

From
the desk
of...

Barbara Hughes Sullivan, Executive Director



Dear Village members,
partners and friends,

Welcome spring! A time of
year when we do spring
cleaning and organizing.
I love listening to the
commercials on the TV

and radio that encourage you to get in
those closets, organize your life, spring
into action! Well, here at Village to Village
Network we are working on our own spring
clean up too!

Last month, you saw the newest category
of membership, Individual Village
Membership, a membership category to
help our all-volunteer and no-dues Villages
stay active and a part of our Village
movement. We also restructured our Hub
and Spoke model to enhance their visibility
on our national map. Village to Village
Network is also hard at work trying to
clean up our Village 101 toolkit and make
our "Village in a box" a little more user
friendly for new and developing Villages.

We've (thank you Travis) put together
a video to help our member Villages do
a little "spring cleaning" on your profile
pages. Many calls to our main office
number are questions on how to add or
remove secondary members or how to
change a primary member, when there
is leadership transition. I hope you take
advantage of this tutorial! **Click the
button below** to watch how to add or
remove secondary members. Keep in mind,
only the primary member on your VtV
Network account can make these changes.

How To Add/Remove Secondary Members

Movement forward with Village to Village
Network? Our mission in 2019 is to
broaden outreach programs to encourage
new communities to utilize the Network
and develop our model for aging in
community. We are working with national
partnerships to help us grow to scale. What
can you do as an individual member of
VtVN? Join our growing number of Villages
to **mentor** new members. Attend regional
meetings and encourage dialogue on the
Village movement. Talk with your local
area agencies on aging, senior centers and
civic associations. Be an advocate for our
movement!

Thanks for all you do! We look forward
to the annual meeting, and it already
looks like we will have great participation,
presentations and keynote speakers!

-Barbara

Don't fall for online scams

We've all heard stories about or maybe we've personally fallen victim to online scams.

Nancy Male of the Franklin County Office on Aging in Columbus, Ohio sent some interesting information about the Federal Trade Commission's takedown of "tech support" scams. The FTC released a report that says people 60 and over were five times more likely to lose money from this particular type of scam.

Click the button below to read more about the FTC's Tech Support Takedown and get tips and information to protect yourself from being scammed.

FTC's Tech Support Takedown

Check out the video of how Donald Holmes of Arizona faced a tech support scam, and what he did about it.



Read below for tips on what you can do if you think someone is trying to scam you.

LEARN MORE: ftc.gov/TechSupportScams

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

➔ If you get a pop-up, call, spam email or any other urgent message about a virus on your computer, **STOP**.

- Don't click on any links or call a phone number.
 - Don't send any money.
 - Don't give anyone control of your computer.
- *Microsoft does not display pop-up warnings and ask you to call a toll-free number about viruses or security problems.*



➔ **Report it** at ftc.gov/complaint. Include the phone number that you were told to call.

➔ Keep **your security software** up to date. Know what it looks like so you can spot a fake.

➔ **Tell someone** about this scam. You might help them spot it and avoid a costly call.



National Village Conference coming together!

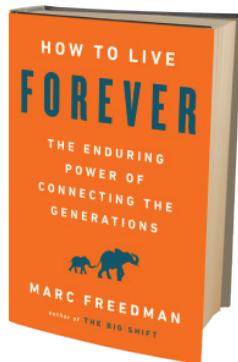
Details are still coming together for the National Village Conference in Chicago, **September 18-20** at the Sheraton Grand Hotel!

ANNOUNCING: Keynote Speaker Marc Freedman!

Marc Freedman, founder and CEO of encore.org and author of **How to Live Forever** is our keynote speaker to kick off the conference!

How to Live Forever tops the *Wall Street Journal's* recent list of Best Books on Aging Well. The *Toronto Star* says it's one of five books "that are a matter of life and death."

First 100 NVC registrants will get a free book! Additional books will be available for purchase at the conference.



BOOK YOUR HOTEL ROOM

A room block at the Sheraton is available for conference attendees.

The special rates are available from September 14-22, in case you want to come to Chicago a little early or stay a little late. You must book by **August 15** to get the special rate.

Click the button below to book your room now!

[Book Sheraton Room Here](#)

BECOME A SPONSOR!

We are still looking for Sponsors and Exhibitors for the conference. If you or someone you know would like to become a sponsor of this year's conference, check out the Sponsor Prospectus!

[Sponsor Prospectus](#)

Fill out and return the Sponsor Agreement form by **June 28, 2019**.

[Sponsor Agreement](#)

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!!!

Registration for the 2019 National Village Conference is now open! Visit the [Conference](#) page at vtvnetwork.org to view pricing and to keep up on the latest details.

[Click Here To Register](#)

BEFORE YOU BOOK YOUR FLIGHT

Village to Village Network is negotiating with Southwest Airlines for discounted airfare. Stay tuned for details before you book your flight.



Villages represented at Seniors Workshop

Villages were well represented on March 26 at a Seniors Workshop organized by Congressman David Trone (D-MD 6) in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The national Village to Village Network, the regional Washington Area Village Exchange (WAVE) and the local Potomac Community Village all attended the forum. More than 250 older persons attended this event with over 25 information tables.

Presentations on various topics were offered, including information on Social Security reform proposals, aging in community, state legislative proposals and identity theft recovery and prevention.

Congressman John Larson (D-CT 1), Chairman of the Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee, outlined his Social Security 2100 Act. This legislation would increase benefits for all current and future Social Security recipients; it would cut taxes for almost 12 million elders; and it would ensure solvency for the Social Security system for the remainder of this century.

The Maryland State Office on Aging Secretary Rona Kramer discussed Communities for Life legislation in the Maryland legislature awaiting approval. This law would provide non-medical services and supports in five pilot communities to help elders remain in their homes. The State of Maryland estimates that for every older person able to remain in their home, the State can save up to \$90,000 in Medicaid costs.

Maryland Attorney General Identity Theft Program Director Jeff Karberg discussed the importance of protecting your personal information in the home and most especially on the phone. Given the prevalence of mobile phones and scammers around the world, he provided tips on prevention and a multi-page checklist on credit and identity theft recoveries.

Village to Village Network board member Eddie Rivas spoke to both Congressmen about visiting their Washington, D.C. offices later in the spring to offer them more information about advancing the Village movement forward, and asking for their consideration of incorporating tax credits for caregivers in Federal legislation.



Congressman John Larson speaks to attendees at a Seniors Workshop in Gaithersburg, Maryland on March 26.

San Diego's Age Well Plan includes Villages

In 2016, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) joined the AARP® network of Age-Friendly Communities, as well as the Dementia Friendly America network to best meet the needs of older adults in San Diego. The Age Well San Diego action plan for building and implementing practices for San Diegans to age in their community was approved by the board of supervisors in May 2018. As a result, five theme track teams were launched in June 2018: Health & Community Support; Housing; Transportation; Dementia-Friendly and Social Participation. Each team is comprised of stakeholders from the community as well as county personnel.

VtV Network board member Yasmin Shah, who is also Founder and CEO of VillageCore, a Village currently in development, serves as co-chair of the Health & Community track. A key goal of that track is to **"encourage the development of village-like community support systems."** The first two key action steps for the goal have already been accomplished:

- ▶ Assemble or create educational materials about Villages and co-ops.
- ▶ Educate various communities/ stakeholders.



Attendees of San Diego workshops in mid-March focused on launching a Village and organizational partnerships.



VtV Network Board Member Yasmin Shah speaks about the importance of Villages at a symposium in San Diego.

A **"Village Symposium"** in January 2019 was attended by 150 stakeholders including: government officials; community based organizations; healthcare; aging technology; seniors and caregivers. Kim Gallo, Director of the Area Agency on Aging, opened the Symposium, sharing the commitment to success of the Age Well Action Plan. The presentation was followed by Christina Patch, the program manager for Age Well Action Plan, who emphasized the **importance of Villages** in achieving the overall objectives of the plan.

Shah then presented **educational material about Villages**. She was accompanied by her co-chair and AARP Executive Council Member Joe Garbanzos who addressed the various types of community support structures and AARP's view on Villages, as well as **AARP's relationship with VtV Network**.

Building on the content of the Symposium, follow-up workshops in mid-March focused on **launching a Village and organizational partnerships with Villages**. Almost 80 people attended the two workshops. Attendees brainstormed potential zip-codes that may be prime for Villages as well as organizations that would be interested in partnerships.

Village Anniversaries!

I'On at Home - Mount Pleasant, SC - 2 years

Monte Sano Village - Huntsville, AL - 3 years

Neighborhood Network - York, ME - 3 years

Neighbors 4 Neighbors - Palm Desert, CA - 8 years

Sharing Active Independent Lives (SAIL) - Madison, WI - 14 years

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Sharing Active Independent Lives is 14 this month!

As a charter member of the Village to Village Network, we are proud to be one of the pioneers in the Village Movement and we very much appreciate the valuable information, advice, discoveries, and friendships that are shared among the Village Network members. As a Village, we strive to support independence through connections here in the Madison, Wisconsin area.



Please Support Village to Village Network

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