

Creating an
**Age-Friendly
Northfield**

CREATING AN AGE-FRIENDLY NORTHFIELD

Why Age-Friendly?



- **Northfield was an ACT on Alzheimer's community between 2014 & 2016**
- **Four individuals from ACT were tasked with finding a more sustainable plan for all aging issues**
- **The World Health Organization/AARP Age-Friendly initiative rose to the top**

WHO/AARP Age-Friendly Process

Year 1 2016	STEP 1: Entering the network	
Years 2-3 2017-2019	STEP 2: Planning Phase	a. Conduct community assessment b. Develop 3-year action plan
Years 4-5	STEP 3: Implement action plan; evaluate progress	
Years 5+	STEP 4: Continuous Cycle of Improvement	



Age-Friendly Northfield

Entering the Network

Northfield's Age-Friendly Process



Will Phillips; AARP MN
Ben Martig; Northfield City
Administrator

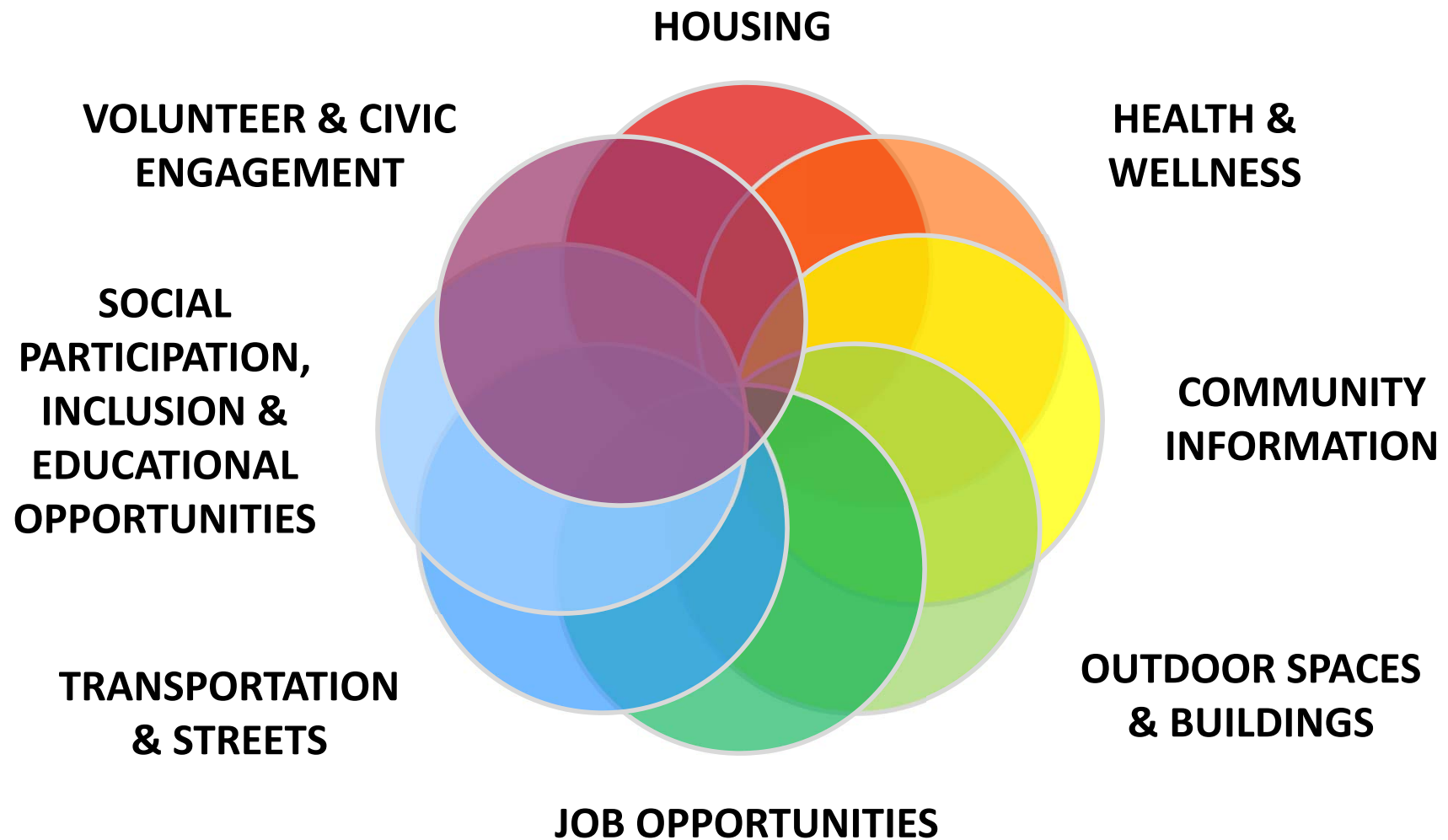
- **Began with commitment from the City of Northfield**
- **Submitted an application**
- **Accepted into the Age-Friendly Network in August 2016**
- **Began our 4-step, 5-year cycle**



Age-Friendly Northfield

Community Assessment, Findings, and
Action Plan Development

Assessment Covered 8 Domains of Livability



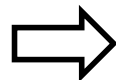
Northfield's Age-Friendly Process Summary

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT		
AUG-SEPT 2017	MID-2018	ONGOING/CURRENT

RESIDENT SURVEY + **LISTENING SESSIONS** + **CITY ENGAGEMENT**

ACTION PLAN	
JULY 2018-July 2019	2019-2022

DEVELOP



IMPLEMENT

- Domain teams lead
- AFN tracks/ oversees

Northfield's Assessment Findings

Priority Domains:

1. Community Information
2. Health & Wellness
3. Housing
4. Outdoor Spaces & Buildings

*Will be
addressed first
in action plan*





Age-Friendly Northfield

Housing Domain Action Plan

Housing Action Plan

We Are

- **A community that has**

- **A variety of housing options.**
- **Many that include supportive services.**
- **Multiple initiatives addressing housing.**

(Northfield HRA, Habitat for Humanity, Affordable Housing Task Force)

Housing Action Plan

We Heard

- **Survey respondents and listening session participants cited need for:**
 - **More affordable contractors and home repair services.**
 - **Housing options for all income levels.**
 - **Housing that features age-friendly design, supporting older homeowners to age in place.**
 - **Additional memory care options.**
 - **Exploration of alternative models. (Shared Housing, Accessory Dwelling Units)**

Housing Action Plan

We Envision:

A community that provides affordable and appropriate housing options and housing with supportive services that include older residents of all income levels and at varying stages of older age.

Housing Action Plan

We Will:

- **Partner with others to create more older adult housing and housing with service options.**
- **Create a listing of and ensure that older adults are aware of independent housing and housing with available services**
- **Partner with the City to develop guidelines that incorporate Universal Design in housing development plans.**



Age-friendly must be defined not as a new program or a new trend in service delivery but as a fundamental rethinking of how we live together.”

*-Kathryn Lawler, “Go Big or Go Home,”
Public Policy Aging Report, 2015*

More Information on Age-Friendly Northfield

- Age Friendly Northfield website: www.agefriendlynorthfield.com
- A video filmed in Northfield detailing the Age-Friendly initiative: agefriendlynorthfield.com/our-video
- Minnesota becoming an Age-Friendly State: [Age-Friendly MN](#)
- AARP Livable Communities: [Homepage](#)