



“Empowering, enabling, and enhancing the lives of senior adults in Ashe County.”

Ashe County’s Aging Planning Project for older adults is underway. It is our desire to develop a plan that is useful to our community. We want to capture opportunities as well as challenges, focusing on what the community and the individual can do to assist with successful aging. With the waves of Baby Boomers to come, coupled with longer life expectancy and immigration, planning is crucial. Also, we recognize that our aging population is changing. Our hope is that the whole community of Ashe County will come together to build a livable and senior friendly community for all.

As Ashe County undertakes this Project, we hope you will join with ideas and enthusiasm. Feel free to contact us with your suggestions.

The Ashe County Aging Plan Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Jane Banks
Anita Davie
Clara Miller
Gregg Plott
Dana Tugman**

**Gary Barber
Jim Greene
Pat Mitchell
Carolyn Shepherd**

**Richard Blackburn
Nancy Kautz
Judy Poe
Stephen Shoemaker**

Please take a few minutes to complete the attached survey. Although you may participate in several discussions of the County Aging Plan, it is important that you only complete one survey form. If a question is not applicable to you, simple write ‘N/A’ beside the question. Thank you for your participation in this important endeavor.

**If you are returning your survey by mail, please send to:
Ashe Services for Aging, Inc.
PO Box 9
West Jefferson, NC 28694**



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Livable and Senior Friendly Communities

Background

1. Which section/community of the county do you live in? _____
2. How many years have you lived in this community? _____
3. Do you have family or lifelong friends in the community? _____
4. Do you rent or own your home? _____
5. Are you currently employed? _____
6. Are you a member of a specific church? _____
7. Are you a member of a civic organization? _____
8. Do you volunteer? ____ If so, approximately how many hours a week do you volunteer? _____
9. Which of the following methods of transportation do you use most often?

Drive _____

Walk _____

Bike _____

Ride in car with others _____

Public transportation _____

Special transportation _____

Age: _____

Race: _____

Gender: _____

If a question is not applicable to you, please write N/A beside the question.

TRANSPORTATION			
	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
Transportation is available and affordable			
Transportation is available on the days and during the hours it is needed.			
Transportation is handicapped accessible.			
Transportation is available for purposes other than medical appointments.			
There were times in the last month when I was unable to go somewhere because I did not have transportation.			
Comments:			
NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS			
	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
My neighborhood is livable and safe.			
Assistance services are available.			
I know how to access assistance services.			
My home is safe and comfortable to live in.			
I maintain connections with friends and neighbors.			
Community residents help and trust each other.			
Comments:			
HOUSING/UTILITIES			
	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
Housing is safe and close to needed services.			
There is an adequate supply of housing in the County.			
Affordable housing is available to low-income community residents.			
Affordable housing is available to working-class community members.			
I consider a reasonable housing price range to be between \$_____ and \$_____			
Builders utilize universal designs, offering senior specific features to accommodate mobility and safety.			
Quality nursing facilities are available for community residents.			
Assistance services for heat and utilities are available.			
I know how to access services for heat and utilities.			
Assistance services for food are available.			

HOUSING/UTILITIES - CONTINUED	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
I know how to access services for food.			
Assistance services for clothing are available.			
I know how to access services for clothing.			
I need assistance with home maintenance.			
I can find assistance with home repair.			
Comments:			
ROAD SAFETY			
	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
Roads, streets, and bridges in the County are well maintained.			
Sufficient parking is available close to stores and churches.			
Sufficient and well-placed handicapped parking is available.			
Sidewalks are adequate and well-maintained.			
Comments:			
CULTURAL, CIVIC, FAITH, AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES			
	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
I have opportunities for recreation in a safe environment.			
I have opportunities for cultural involvement in a safe environment.			
I have opportunities for civic involvement in a safe environment.			
I have opportunities for faith activities in a safe environment.			
I participate in recreation, cultural, civic, and faith activities. Yes___ No___ If not, why?			
Do you attend the Senior Center? Yes___ No___ If not, why?			
There are good opportunities to volunteer or do satisfying work.			

CULTURAL, CIVIC, FAITH, AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES - CONTINUED	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
I have good access to a library, community center, and recreational activities.			
I have opportunities to participate in the arts.			
I have opportunities to enjoy the outdoors and nature.			
Comments:			
ACCESS TO ACTIVITIES/SHOPPING/BUSINESS			
	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
Shopping areas for daily needs are accessible to me.			
Wheelchair access to services and businesses is readily available.			
Building entrances offer ease of access.			
There is a senior-friendly environment in retail (seating, waiting, etc.)			
Shopping is available during convenient hours.			
Seating is available both inside and outside shopping areas for resting purposes.			
Comments:			
HEALTH			
	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
Information about healthy aging and disease prevention is easy to obtain and understand.			
I regularly participate in activities which help me stay mentally and physically active.			
Nutritious food is available and affordable.			
I have adequate healthcare coverage.			
I am able to see a dentist when I need to.			
I am able to see an eye doctor when I need to.			
I am able to see a hearing specialist when I need to.			
If I am sick or need assistance, there are a variety of healthcare services available to me.			
Assistance services for in-home care are available.			
I know how to access assistance services for in-home care.			

HEALTH - CONTINUED	Agree	Disagree	Not Sure
I sometimes have to choose between buying food or medicine.			
There is adequate community support for persons acting as a caregiver for family members.			
Comments:			

What change would you most like to see to improve your ability to get around?

What change would you most like to see in living environments for older adults?

What change would you most like to see to improve community life?

What change would you most like to see to improve wellness?