

Bellevue Network on Aging 2018 Accomplishments

- Senior Lobby Days: In February and October, members of the Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA) and Kirkland Senior Council (KSC) attended Senior Lobby day and met with Washington State Legislators and/or legislative assistants. The BNOA state legislative agenda requested restoration of the former Medicaid adult hearing aid benefit and the legislature did pass a law requiring Medicaid to cover adult hearing aids.
- In July, BNOA members met with Senator Dhingra and discussed the need of affordable and accessible housing for seniors, the effects of increasing property taxes, and the negative impact of current state law on condominium construction.
- In August 2018 BNOA members met with Stasha Espinosa, a legislative assistant to Senator Patty Murray and discussed the BNOA federal agenda. Stasha was particularly interested on information to eliminate the cap on the amount of income when paying into Social Security.
- On September 28th, a legislative candidate's forum at the North Bellevue Community Center was held in partnership with BNOA, Aging & Disability Services, Kirkland Senior Council, and AARP. The purpose of the forum was to hear from the public about issues affecting aging adults. Bellevue's Deputy Mayor Lynne Robinson was present and conducted the welcome to public and legislators.
- Partnered with Bellevue Human Services Commission and King County METRO to survey the community to collect Bellevue senior transportation needs information. Participated in a series of four meetings, in which King County METRO identified possible METRO transportation solutions.
- Supported Eastside Easy Rider in their grant request process by writing a Bellevue Network on Aging letter of support.
- Participated in transportation-focused activities, including: American with Disabilities Act (ADA) focus group, Ride2 Shuttle open house, Coffee-Talk transportation workshops, Puget Sound Regional Commission (PSRC) Vision 2050, and a community transportation summit.
- Updated the A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH) website for 2018 affordable senior housing options on the Eastside.
- BNOA throughout the year participated in other affordable housing activities, including ARCH Housing 101, SHARE/WHEEL presentation on homelessness, Lunch-n-Learn at IMAGINE Housing, Eastside Neighbors Network on the village living concept, an opioid crisis workshop, and the Legislative Age Wave Forum.
- Prepared a BNOA presentation identifying the BNOA's purpose and how it is working for Bellevue aging adults.
- Distributed a variety of flyers in several languages on topics including: fall prevention, emergency preparedness, and long term care rights at outreach events. Instructions were also translated for the "Vial of Life", a medical

information kit given to aging adults to aid emergency staff when responding to a call to an individual's home.

- Initiated an informal partnership with a variety of community agencies working to provide activities on the eastside for individuals living with memory loss.

Outreach Events at which Bellevue Network on Aging participated:

- Overlake Hospital Active Senior Fair.
- Elder Abuse Awareness Day - Diana Thompson received the proclamation at City Council meeting and delivered a presentation on the subject.
- City of Bellevue-King County Library System (KCLS) Quarterly Resource Fair.
- Crossroads Farmers Market.
- Bellevue Strawberry Festival.
- Bellevue Farmers Market recruited seven organizations with a focus on aging, including BNOA, to participate in the first Aging Adult Day at the Farmers Market. The Farmers Market is planning to produce this event annually.
- Annual Senior Health Fair developed by Chinese Information Service Center (CISC) at The North Bellevue Community Center (NBCC).
- Monthly participation at Alzheimer's Café located at Tutta Bella of Bellevue.
- Kirkland's Volunteer Fair
- Initiated a public service announcement on Bellevue TV regarding the Hospital Observation law, a law that helps protect aging adults from receiving unacknowledged bills from hospital visits.