Five Steps for your Organization to Increase Social Engagement

1. Obtain buy-in from staff. Meet with your staff to discuss how your organization can expand and enhance current social engagement opportunities and brainstorm what new opportunities may be of interest for the communities you serve.

2. Tap into your community’s network! Build connections, create awareness and collaborate with community partners to identify and promote ways to engage older adults, people with disabilities and caregivers socially all year long.

3. Identify isolated or lonely consumers by using the UCLA Three-Item Loneliness Scale. The scale can be found at www.engagingolderadults.org/engagedcommunitytoolkit.

4. Make social engagement an integral part of your organization’s core programming by developing new or enhancing existing services or programs with social engagement components.

5. Stay connected with engAGED: The National Resource Center for Engaging Older Adults for the latest information and resources to increase social engagement within your community. Visit the engAGED Innovations Hub to get ideas about new social engagement programs your organization can implement.

If social engagement is a new programming space for your organization, check out the engAGED Community Toolkit calendar of social engagement opportunities for a range of ideas on in-person or virtual events you can organize with community partners.

Visit www.engagingolderadults.org to learn more.

This project #90EECC0002 is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling $300,000 (or 74 percent) funded by ACL/HHS and $106,740 (or 26 percent) funded by non-government sources. The contents are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.