path for pedestrians	☐	☐	☐	☐
Minimal tripping hazards from uneven surface or protruding objects	☐	☐	☐	☐
Signage to direct pedestrians	☐	☐	☐	☐
Buffer between sidewalk and street (e.g. planting strips, on-street parking, bike lanes)	☐	☐	☐	☐

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

Web Tools

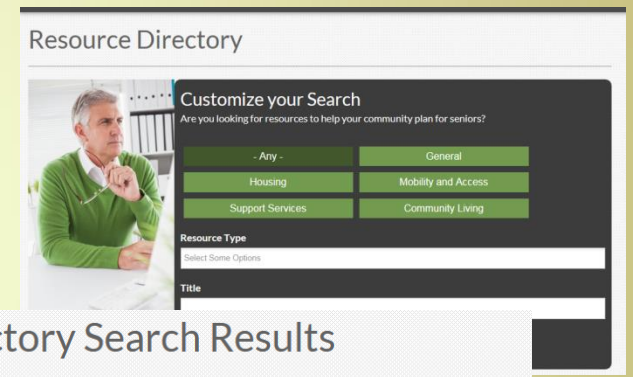
- **Opportunities and challenges**



DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

Online Resource Directory

- **Easy transition from assessment to action *(think of resources as a pair)***
- **Helps with “what next”**
- **Turning a “NO” to “YES”**
- **Expandable, current, and locally relevant**

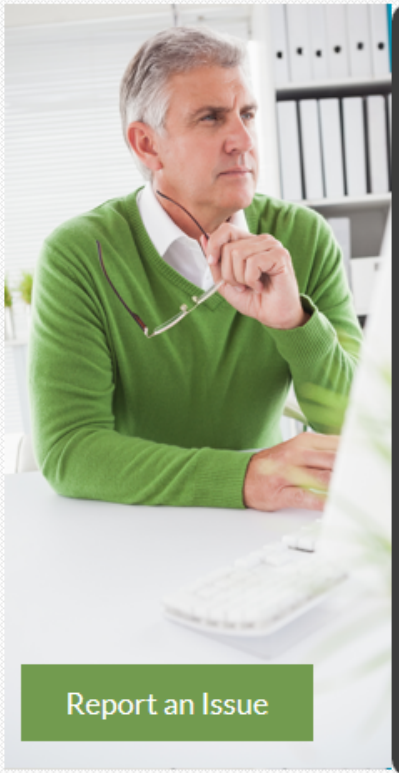


DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

https://drcog.org/resource-directory

Online Resource Directory

Resource Directory



Report an Issue

Customize your Search

Are you looking for resources to help your community plan for seniors?

- Any -
- General
- Housing
- Mobility and Access
- Support Services
- Community Living

Resource Type

Select Some Options

Title

Search

Resource Type

- Best Practices and Benchmarks ×
- Checklist ×
- Demographic and Statistical Info ×
- Case Studies ×
- Data Collection Tools ×
- Funding Resources ×
- Education/Training Resources ×
- Local Experts and Subject Matter Professionals ×
- Policy ×
- Program ×
- Sample Code/Regulation ×

DRCOG
DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
We make life better!

Online Resource Directory

Resource Directory Search Results

Roseland Senior Housing (Chicago, IL)

No votes yet

http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/mayor/press_room/press_releases/2011/...
The City of Chicago partnered with Mercy Housing on this affordable senior living facility. The ground floor of the building contains the City of Chicago's Department of Family and Support Services Center.

Foundation Center Website for Grants and Fundraising Information

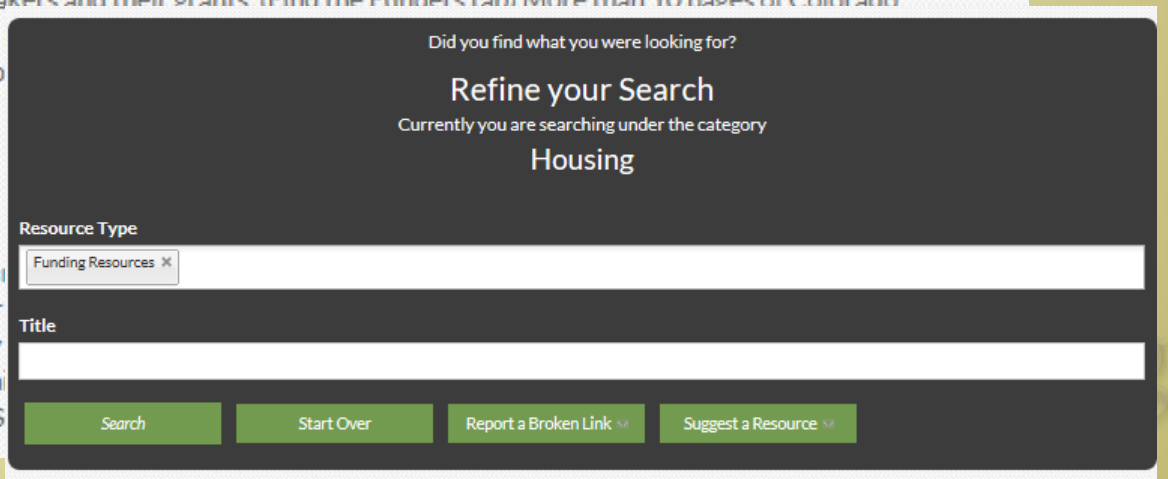
No votes yet

http://www.foundationcenter.org/
The Foundation Center is the leading source of information about philanthropy worldwide. The Center maintains the most comprehensive searchable database on U.S. and, increasingly, global grantmakers and their grants. (Find the Funders tab) More than 10 pages of Colorado grantmakers are listed. This database can be used to look for
possible to sign up for a variety of newsletters and notificatio

Colorado Grants Website

No votes yet

http://www.coloradogrants.org/resources/deadline-calenda
Colorado Grants provides a deadline calendar (by month) for
applying for a grant, the website is useful because each entry
the funder's webpage. In addition, the organization offers tra
such as a free newsletter can be found under Grant Writing S



Online Resource Directory

Roseland Senior Housing (Chicago, IL)

Rating:

No votes yet

Web Address: http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/mayor/press_room/press_releases/2011/...
Category Type: Housing
Support Services
Resource Type: Best Practices and Benchmarks
Funding Resources
Government Use: Assess Resources and Partners
Develop Implementation Plan
Identify and Prioritize Projects and Initiatives
Summary:
The City of Chicago partnered with Mercy Housing on this affordable senior living facility. The ground floor of the building contains the City of Chicago's Department of Family and Support Services Center.

Making the Case: Empowering People and Communities to Address a Changing Region

DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

We make life better!

Ashley Kaade, Outreach Specialist

March 13, 2015