Aging-Friendly Communities and Older Immigrants

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Concepts for Healthy Aging

- Continuity
- Compensation
- Connection
- Contribution
- Challenge

“Aging-Friendly” Domains

- Physical infrastructure ("hardware")
  - Built environment
  - Technological innovations
  - “Goods”

- Social infrastructure ("software")
  - “Services”
  - Social capital development
  - Social participation
  - Individual empowerment
Figure 1. Themes Identified by Family Caregivers

- Cultural Norms and Traditions
- Personal and Interpersonal Fulfillment
- Reliance on Informal Support Networks
- Lack of Knowledge of Available Services
- Mistrust of Formal Service providers
- Lack of Culturally-Appropriate Services

- Group Experiences of Adversity and Discrimination
- “Us vs. Them” Perspective
- Cultural Norms in Transition

- Familism
- Immigrant Elders
- Service Barriers
- Group Identity
“A society for all ages is multigenerational. It is not fragmented, with youths, adults and older persons going their separate ways. Rather, it is age-inclusive, with different generations recognizing – and acting upon – their commonality of interest.”

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, October, 1998