

Objectives. This study investigates how social participation of the aging population is associated with the community capacity, measured by the number of amenities and organizations within the community. **Method.** Using nationally representative survey data from the China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (2011), this study examines the availability of community amenities and organizations in rural and urban areas, and investigates the associations between community capacity and social participation among the middle aged and older Chinese using multilevel analysis. **Results.** The results of this study indicate that both community amenities and community organizations are positively associated with the social participation of the middle-aged and older Chinese. Additionally, the association between community organizations and the frequency of formal social participation is stronger among urban communities than rural ones, even after controlling for the individual-level socioeconomic status and health conditions. **Conclusion.** This study highlights the importance of building the community capacity by developing community-based grassroots organizations to promote the social engagement and participation of the aging population.

EFFECTS OF PRODUCTIVE ENGAGEMENT ON SUBJECTIVE HEALTH AMONG OLDER ADULTS WITH SENSORY IMPAIRMENTS

Othelia E. Lee,¹ and Junghyun Park², 1. *University of North Carolina Charlotte, Charlotte, United States*, 2. *New York University, NY, New York, United States*

Background: Productive engagement becomes significant protective factors in healthy aging. Yet, subgroups of older adults with age-related vision and hearing impairments lack access to various activities, suggesting that unequal ability to participate in productive aging is a major public health and health-disparities concern. **Methods:** Older adults experiencing age-related vision and hearing impairments were drawn from the 2015-2017 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (n=2,164). Perceived health status (good vs. poor) was outcome measures used in multivariate logistic regression. Two aspects of productive engagement was considered: 1) employment status (unemployed vs employed) and 2) regular religious service attendance as tools to build social capital in their faith-based communities. Gender, race, marital status, educational attainment, poverty, urbanization, obesity, chronic disease, hospitalization, binge drinking, cigarette smoking, and difficulty with mobility were considered as covariates. **Results:** Working older adults with sensory loss were more likely to perceived good health status, compared to their unemployed counterparts (OR=2.46, p<.05). Religious service attendance also became protective factors for health (OR=1.60, p<.01). Of the covariates, higher educational attainment, White race, having one chronic disease, hospitalization, smoking, drinking, and mobility challenges appeared to affect the health status. **Conclusions/Implications:** Study findings implied the needs to identify late-life engagement through work and participation in faith-based community as a major public health issue. Given the barriers and disincentives to the productive engagement of older adults in this culture, healthcare providers should provide programs promoting employment and religious attendance.

PROMOTION OF CULTURAL GENERATIVITY TO SUPPORT SUCCESSFUL AGING IN ALASKA NATIVE COMMUNITIES

Steffi M. Kim,¹ and Jordan P. Lewis¹, 1. *University of Alaska Anchorage, Anchorage, Alaska, United States*

The psychological construct of generativity encompasses a person's motivation to leave a legacy for future generations by investing in acts that will outlive the self (Ericson, 1950). Lewis and Allen (2017) outlined the importance of generativity within AN cultures (caring for the future of our youth) and expanded Erikson's western-based definition by adding the indigenous cultural generativity component to describe and incorporate Alaska Native specific cultural elements. These culturally based elements involve giving back to family and community including guidance and teaching of future generations (Lewis & Allen, 2017). Generativity within western societies accentuates independent achievements and successes more than the notion to care for future generations. This study is part of a larger community-based, exploratory, study between researchers and communities to explore successful aging that included 42 Alaska Native Elders in the Norton-Sound subregion, 21 Alaska Native Elders from the Aleutian Pribilof Islands, and 26 Elders from the Bristol Bay region. Qualitative interviews explored the participant's life, influences on aging well, and their aging process. Thematic analysis was used to investigate the impact of generativity on successful aging was used to establish codes and main themes based on the three different cultural regions of Alaska. The findings suggest that generativity promotes successful aging. Elders who live in communities that promote community engagement, support family and school activities, and maintain and/or revitalize culture and traditions reported increased emotional well-being. Results can guide communities to incorporate or support cultural activities that promote generative activities and meaningful engagement which fosters successful aging.

SUCCESSFUL AGING IN ALASKA NATIVE ELDERS ACROSS DIVERSE REGIONS

Steffi M. Kim,¹ Eric Wortman,² and Keri Boyd¹, 1. *University of Alaska Anchorage, Anchorage, Alaska, United States*, 2. *UW School of Medicine, Anchorage, Alaska, United States*

Existing conceptualizations of successful aging are mainly based on Western cultures, ignoring the inclusion or exploration of culturally-relevant knowledge within the experience of successful aging. Lewis (2011) drew on the experiences of Elders and identified four elements of Eldership (successfully aging elders) in the Bristol Bay region of Alaska: "a) emotional well-being, b) community engagement, c) spirituality, and d) physical health" (p. 544). Given the unique and distinct environmental locations of this study, this presentation builds upon Lewis previous research and will highlight similarities and differences of Alaska Native successful aging between three rural geographic areas of Alaska. 42 Alaska Native Elders were interviewed from the Norton-Sound subregion, 21 Alaska Native Elders from the Aleutian Pribilof Islands, and 26 Elders from the Bristol Bay region. A community-based, exploratory, qualitative research methodology was used to allow for the collaboration of researchers and communities as equal partners. Qualitative interviews explored