

school-age, or post-secondary age youth and independent or frail older adults. Half had sample sizes under 50, frequently measuring both age groups. Implementation practices included co-learning and sharing personal stories. Program content (e.g., technology) and greater exposure amplified outcomes. Rigorous implementation research is needed to advance evidence-based intergenerational practice.

CONNECTING GENERATIONS IN SENIOR HOUSING: PROMISING PRACTICES AND CHALLENGES

Nancy Henkin, *Generations United, Merion, Pennsylvania, United States*

Senior housing can be an ideal platform for high quality intergenerational programming. Often older adults who move to congregate housing settings experience feelings of loneliness and a loss of purpose. Creating long term partnerships with educational and youth-serving organizations can help senior housing providers expand residents' social networks and create meaningful civic engagement opportunities. A 3-year national initiative involving an environmental scan of intergenerational practice in senior housing communities, the development of a toolkit for senior housing providers, and the piloting of intergenerational partnerships and programs in six national housing communities was conducted by Generations United and Leading Age and supported by the Retirement Research Foundation. Promising practices, challenges, and lessons learned from this initiative will be shared and strategies for "scaling" this work will be discussed.

IMPLEMENTING IG BEST PRACTICES IN COMMUNITY-BASED SETTINGS: A PRE-IMPLEMENTATION STUDY

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Programs that intentionally engage unrelated young and old persons often lead to mutual benefits; however, specific implementation strategies that support the use of evidence-based intergenerational programming in community settings are understudied. With strong demand for training resources among intergenerational program providers, this pilot study examined how a multifaceted training strategy facilitated the implementation of 14 distinct evidence-based intergenerational best practices. Intergenerational programming was implemented with nine staff from two small community sites using three implementation strategies including educational meetings, ongoing consultation, and routine practice reminders. Observational analysis of video recorded intergenerational program sessions indicated that staff adopted an average of 81.7% of intergenerational best practices suggesting the feasibility of implementing IG in community settings. Findings yield valuable insight that can inform training refinements, and selection of strategies for improving implementation. Next steps include aligning specific practices with participant outcomes.

A PROCESS EVALUATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CROSS-ORGANIZATIONAL INTERGENERATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

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A collaborative group of organizations in the rocky mountain region of the U.S. implemented sixteen intergenerational programs with varying themes (i.e. mentorship, music and art therapy, baking, life stories, etc.). This two-year study used survey data and a focus group to understand successful approaches and challenges to implementing cross-organizational partnerships between adult-serving and youth-serving organizations. We utilized qualitative data through open-ended comments on program evaluations and a focus group discussion with leaders of seven community organizations. Questions in the focus group prompted participants to describe the process of initiating, developing, and sustaining partnerships. The three main themes were: the benefits of shared organizational values, outlining programmatic roles and expectations, and an ability to cope with negative partnership experiences. Insights about successful approaches to implementing cross-organizational partnerships, as well as the challenges of developing and sustaining such partnerships may be beneficial in similar settings.

SESSION 6330 (SYMPOSIUM)

VULNERABLE OLDER ADULTS IN DISASTERS: EFFECTS OF HURRICANE IRMA ON NURSING HOMES AND ASSISTED LIVING

Chair: Lindsay Peterson

Co-Chair: David Dosa

Discussant: Patricia D'Antonio

Preparedness of residents in long-term care (LTC) in the face of hurricane emergencies is a contested and largely unanswered question. Our prior work involving the U.S. Gulf Coast hurricanes of 2005-08 showed that exposure to various storms on nursing home (NH) residents resulted in significantly more deaths than reported by health care officials. This work also highlighted that evacuation of NH residents, compared to sheltering in place, was independently associated with morbidity and mortality. Hurricane Irma struck Florida on Sept. 10, 2017, prompting the evacuation of thousands of NH and assisted living community (ALC) residents. This symposium will discuss the effects of Hurricane Irma on vulnerable older adults residing in NHs and ALCs using mixed quantitative and qualitative methodologies. The first presentation will discuss morbidity and mortality of NH residents exposed to Hurricane Irma and will stratify by long stay/short stay status and hospice enrollment. The second presentation will discuss improvements and continued barriers to NH preparedness based on interviews with 30 administrators following Hurricane Irma. Using a novel methodology to identify residents of ALCs using secondary data sources, the third presentation will document AL resident morbidity and mortality risk following Hurricane Irma. The final presentation will highlight results of interviews with 70 stakeholders