

Thrive in Place: A Collaborative Age-Friendly Summit
September 9th, 2025

Time	Session	
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Registration and Mingle	
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Session 1 – Introduction to the Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities	
	Session Description	<p>Presentations and panel discussion with WHO and GNAFCC Affiliates on enabling connections, fostering partnerships and sustaining growth.</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Thiago Herick de Sa, Technical Officer Age-friendly Environments, World Health Organization. <p>Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assoc Prof. Low Lian Leng, Director, Centre for Population Health Research and Implementation (CPHRI), SingHealth. Mr. Dara McGuigan, Regional Programme Manager - West, Age-Friendly Ireland. Dr. Ana Ramovs, Coordinator of Slovenian Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities, Anton Trstenjak Institute of Gerontology and Intergenerational Relations.
		<p>Presentation 1: Assoc Prof. Low Lian Leng, Director, Centre for Population Health Research and Implementation (CPHRI), SingHealth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Along the pillar of Enabling Connections, with a focus on what they are doing to enable connections between age-friendly cities and communities within and beyond their country.
		<p>Presentation 2: Mr. Dara McGuigan, Regional Programme Manager - West, Age-Friendly Ireland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Along the pillar of Fostering Partnerships, with a focus on what they are doing to connect with both existing and emerging programs.
		<p>Presentation 3: Dr. Ana Ramovs, Coordinator of Slovenian Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities, Anton Trstenjak Institute of Gerontology and Intergenerational Relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Along the pillar of Sustaining Growth and Enabling Connections, with a focus on connections between different stakeholders in their networks, including academics, AFCC programs, civil society, and the private sector.
10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Health Break	
10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Session 2 – Highlighting Current Initiatives in the African Context	
	Session Description	<p>Presentation and panel discussion with Q&A.</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof. Jaco Hoffman, Professor of Gerontology, North-West University, South Africa. <p>Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof. Elena Moore, Professor of Sociology, The University of Cape Town. Dr. Natacha Berkowitz, Epidemiologist: Specialised Health City Health, Cape Town Community Services and Health. Ms. Gugulethu Dhlamini (maNdlangamandla), Transformation Chief Directorate (Older Persons Right). Zain Bulbulia, Director, Gauteng Office of The Premier, Policy.
11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch (provided)	
	Description	Extended lunch for table discussions and networking.
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Building Bridges Workshop: Enhancing Community Engagement and Partnership Building	
	Workshop (Session A)	<p>This is an interaction workshop for all participants to learn, share and discuss community engagement strategies and explore effective partnership-building techniques in the context of age-friendly planning. The aim is to equip participants with actionable ideas for fostering collaboration in their own communities and map next steps.</p> <p>Workshop to be moderated by Dr. Kathleen Brasher and collectively run by participant engagement</p>
	Affiliates Meeting (Session B)	<p>This is a focused session for GNAFCC Affiliates in attendance. This is an opportunity for Affiliate updates, knowledge sharing and in-depth discussions.</p> <p>The IFA is exploring technical capacity for virtual engagement.</p>
2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Health Break	
2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Conclusion: Taking Collective Action	
	Description	Reflections on the collective discussions, discuss next steps, and closing remarks.
2:30 p.m.	Close	