



PILOT PROGRAM FOR VILLAGE INFRASTRUCTURE

A one-time allocation of \$3 million in general funds to promote and adapt the Village model of volunteerism and services to reflect the strengths of California's diverse communities.ⁱ

THE PROBLEM:

- 90% of older adults want to age at home yet don't have access to the supports and services they need ⁱⁱ
- 40% of older Californians, 3.4 million, are moderate and middle income older adults who do not qualify for publicly funded services but cannot afford to pay for services ⁱⁱⁱ
- Social isolation and loneliness threaten older adult's mental and physical health,^{iv} and Covid exacerbated the threat

THE VILLAGE RESPONSE:

Villages are peer-led, non-profit organizations that connect older adults to the community, the supports, and the expertise they need to continue living lives of purpose and meaning.

Built on principles of mutual support, Villages mobilize an intergenerational corps of trained and vetted volunteers to meet the everyday needs of their older neighbors. Villages reduce isolation, improve quality of life, health, and wellness, and expand choices at all stages of aging, empowering older adults to sustain independence and remain in charge of their lives as they age in community.

THE PILOT PROGRAM:

A three year one-time allocation of \$3 million in general funds for the CA Department of Aging to contract with the Village Movement California as a public/private partnership to:

- Build village infrastructure through multi-lingual materials, workshops, a learning community, coaching, and new partners
- Expand the number of new and existing villages in underserved communities
- Engage state of the art technology to capture village impact
- Integrate villages into the hubs and spokes system of aging services

THE SPONSOR:

Village Movement CA is a 501c3 nonprofit association, a coalition of grassroots village organizations founded in 2018. Currently 46 villages engage 10,000 members, volunteers, and caregivers. New villages are coming on line in response to the Master Plan for Aging. Village Movement California is part of the national Village to Village Network of 300 operating and forming villages.

ⁱ Master Plan for Aging Goal 3, strategy 5, objective 90, 2021.

ⁱⁱ The United States of Aging Survey, AARP, 2012 <https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/livable-communities/learn/research/the-united-states-of-aging-survey-2012-aarp.pdf>.

ⁱⁱⁱ 2020 Income Data, Aging.ca.gov; Pearson, C.F., Quinn, C.C., Lognathan, S., Datta, A.R., Mace, B.B., Grabowski, D.C. The Forgotten Middle: Many Middle-Income Seniors Will Have Insufficient Resources for Housing and Health Care. *Health Aff.* 2019; 38(5):1-9.

^{iv} Holt-Lunstad, Julianne, Smith, Timothy B., Layton, J. Bradley. Social Relationships and Mortality risk: A Meta-analytic Review, 7.27.2010, <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1000316>



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