



Adult Day Center Feasibility Study AGE of Central Texas

CITY OF AUSTIN, PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 09/08/2021

PRESENTERS: SAM WOOLLARD, WOOLLARD NICHOLS & ASSOCIATES

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Presentation Overview

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- ▶ Provide an overview of the Adult Day Center Feasibility Study
- ▶ Review background, goals, methodology and both qualitative quantitative data analysis
- ▶ Share findings and study recommendations

Background

- ▶ Aged 65 and over in Travis County is projected to grow 150% between 2010 and 2030
- ▶ Two studies by Dr. Jacqueline Angel and students from the Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) School of Public Affairs
- ▶ Studies focused on the Rebekah Baines Johnson (RBJ) Center and recommended building a multigenerational center that included an Adult Day Health center for older adults and a child care center.
- ▶ The City Council passed Resolution 41 which asked the City Manager to analyze the data from the reports and make recommendations about how to proceed.

Goals

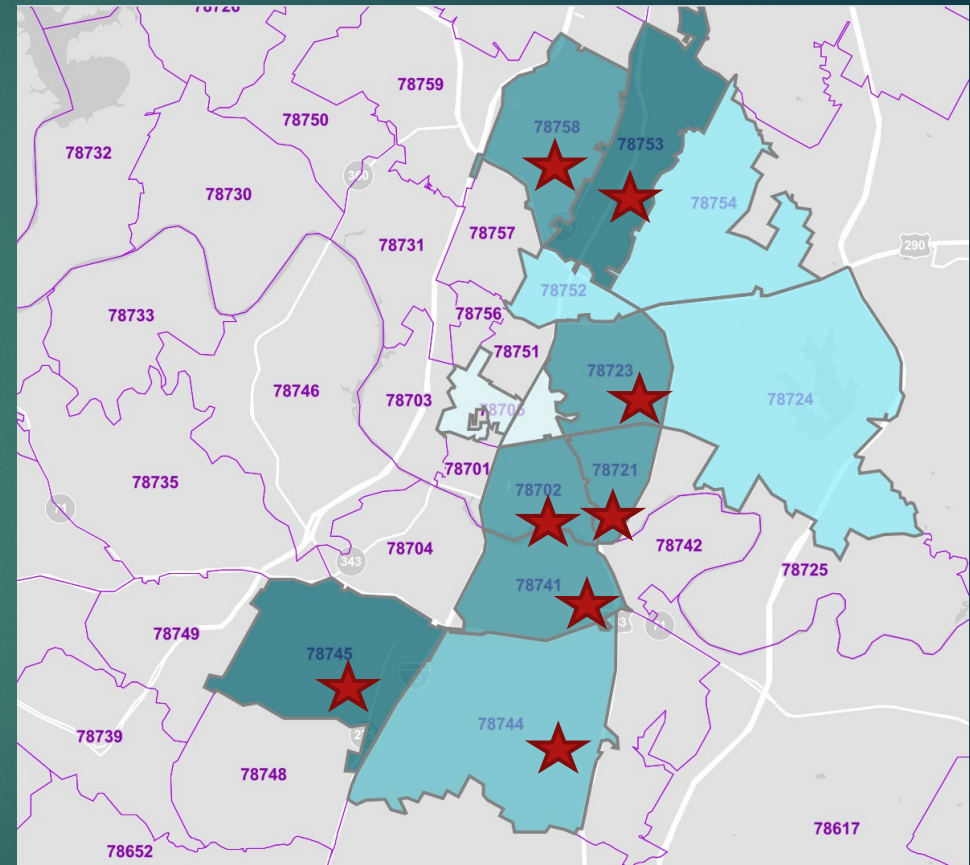
- Is RBJ the ideal location for a City Adult Day Center with the integration of an intergenerational day center project for low-income older adults?
- If not, where is the ideal location for services for low-income older adults?
- What city buildings and older adult services are available in the identified zip code?
- What services are critical to provide to older adults in the identified location?
- Is an intergenerational day center model the best fit for this project?
- How can the project be sustainable?
- Are partners still committed to the project?
- Has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the need?

Methodology

- ▶ Reviewed & summarized demographic data
- ▶ Identified existing assets & mapped results
- ▶ Conducted survey with older adults
- ▶ Met and engaged with older adults at two Foundation Communities sites and a WellMed site
- ▶ Held two focus groups
- ▶ Conducted survey with recreation centers
- ▶ Spoke to community members

Demographics

- ▶ Highest density of older adults living below 200% FPL: **78745, 78702, 78758, 78753, 78741, 78721, 78723, 78744**, 78752, 78724, 78754, 78722, 78705
- ▶ Across all target zip codes:
 - ▶ Gender: 51% female, 49% male
 - ▶ Race: White alone (46%), Black or African American alone (41%), Other (13%)
 - ▶ Ethnicity*: Hispanic, Latino (63%), Not Hispanic, Latino (37%)



Community Assets

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Legend

Austin Senior Resources

Meal Site

Medical

Adult Day Health Care

Rec Center

Neighborhood Center

Senior Center

Library

PBRA Housing (HACA)

Senior-Focused Housing

Foundation Communities

Subsidized Senior HUD Program

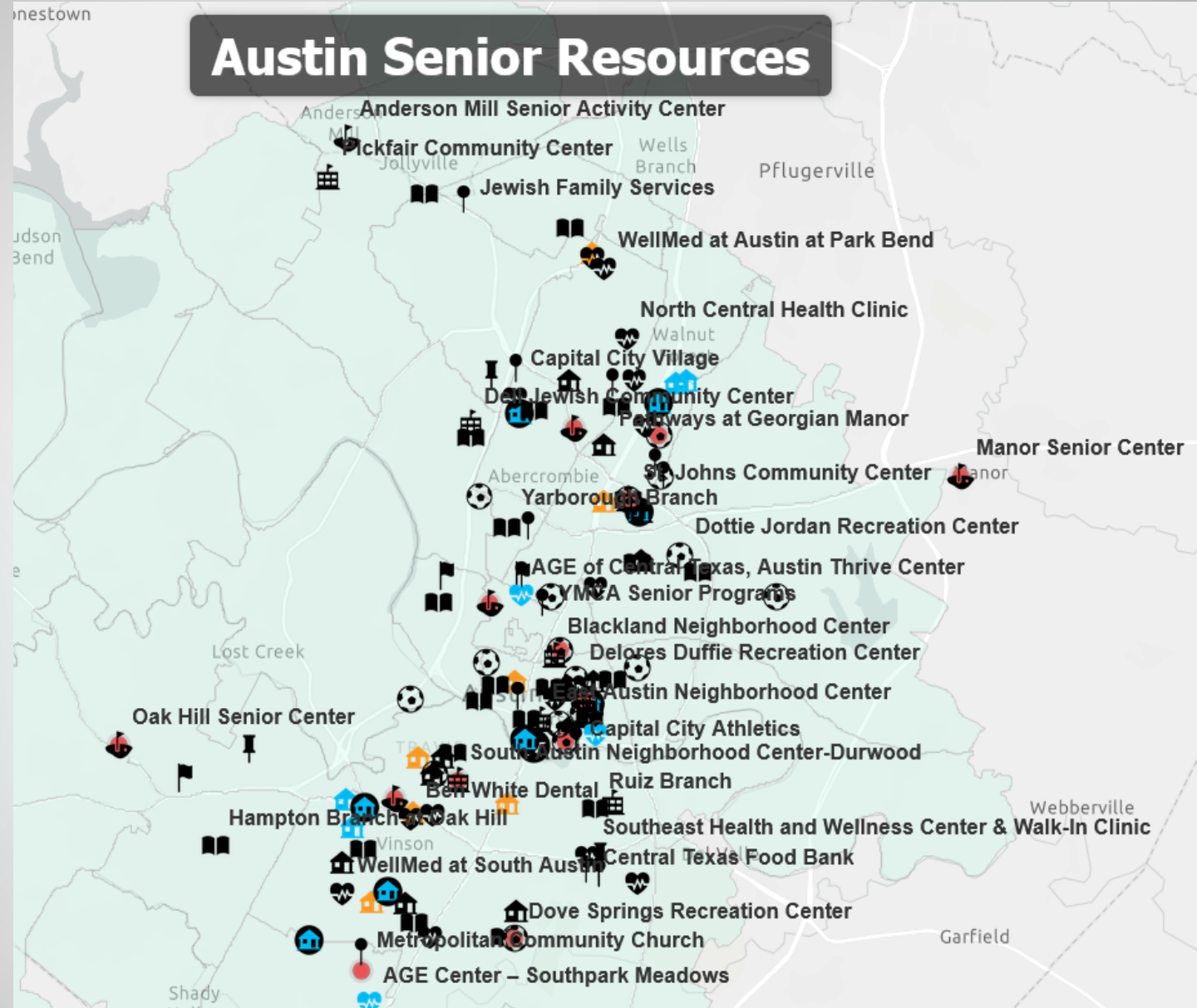
Agency HQ

Agency

Other

Recommended Site

Nash Hernandez Building



Older Adult Survey & Focus Groups

- ▶ 388 surveys were completed
 - Gender: Female (78%), Male (22%)
 - Race/ethnicity: White alone (54%), Black or African American alone (15%), Hispanic or Latino (15%)
 - 196 “low-income,” 96 “low-income” in target zip codes
- ▶ 2 focus groups were completed
 - RBJ Center and George Morales Dove Springs Recreation Center
 - 26 participants
 - Gender: Female (70%), Male (30%)
 - Dove Springs: All spoke Spanish, approximately 50% also spoke English

Key Findings

1. **More interested in peer-to-peer interaction** than child/youth interaction
2. **Interested in:** physical health, fun/social/recreational, education/learning, celebrating holidays, health screening, and listening to live music/concerts.
3. **Barriers to participation:** Transportation, lack of knowledge about existing activities and services, location of the center, health limitations, and other mobility/access-related issues.
4. **There is capacity to increase services** if allocated additional funding.
5. **Although a minority of the sample expressed interest in intergenerational activities, those that were interested appeared to have a passion for interacting with youth.**

Recommendations

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OVERALL:

- 1. Invest in increasing older adult services at existing sites in targeted zip codes.**
 - 2. Assess and invest in the transportation infrastructure to support the needs of older adults.**
- ▶ Increase communication with older adults about available programs using their [preferred communication mechanisms](#)

Responses to Questions

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- ▶ **RBJ:** It is in high target zip code for low-income seniors, 78702 is not the highest zip code for child-care needs. RBJ may be open to discussion about on-site child care center.
- ▶ **IDEAL LOCATION:**
 - ▶ Population density: 78745 has the highest number of seniors 65+ living below 200% of FPIIL (followed by 78753 and 78758) and pre-seniors 55+ living at 200%(followed by 78753 and 78758).
 - ▶ Poverty: Highest zip code for poverty 78745 followed by 78702, 78753 and 78758
 - ▶ Child care desert: 78753 scores highest in all categories for a child care desert
 - ▶ 78745 is the most ideal location for increasing older adult services. AGE is building a center there followed by 78753
- ▶ **INTERGENERATIONAL LOCATION:** 78753 has high number of seniors/pre seniors, high rate of poverty and is considered a [child-care desert](#)

Responses to Questions

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- ▶ **CRITICAL SERVICES:** Invest in [services of most interest](#) to older adults: Field Trips, Games, Physical Activities (exercise, movement) and Dance were mentioned most frequently followed by Technology. Low-income desire for health screenings and basic needs
- ▶ **INTERGENERATIONAL MODEL: Not a day center model but increase programming**
 - Partner with schools and child care centers to create intergenerational opportunities
 - Provide convenient transportation to child-care centers and schools to assess interest then explore intergenerational location.
 - Explore addition of intergenerational activities at senior centers including opportunities for conversations with older children.
- ▶ **SUSTAINABILITY:** Local Foundations have expressed interest in continuing to support older adult services and are looking for opportunities for public/private partnerships
- ▶ **PARTNER COMMITMENT:** Partners are committed to continuing with their commitments to services. They are not location specific

Responses to Questions

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COVID 19: Older adults report feeling isolated and want to socialize with friends

- ▶ However, fear of not knowing who is vaccinated and so afraid to interact with others
- ▶ Some interest in self-care, support groups

Recommendations:

- Communicate all safety protocols in place to older adults
- Create opportunities for peer to peer socializing, ie, coffee meet ups

QUESTIONS

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