Education and Service Committee, Apple Valley Senior/Community Center
5-23-14

Questions for Community Asset Mapping process:

Responses are from Edu. & Service Comm. members on 5-23-14.

1. What do YOU think are the **assets/strengths of Apple Valley** in terms of creating a Community for a Lifetime (a good place to grow up and grow older)?

Some areas to consider:

A. The "built environment" (ex., type of housing, community spaces, parks)

-High number of single family homes
-High number of townhomes
-196 School District
-Hayes Senior Center
-Subsidized housing stock (CDA buildings)
-Location, close to highways
-High quality medical centers/clinics
-Good access to shopping
-Good parks
-Good libraries

B. Services (ex., chore services, banking, home care)

-DARTS/Metro Mobility transportation services
-SALT (Senior Adults Learning Together)
-Community Education programming (Velvetones, for ex.)
-Parks and Recreation programming
-Cabs/transport provided by Fairview for medical appointments
-GAPP volunteer diver services
-MVTA, "Travel Training" opportunities
-Affordable transit for riders (for ex., Red line)
-Chamber of Commerce (donated items for showcase event)
-Lots of volunteer opportunities

C. Social networks (groups, organizations, associations, faith communities)

-Welcoming community
-Lots of people helping people
-Good network of churches providing support

-The Sun Times, a good community resource

2. What do you think are the **gaps**—the areas that need improvement to help older adults age in place/in community?

-Knowing how to access services; who to trust (unknown for many people)
-Transportation: how to use transit if someone has never used it; ongoing travel training opportunities
-Concerns about technology and privacy

3. Concerning an aging population, what do YOU think are the **major issues/challenges facing Apple Valley** in the next 5-15 years?

-Boomers—there will be many older adults!
-Transportation challenges; more education, more user-friendly options
-More affordable housing options when single family home becomes too much to manage

4. How would YOU like to see organizations, businesses, and government in Apple Valley support a Community for a Lifetime in a **NEW or IMPROVED way**?

-Educate "the kids"/family of older adults about services, supports, caregiving

-Information is fragmented: continue to improve how resources are talked about, advertised; want simple, general info., basic brochures (DARTS presentation on Resources?)