



CONNECTING SENIORS ACROSS OUR COMMUNITIES

October 2017

Partners hit the ground running in September and haven't let up since. Volunteers, service providers and seniors enjoyed a variety of cross-community shared learning, training, and connection events.



Seniors mapped the many places where they make connections (MOSAIC Seniors Connect Event).

Collective Impact

Our September partners' gathering drew 35 people from 22 different agencies. We shared assessment and referral expertise and used extended networking to talk about the collaboration process. We also explored survey data about levels of social isolation experienced by more than 400 seniors.

Shared measurement is a key element of collective impact. Allies in Aging is using a blend of participatory and developmental evaluation approaches to support ongoing learning and adaptation. Survey results triggered discussion about measures of social

isolation and the challenge of gathering information while building new relationships. Our next step is to survey the same seniors to assess any changes in their levels of support and connection. *(Call or email if you would like a copy of the data reports.)*



Community Connections

Seniors on the Move again partnered with TransLink to offer transit training sessions for seniors at Collingwood Neighbourhood House and Burnaby Community Services. Recognizing that many older adults are new to using public transit in Metro Vancouver, participants (a few are pictured above) were encouraged to help others in their lives plan their trips and try out public transit options in their communities.

Welcoming Seniors' Spaces and **Seniors Hub** hosted a Shared Learning session in Burnaby for nearly 50 volunteers. Dr. Gloria Gutman delivered a pitch-perfect presentation about life transitions and participants talked about how to reduce isolation and create welcoming spaces.

More than 200 seniors came to the **MOSAIC Seniors Connect** event in Vancouver. Participants talked with service providers about community resources, mapped connection locations, and enjoyed multicultural music and dance performances. **Volunteer Impact** delivered two workshops about risk factors of isolation, with language support in Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean and Farsi.

Allies in Aging also hosted the Innoweave Impact Accelerator, which led to connecting with a new program for seniors living with cerebral palsy.

Project Story

Seniors on the Move hosted another *Seniors Advisory Committee meeting, held at partner ICBC offices in North Vancouver.*

As a Collective Impact project, Seniors on the Move is trying to work with as many seniors' transportation stakeholders as possible. Therefore, we teamed up for the meeting with the Office of the Seniors Advocate, who is preparing a report on transportation in the province. Seniors from across Metro Vancouver had the opportunity to share their experiences using different modes to get around and to discuss potential solutions to improving and increasing options with the project manager and Deputy Seniors Advocate.

UPCOMING EVENTS

VOLUNTEER IMPACT Workshops (Pre-registration required.)

Tues. Nov. 14, 9:00 - 4:00: Understanding Dementia

North Vancouver, 2121 Lonsdale Ave. [Click for more info and to register.](#)

Call 604-988-5281 to be added to our mailing list for workshop updates.

Our Common Agenda is to reduce Metro Vancouver seniors' social isolation through a collective impact plan that increases seniors' inclusion, sector capacity, connections and learning, and transportation.

Projects are designed to connect seniors who are 75+ with people and services to reduce isolation due to disability, low income, language or cultural barriers. A backbone team supports coordination, communication, evaluation and strategic alignment.

Check out the [Allies in Aging Partner Map](#) for a snapshot of partners and programs.

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connect@alliesinaging.ca | 604-988-5281



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Family Services of the North Shore, #203 - 1111 Lonsdale Avenue, North Vancouver, British Columbia V7M 2H4 Canada

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