

MARCH 2016 VOL. 1 #1

NEWSLETTER

SLO Village

A Neighborhood Village Serving the Central Coast

Learn How You Can Help SLO Village Presentation March 18th 2:00 to 3:30pm

Register at SLOvillage.org



Message From the Board

For SLO Village a lot has happened during this year. In February of 2015, we started testing the Village Movement idea in San Luis Obispo. The concept of a Village has been wildly successful in other parts of the country. But it was critical to get first hand knowledge of the value of a Village in our area. We held informational classes and conducted an online survey. The response to a Village has been overwhelmingly positive.

Armed with feedback from the survey and classes in hand, we began defining a SLO Village. We developed a plan for area coverage and services. We created a financial model and project plan. We also started talking with possible partners and taking inventory of current services for seniors.

We are now entering into the next phase of development. In this phase we need to signup

vendors, identify existing senior services and identify possible partners, volunteers and members.

To do this, we have created several teams.

It is our goal to have SLO Village in operation before the end of this year. The date of opening our doors is dependent upon the number of people that can help us in this effort. If you can help, go to <u>SLOvillage.org</u> and click on Volunteer.

Beacon Hill

The first village Beacon Hill opened it's doors in 2002. Residents of the historic neighborhood wanted to age in their own homes. This new model for aging in place soon became international. Today there are 190 villages open and over 185 in development.

SLO Village History

Development



Feb 2015 First community gathering Joined Village-to-Village network

Mar 2015 Name chosen Facebook group started

Apr 2015 Decision on geography to be covered by Village

Oct 2015 Survey goes live Website live LifeLong Learners class held

Nov 2015 Development teams created Community Foundation meeting

Dec 2015 GALA funds process to obtain non-profit status

Project Plan established Business Plan Outline

Jan 2016 Meetings with potential partners SLO Village Brochure finalized Business plan reviewed

Feb 2016 501c3 process begun Working Board established Development team leadership determined Newsletter distributed

March First public presentation

Development Teams Established

The members of the Development Board have created several teams that are actively involved in developing building blocks required to launch SLO Village. They are:

Marketing Team: Create a marketing plan and prepare all marketing materials that are needed to reach potential members, volunteers, vendors, stakeholders, sponsors, and more.

Vendor Vetting Team: Create a simple vendor vetting process and agreement. Find interested businesses willing to provide our members with discounted services.

Senior Services Team: Identify existing services available to seniors. Create a plan for sharing and updating information. Identify gaps of service coverage.

Partner Team: Identify potential partners and develop action plans. From providing referrals to office space, from financial support to back office support.

Business Plan Team: Create a business plan and financial model. Secure non-profit status.

Infrastructure Team: Identify software needed for operation of SLO Village. Create and document processes for sharing information on members, volunteers, and service providers.

Volunteer

Immediate Volunteer Openings:

Newsletter Editor/Graphic Designer: Create and produce newsletter copy with graphics. Create content for website.

Marketers: Promote SLO Village and create ways to recruit volunteers, publicize membership and fund raising campaigns; manage media relations and provide general marketing.

Ambassadors: Become a spokesperson for SLO Village at civic groups, faith based communities, business associations, government organizations, using PowerPoint presentations and less formal messaging.

Technical Support: Provide expertise with databases, office software, social media while looking for ways to streamline efficiency.

Principles of Operation

- Be inclusive of all (socially & financially marginalized)
- Partner with businesses and non-profits
- Leverage established community services
- Include members regardless of type of housing
- Actively encourage members to also volunteer
- Be self-sustaining (with partnerships) after 2 years
- Emphasize social elements of all services
- Create technology-based operation
- Lead with one-on-one member interaction



SLO Village Links

<u>SLO Village</u> slovillage.org

Event Registration slovillage.org

<u>Volunteer</u> slovillage.org/volunteer.html

Recommend Vendor slovillage.org/vendors.html

<u>Survey Results</u> http://1drv.ms/10AwIWG

Vendor Vetting

One of the most popular services that villages offer is access to vetted service providers. These vendors offer a wide range of services, from homecare ranging to plumbing. Many of these vendors also offer discounts to village members. If you know of any business that you would recommend, let us know. You can go to www.slovillage.org/vendors to make recommendations.

SLO Village



Why San Luis Obispo

According to the California Department of Aging, while San Luis Obispo County is ranked towards the middle of California counties in size. it is experiencing a growth rate in senior citizens that far outpaces the majority of the state. San Luis Obispo is undergoing 100-149% а increase in elderly population aged 60 and over, and a 200-299% increase in elderly population 85 and over.

California Villages

California is one of the most active states for the Village Movement. There are currently over 60 Villages in operation or development in California.

Recently, 56 of these Villages met to better understand the common needs. The propose of the meeting was to explore the value of forming a California Coalition. A grant for planning California Village Coalition has been provided by Archstone Foundation.

Our Survey Results

In 2015, SLO Village conducted a survey of people currently living in San Luis Obispo County. One hundred and fiftv people responded to this survey. We found that 87.5% of seniors want to stay in their home. We also found that 86% responding to the survey currently do not use available services. Of those surveyed, 87% would seriously consider SLO Village as a way to access needed services.



Website: www.SLOvillage.org



SLO Village

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