

Collaborative Approaches for Creating Elder- Friendly Communities

Andrew Scharlach, PhD

Eugene and Rose Kleiner Professor of Aging
University of California, Berkeley

UW Elder Friendly Futures Conference
September 18, 2015

Overview

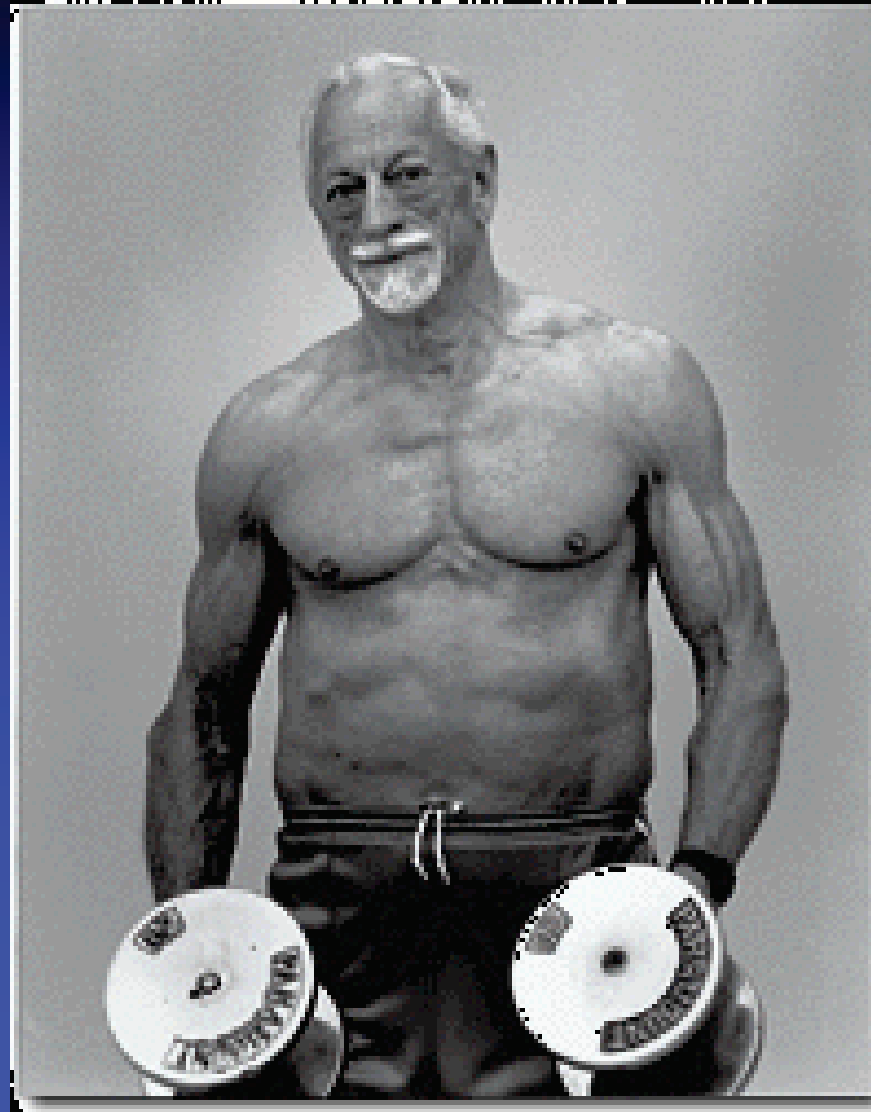
1. What is “elder-friendly”?
2. Characteristics of elder-friendly communities
3. The need for a collaborative approach
4. Collaboration in action
5. Challenges and opportunities
6. Vision: A society for all ages

What is
“Elder-Friendly”?

Anna McNeill Whistler, age 67



John Turner, age 79



Dolores Huerta, age 85



Fauja Singh, age 100



Community Context for Positive Aging

- **Continuity**
 - ◆ Minimal Age Barriers
- **Compensation**
 - ◆ Accommodations/Supports
 - ◆ Basic Safety and Security
- **Control**
 - ◆ “Independence”
- **Connection**
 - ◆ Interpersonal Bonds
- **Contribution**
 - ◆ Civic Engagement
- **Challenge**
 - ◆ New Opportunities for Fulfillment

	Aging in Place	Aging in Community
Underlying motivation:	Reactive	Proactive
Goals:	Avoid institutionalization	Foster interdependence
Responsibility:	Individual	Communal
View of Aging:	Avoidance	Opportunity
Service delivery:	Unidirectional	Reciprocal
Elder Role:	Care recipient	Participant

(Based on work by Janice Blanchard, Janet Stambolian and William Thomas, MD)

G8 Turin Charter: “Towards Active Aging”

- The ageing of our societies will create new opportunities as well as challenges.
- There is nothing inevitable about the impact of ageing on society.
- Older people represent a great reservoir of resources for our economies and societies.

* G8 Labor Ministers Conference, Turin, Italy, November, 2000

Characteristics of Elder-Friendly Communities

What Do Aging Boomers Want?

- Remain in their own homes or neighborhoods
- See friends, social networks
- Get to shopping, health care
- Be safe
- Be healthy
- Be involved in the community

Maturing of America Survey, Part 2.

(National Association of Area Agencies on Aging)

Elder-Friendly Community Domains

- Physical infrastructure (“hardware”)

- ◆ Built environment
- ◆ Technological innovations
- ◆ “Goods”

- Social infrastructure (“software”)

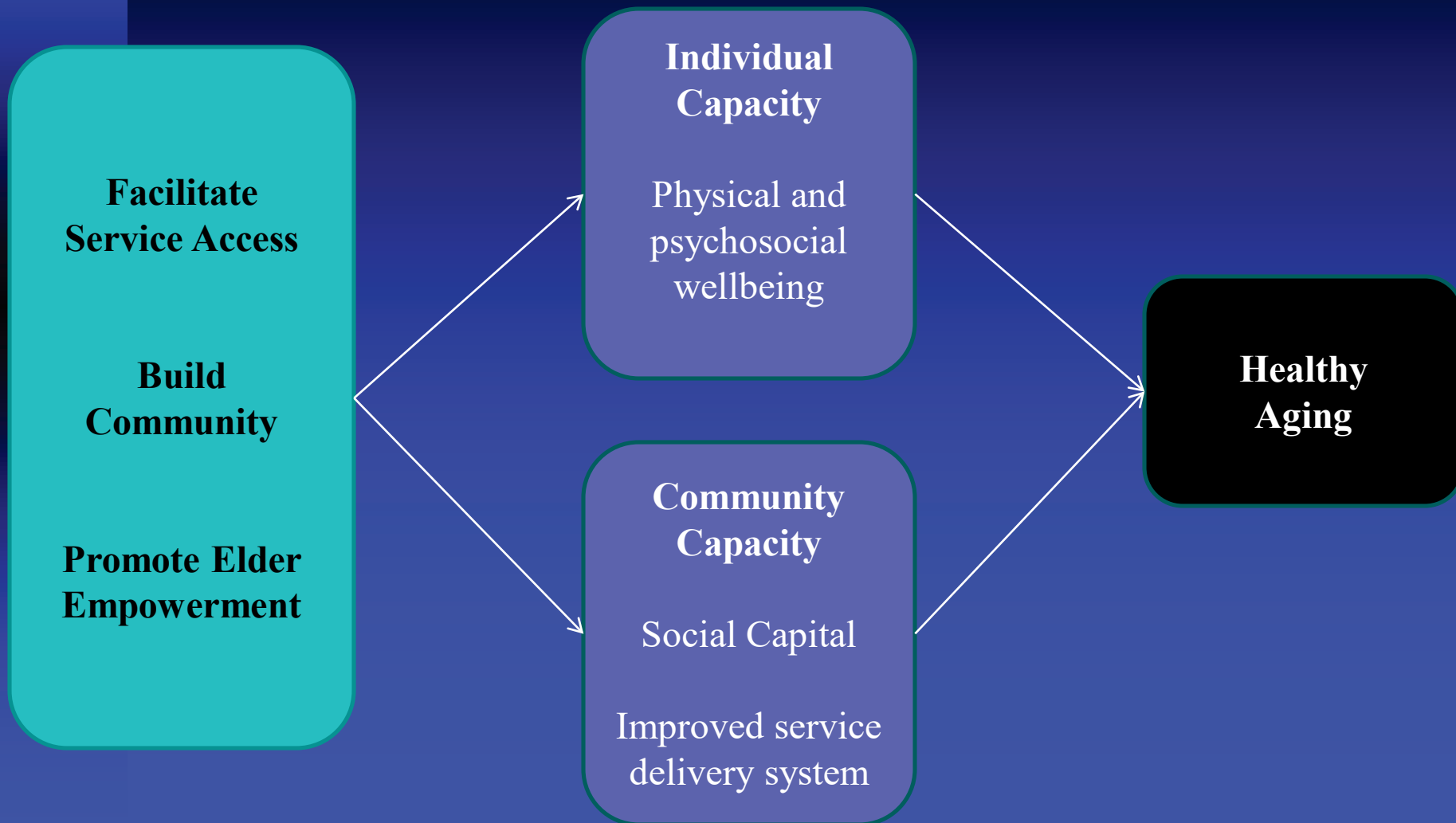
- ◆ “Services”
- ◆ Social participation
- ◆ Social capital development

→ Empowerment + Support

Elder-Friendly Community Characteristics

- Mobility and accessibility
- Social engagement
- Multi-dimensional health and well-being

Elder-Friendly Communities – Logic Model



Elder Friendliness in the US: Structural Lag

Married to (in?) our cars ...



Drive-Thru Weddings

Little White Chapel
Las Vegas, Nevada

‘Til death do us part ...



Davidson, Tennessee



Pensacola, Florida

Drive-Thru Funeral Homes

No time to stop ...



Banking

Strolling across Abbey Road ...



Takes a little longer now!



SPEED
LIMIT
40

46
1102
1104







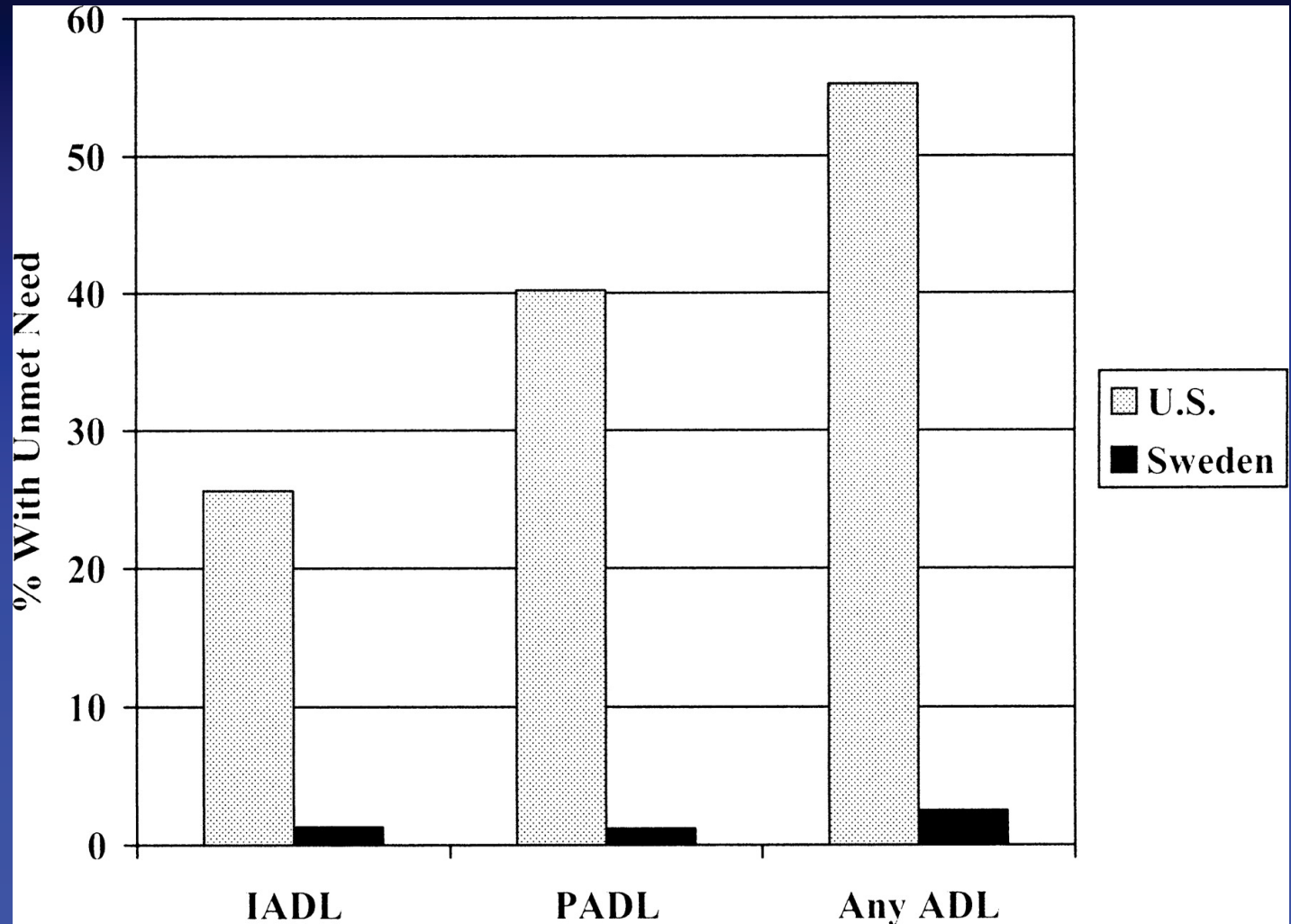
SO, JUNE, DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD GET A STAIRLIFT OR JUST MOVE TO A BUNGALOW?

BECAUSE, LET'S FACE IT, WE'RE GETTING ON AND THERE WILL COME A POINT...

..WHEN YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO CARRY ME UP THE STAIRS ANYMORE.

© Original Artist
Reproduction rights obtainable from
www.CartoonStock.com

Unmet assistance needs in the United States and Sweden



Collaboration in Action:
Enhancing Community
Elder Friendliness

Types of Elder Friendly Initiatives

- Community planning
- Cross-sector initiatives
 - ◆ Aging services collaborations
 - ◆ Housing-based collaborations
 - ◆ Health care collaborations
- Community development

(Lehning, Scharlach, & Price-Wolf, 2012)

Collaborative Community Planning Initiatives



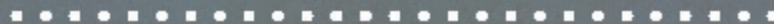
Creating an Age-Friendly NYC One Neighborhood at a Time



The Office of the Mayor
The New York City Council
The New York Academy of Medicine



A Toolkit for Establishing an
Aging Improvement District in
Your Community



2012

Contra Costa for Every Generation



[Home](#)
[About CCEG](#)
[CCEG History](#)
[Action](#)
[Resources](#)
[Press Room](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[Español](#)

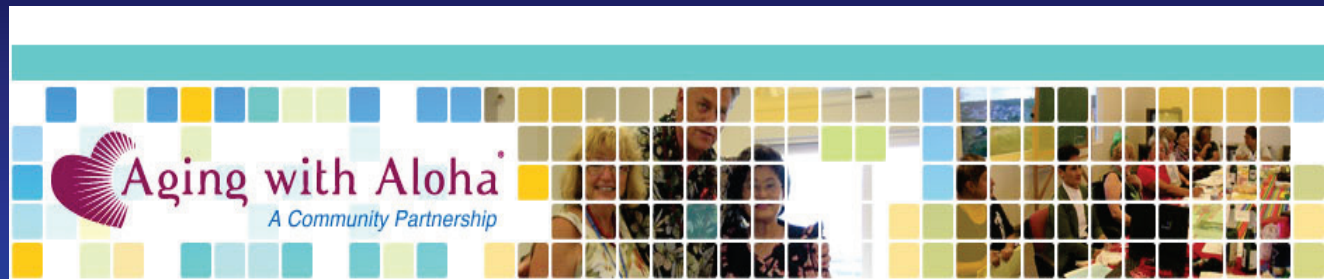
Contra Costa for Every Generation is a countywide movement to make our local communities good places to age — supporting our aspirations to stay healthy, live independently and lead full and productive lives. We forge volunteer coalitions that promote and advocate for more aging-friendly practices in all aspects of Contra Costa life.

CCEG Wins National Award
March 2006

Contact Contra Costa
for Every Generation

Cross-Sector Collaborations

Community Partnerships for Older Adults



Pathways to Positive Aging: An Innovative Multi-Ethnic Community Partnership



Tri-City
Elder Coalition

Pathways to Positive Aging
www.tceconline.org

Fremont, Newark, Union City

C a l i f o r n i a

Seniors understand, choose and access culturally enriched, affordable services and opportunities that enhance their quality of life.



Housing-Based Collaborations



NORC

Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities

Georgia's neighborhood approach to healthy aging

NORC-SSP Model

Program:

- On-site health care and social services

Goal:

- Age-in-place with greater comfort and security

Partners:

- Housing entities
- Health and social service providers
- Philanthropies
- Government
- Residents

Hotel Oakland Village



■ "Participation = Good Health"

■ <http://hoteloaklandvillage.com/indexCH.html>

Strategic Partnerships



Special thanks to our Founding Sponsor

[Episcopal Communities & Services](#)

The art of creating community.

Generations of Hope



[Home](#) [About Us](#)

Our goal is to enhance and extend the lives of vulnerable populations by tapping the transformative power of intergenerational community living.



Hope Meadows: The First Generations of Hope Community (GHC)

The first GHC, Hope Meadows in Rantoul, Illinois, is a multi-generational neighborhood that supports families who have adopted children from foster care. [more »](#)



Generations of Hope Development Corporation

We are working to extend the Hope Meadows model to address a range of social problems, and to inspire new sites across the country. [more »](#)



HOPE MEADOWS

*Real-Life Stories of Healing and Caring
from an Inspiring Community*

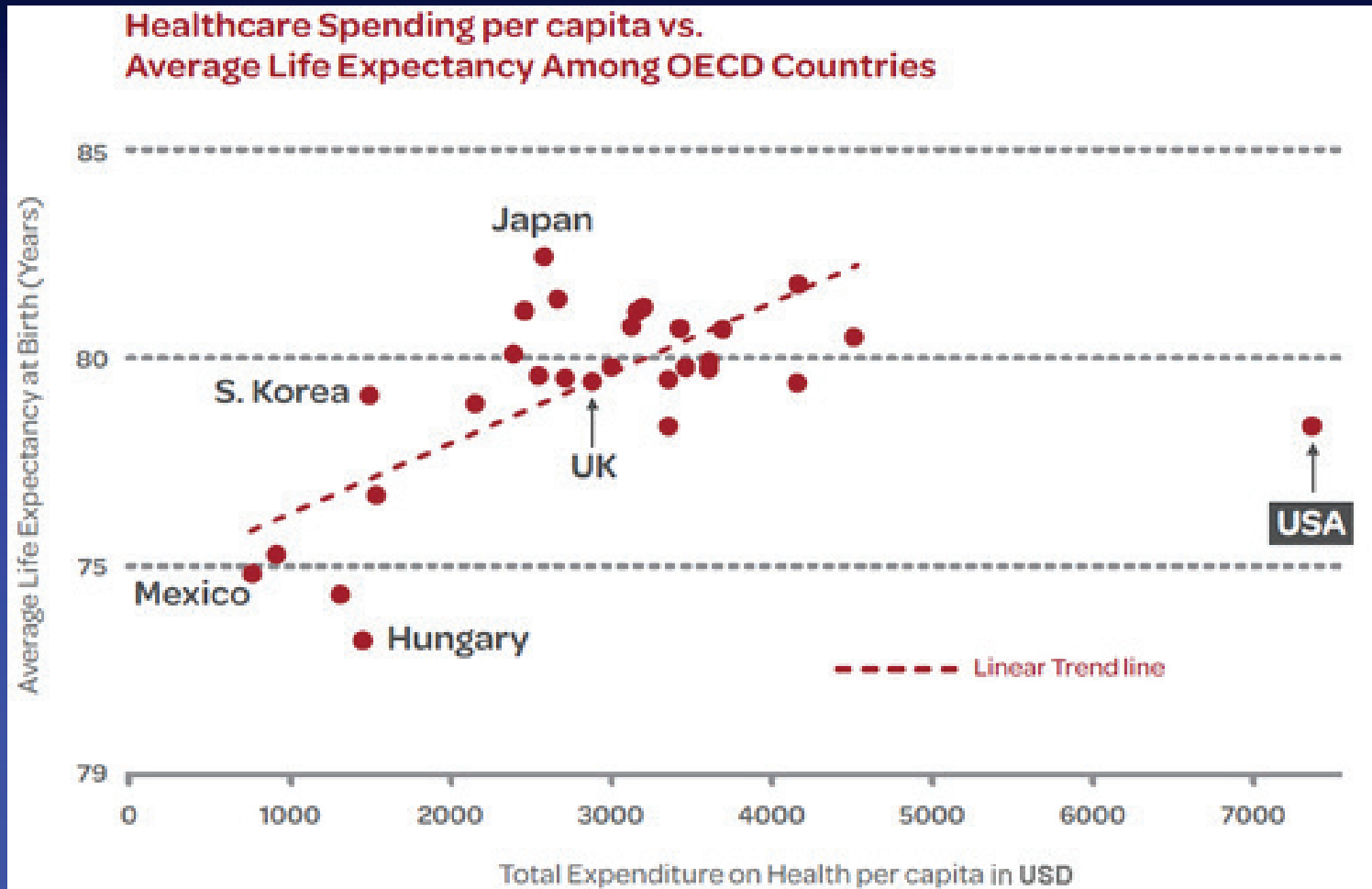
WES SMITH



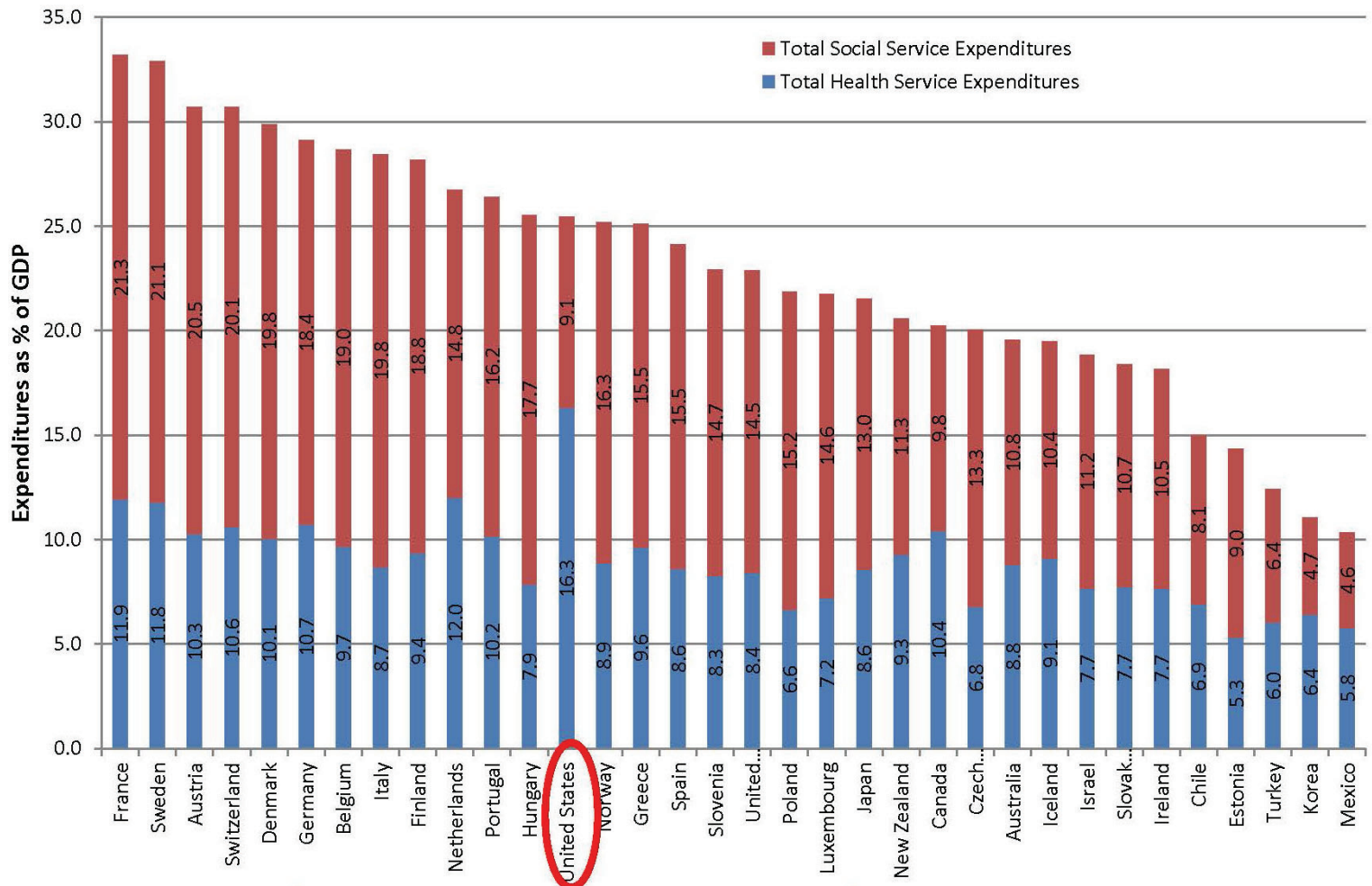
"Hope Meadows sets a perfect role model for the whole country." —Hillary Rodham Clinton

Health Care Collaborations

Challenge: The Value of Healthcare Spending



Total health care investment in US is *less*



In OECD, for every \$1 spent on health care, about \$2 is spent on social services
 In the US, for \$1 spent on health care, about 55 cents is spent on social services

Collaboration Opportunities

- Care Coordination
- Care Transitions
- Behavioral Health
- Health Promotion/Wellness
- Chronic Disease Management
- Community-Based Health Care

Community
Development
Collaborations

The “Village” Concept: Senior Support Associations



Beacon Hill Village
Boston, MA



“Village” Concept

- “Villages are self-governing, grassroots, community-based organizations, developed with the sole purpose of enabling people to remain in their own homes and communities as they age.”

[from Village-to-Village Network website]

Village program model

■ Core Services

- ◆ Transportation, technology, shopping, meal prep, etc.
- ◆ Provided by members, volunteers, or Village staff
- ◆ Usually included as part of membership fee

■ Information and Coordination

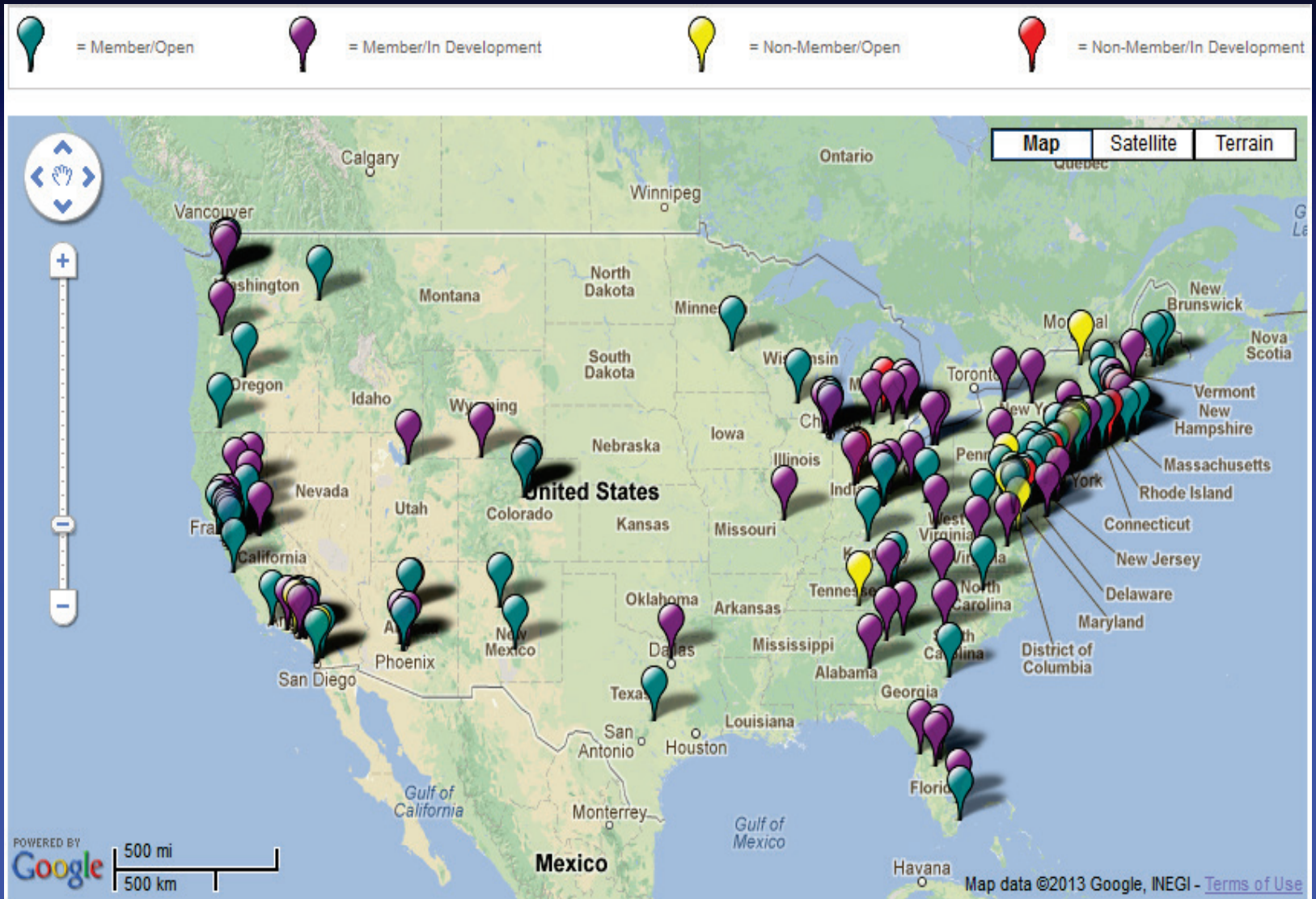
■ Referrals

- ◆ Preferred provider networks
- ◆ Usually requires a payment to be made to an outside service provider

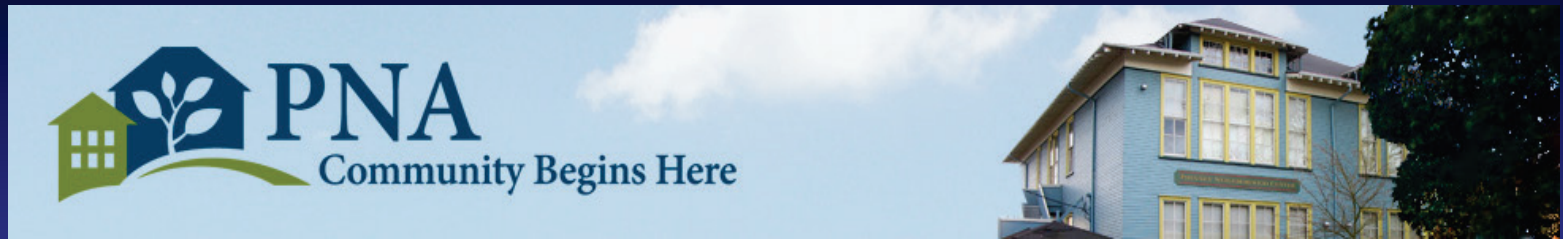
■ Social Activities

■ Volunteer Opportunities

Villages in the US – Current and Future



Villages in Seattle



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Salt Lake City, UT



Vision:
Working Together to Create
an Elder Friendly Future

“A Society for All Ages”

“A society for all ages is multigenerational. It is not fragmented, with youths, adults and older persons going their separate ways. Rather, it is age-inclusive, with different generations recognizing – and acting upon – their commonality of interest.”

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, October, 1998

The best way to predict the future
is to invent it.

Peter Drucker

THANK YOU!

Andrew E. Scharlach, Ph. D.
Eugene and Rose Kleiner Professor of Aging
School of Social Welfare

<scharlach@berkeley.edu>
