

BNOA 2015 Accomplishments

2015 Outreach Committee

1. Sponsored a Bellevue Network on Aging table at the following fairs:
 - Strawberry Festival – June
 - Chinese Information & Service Center Resource Fair – September
 - Overlake Active Senior Fair in March
 - Elder Friendly Futures Conference-UW
 - City of Kirkland Senior Volunteer and Resources Fair –October
 - Neighborhood Outreach Meetings
2. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Proclamation – Bellevue City Council.
3. National Older American Day Proclamation –Bellevue City Council
4. Updated BNOA PowerPoint Presentation with current members and information.
5. Attended Cultural Conservations during the year.
6. Provided BNOA marketing and resources for city hall and North Bellevue Community Center. Resources for Crossroads Mini city hall.
7. Working with our Bellevue Network on Aging and Kirkland Senior Council to create a new Resource Guide for seniors and their families on Eastside. Overlake Hospital used to do a new guide every year, but due to budget changes they are not doing anymore. The new funding is coming from Evergreen Health Network and we have a graduate social work student from UW to complete.
8. We did a Flyer for Fall Prevention and took it out into the community for new fall prevention awareness.
9. We talked with the King County Medic One/Emergency Medical Services program for Healthy Independent Living with their fall prevention program. They will come and do a personal access in your home. They will work with us to get information out.

2015 Advocacy Committee

(Please note the advocacy committee is a joint effort between the Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA) and the Kirkland Senior Council and is composed of persons from both organizations.)

1. January 2015—Wrote thank you letter to Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disabilities, thanking them for their work and offering assistance.
2. In January 2015 a bill requested by the BNOA in 2014 was introduced into the State Legislature, requesting that patients be given notice of Medicare Observation Status. (HB 1186) We spent a great deal of time supporting this bill—drafting documents showing the need for the bill, talking about the bill to other persons, communicating with state legislators, testifying before both the House and Senate Health Committee, keeping up to date on the Medicare observation issue, etc. We learned a great deal about the legislative process.
3. On approximately February 4th we wrote to federal legislators regarding the need to reauthorize the Older Americans Act.
4. In February members of the BNOA attended senior lobby day in Olympia and met with legislators from the 41st and 48th Districts regarding our legislative agenda. A number of the items on our agenda were adopted by the legislature.

BNOA 2015 Accomplishments (Continued)

5. In March the Improving Access to Medicare Coverage Act was reintroduced in Congress. Congresswoman Del Bene, whom we had previously met with regarding this issue, was a co-sponsor of the bill. We wrote her a thank you letter for her co-sponsorship. We also wrote Senators Murray and Cantwell asking them to support the bill and requesting appointments to discuss the issue of "observation status". In July we met with Congressman Smith regarding this issue plus our other federal legislative agenda items. Due to our activities the Medicare Observation issue forms part of the legislative agenda of W4A and the Eastside Human services forum.

5. In April 2nd Diana attended the White House Conference on Aging Forum in Seattle. Some of the persons giving presentations at the forum were Senator Patty Murray, Representative Susan DelBene, Prosecutor Page Ulrey, Representative Jim McDermott, and the labor secretary.

7. In our response to our invitation the legislative assistants of Smith and Reichert attended our June BNOA meeting, which focused on elder abuse.

8. We are remaining in contact with Jennifer Mechem, Bellevue ADA Administrator, re the looping of City facilities both by E mail and a June in person meeting. We also did some research on the ability to loop a facility that has metal in the area to be looped. We organized a July test session for looping in Council chambers. We have coordinated on looping with the Hearing Loss Association of Washington. The Bellevue Council chambers are scheduled to be looped in December.

9. Eileen and Diana attended the Washington State Senior Lobby conference in October which focused upon issues affecting seniors.

10. We have adopted a 2016 legislative agenda. (As we are an Eastside leader on senior issues, most parts of our State agenda will in all likelihood be adopted by the Eastside Human Services Forum.) We are planning a legislative forum for December 2nd and have invited the legislators from the 1, 41, 45, and 48 districts, Bellevue and Kirkland City Council members, the members of the Seattle-King County Advisory Council, Walt Bowen of Washington State Senior Citizen's lobby and others. We will present our legislative agenda and listen to the comments of our legislators.

2015 Transportation & Housing Committee

1. Members reviewed the Housing and Transportation Elements of the Comprehensive Plan and developed a list of items to support in the update of the Plan.
2. Members took part in Sound Transit/City meetings focused on light rail station area design.
3. Member served on the Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative and King County Mobility Coalition. There have been a lot of staff changes at Hope-link this year. We have a new Mobility Management Program Manager-Staci Haber starting the end of December.
4. Worked cooperatively with ARCH Housing to do the annual proofing and update of the Senior Housing website. Annual Update of Bellevue part of ARCH website completed.
5. Members met with area providers to keep informed of resources available for the community, in an effort to be knowledgeable and spread the word on these resources
6. Bellevue Cares Program which coordinates with Bellevue Fire and Police Dept. to help with 911 calls and safety of our community. They attended our meeting to update us.

BNOA 2015 Accomplishments (Continued)

7. Meet with Neighborhood Watch/Safety Bellevue Police Detective Amanda Jensen to help with our seniors and neighborhood. We discussed Block watches and the new Paw Patrol.
8. Meet with Officer Scott Montgomery to review transportation issues-new blinking yellow lights and recent accidents in Bellevue. We discussed tips for driving, walking, bus riding and especially crosswalks safely. He is charge of accident investigations in Bellevue area. We discussed the timing of walk lights, etc. We like to do a flyer to share with the community and have available at community centers and city hall. Also the possible idea of a class at North Bellevue and South Bellevue Community Centers.
9. Attended the first District meeting with our new Police Chief. He explained his new designs for crime and safety in each area of Bellevue. The first session was for District 5 & 6- Eastgate and Factoria area.
10. Monthly Updates from city staff on upcoming affordable housing for Bellevue. Attended opening of August Wilson Place on 11th Ave N.E. Meet with the residents. Distributed flyer on Home Repair Program for seniors.
11. We monitored Homeless shelters available in Bellevue for Woman, Families and Men. We took out flyers into the community.
12. Plan to attend Eastside Rail Corridor Summit: Realizing the Multi-Use Vision. Building a new way to move, connect and live on the eastside January 9th.
13. Orca Access Program-have the mobile units come to North Bellevue Community Center and Bellevue Mini city hall at Crossroads. Get info out about Access and other transportation.

2015 Diversity AD HOC Committee

1. Committee formed by the Network this year to work with the changing diversity in our city and find ways we can help to address the special opportunities and needs.
2. We enjoyed working with the new Diversity Team at Bellevue city hall. We meet with members of the team at special events they held, including the first Diversity Advantage Breakfast. We also meet with the team several times the find ways to grow new awareness of challenges and projects. Several members of the Network attended the Diversity Advantage Breakfast, which was an excellent way to gain new relationships. Mark Manuel came to our monthly meeting to give us update.
3. We also meet with groups that meet at North Bellevue Community Center, including new Indian Association of Western Washington and C.I.S.C. The Cultural Conversations at Crossroads Community Center and City hall were excellent opportunities. Some of our Network members also serve on North Bellevue Community Center Advisory Board where we have the opportunity to hold luncheons, classes and many events to interact with different cultures and disabilities.

BNOA 2015 Accomplishments (Continued)

Other

1. *Member served on the City's Special Events Committee.*
2. *Members served on the Aging and Disability Services Advisory Council*
3. *Member served on Eastside Human Services Forum Advocacy Committee*
4. *Member served on the Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative & King County Mobility Coalition.*
5. *Member served on the Time Banks of Puget Sound Board*
6. *Member served as Long-Term Care Ombudsman and SHIBA benefits volunteer for Medicare and Medicaid for King County.*
7. *Member served on Bellevue Chapter of Hearing Loss Association of WA*
8. *Member served on King County Mobility Coalition for Special Needs Populations.*
9. *Member served as AARP-Volunteer Special Events Coordinator for King County and Washington State Legislative/Congressional Liaison*
10. *Member-completed the first City of Bellevue CERT training (Community Emergency Response Team-continuing to serve in training/drills/ready to response/serve in community response as needed for my neighborhood/city and regional 2014-2015.*
11. *Members-completed Bellevue Police Community Academy training-2015 –volunteering for Bellevue Police Dept. on special events and Foundation event this coming spring.*
12. *Member attending Washington Alzheimer Association yearly conference 2015.*
13. *Members Block Captains for their neighborhoods 2015.*
14. *Member serving on Fraud Fighters Team for AARP-2015*