Age-friendly New York City

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• Public-private initiative launched in 2008 based on WHO model
• Consultations with 2,000+ older adults and hundreds of experts to identify the needs of the city
• City government responds with 59 initiatives
• Age-friendly NYC Commission establishes technology as key focus area
An aging population is an opportunity, not a crisis
Older adults are experts on their own lives and needs
All sectors – public & private – must be engaged
Both “top down” and “bottom up” strategies are needed
Addressing problems in partnership requires “win-win” solutions
Many of the changes needed are low or no cost
Older adults told us limited access to and understanding of technology has become a barrier when:

- Working and seeking employment
- Connecting to family and friends
- Using and obtaining information about health, financial and government services
- Participating in local communities (e.g. events, community orgs, transportation information)
- Furthering hobbies and interests
Limited access to and understanding of technology has caused:

- Social isolation
- Generational divide
- A larger rich-poor gap
- The loss of older adults’ knowledge and potential contributions to the whole society
Age-friendly NYC and Verizon Wireless partner on “Age-friendly Mode”

- Verizon Wireless designs new mode and brings the product to market

- Age-friendly NYC provides:
  - Expertise based on secondary research and community consultations
  - Opportunities to have older adults test the mode
  - Necessary connections to government
Information and tools are available at:

www.agefriendlynyc.org