

The Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA) was formed in 2006 to act in an advisory capacity to the City of Bellevue Parks & Community Services Department. Fifty one percent of the BNOA members are over the age of 50 and members must live or work in Bellevue. The members volunteer their time and energy participating in one or more committees or projects.

With the order from Governor Inslee to “stay home, stay safe,” one of the biggest challenges we’ve faced in 2020 has been how to get important information out to older adults who do not have access to a computer or simply do not use one. A few of the issues BNOA has been working on all year are ways to keep folks informed about COVID 19, transportation options in Bellevue, and food delivery options such as Meals on Wheels for those not willing or able to go out.

BNOA Activity for 2020

- Continued focus on community outreach, and Vial of Life distribution.
- In 2020 and 2021, BNOA members wrote and posted articles of interest to aging adults for Neighborhood News, for example:
 - Extra help for Seniors with paying for prescriptions.
 - Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment.
 - Reflections from a person who identifies as a happy solo senior.
 - Resource ideas such as food bank, transportation, internet connections.
- Continued work to expand the locations in the Bellevue community where resource information helping older adults could be distributed.
- BNOA team members stayed involved with Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative; City of Bellevue Comprehensive Plan update recommendations; and reflected older adult feedback to the Puget Sound Regional Council concerning the 2022 Regional Transportation Plan and Coordinated Plan Update.
- Advocated for Medicare Observation Status; the expansion of Medicare benefits to include dental, vision, and hearing.
- Supported the need for adequate funding for senior services via the Older Americans Act.
- Advocated for Bellevue affordable housing.