

The Process

Creating a Community for a Lifetime requires the involvement of many team members, including community leaders and interested citizens.

A brief outline of short-term community goals and suggested steps in the process includes:

- Passing a resolution or proclamation in support of the program and notifying the Department of Elder Affairs (see page 24 for sample proclamation);
- Forming a committee to inventory and assess services important for senior independence and care;
- Completing a self-assessment by identifying activities and opportunities currently available in the community;
- Developing a community action plan with a timeline for completion;
- Sending the completed action plan to the Department of Elder Affairs for review and recommendations; and
- Developing strategies to begin partnerships to address identified needs.

The Team Members

Becoming a *Community for a Lifetime* requires teamwork and a partnership that has the commitment of community leaders and residents. Through partnerships, communities identify their strengths and weaknesses and plan to vision for the future. The following is a list of recommended team members:

- **County and or city elected officials and staff**
- **Business leaders or the local Chamber of Commerce**
- **Regional planning councils**
- **Developers, builders, architects**
- **Health care organizations and the medical community**
- **Housing officials**
- **Transportation officials**
- **Volunteers**
- **Senior centers**
- **Area agency on aging and other aging network organizations**
- **Parks and recreation**
- **AARP**
- **Employment organizations**
- **Faith-based organizations**
- **Public safety (police, fire)**
- **Education (universities, community colleges)**
- **Social service organizations (adult day cares, Alzheimer's groups, congregate meal sites, legal services, Social Security, etc.)**
- **Cultural organizations**

