



Senior Access Points

Connecting Older Adults to Community Resources
to Support Aging Well



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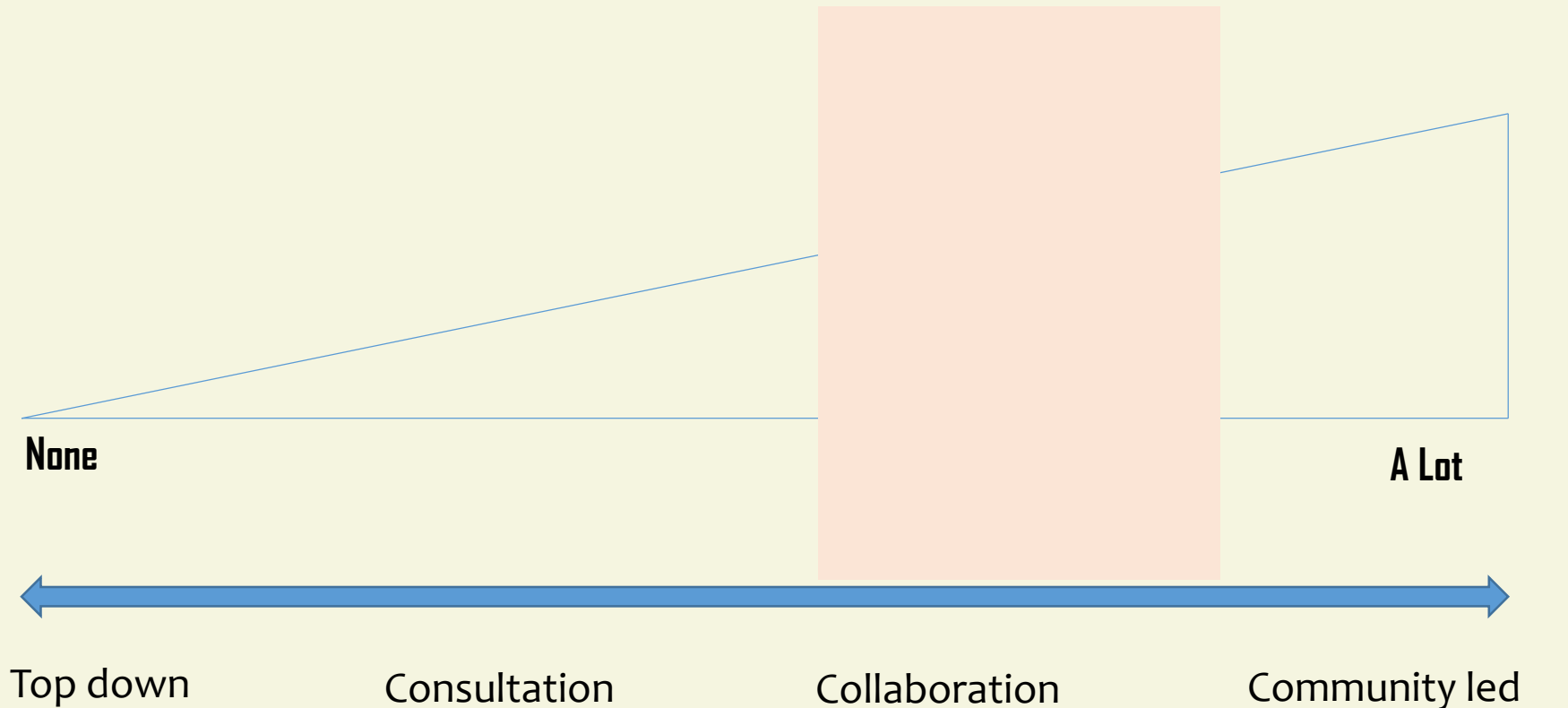


Project Background



- Older adults and their family members **do not know where to turn** when a crisis arises:
 - What barriers exist?
- Most people **do not plan ahead** for aging.
 - What behaviors drive resource seeking?
- Many aging-related community services are available but residents **need help finding them**.
 - What can we learn from testing local interventions?

Continuum of Community Engagement



(Adapted from Winer and Ray 2000)



Community Survey

January – June 2017

N= 271 residents

	Top Reasons for Seeking Resources	%	#
#1	Declining Health Issues	39%	69
#2	Caregiver Resources & Supports	37%	65
#3	Home Care Services	32%	56
#4	Forgetfulness / Dementia	31%	55
#5	Housing	28%	50

	Top Places People Looked	%	#
#1	Office on Aging	47%	77
#2	Doctor's Office	31%	50
#3	Online Search	31%	50

	Where People Think They Would Look	%	#
#1	Office on Aging	62%	141
#2	Online Search	56%	127
#3	Senior Center or Club	38%	86

Community Expert Input: Barriers to Resource Access

- **Personal Factors**

- Not knowing/admitting there is a need
- Not wanting to lose independence
- Not being aware that there *are* resources
- Not familiar with technology
- Lack of planning ahead

- **Family Factors**

- Family out of town, unavailable, unfamiliar with local resources

- **System Factors**

- System is confusing, overwhelming
- Language/cultural barriers



Senior Access Points Website

The screenshot shows the website for Senior Access Points of Larimer County. The browser address bar displays senioraccesslarimer.colostate.edu. The header includes the Colorado State University logo and the text "SENIOR ACCESS POINTS OF LARIMER COUNTY". Below the header is a navigation menu with links: Home, Get Started, Local Resources, My Community (highlighted), Stories, Get Involved, About Us, and Need help?. The main content area features a large image of an elderly couple sitting on a swing set in a park. Overlaid on the image is a text box for the "Aspen Club" which states: "Provides health education, screenings, hospital discounts, social opportunities, and events for adults age 50-plus in northern Colorado." To the right of the image, there is a search bar with a "Search" button and a green button labeled "Recursos en Español". Above the search bar are three small triangles (▲▲▲) and a font size adjustment icon.

Resource Categories

- Health & Medical
- Home Care & Services
- Dementia & Memory
- Legal & Financial
- Housing
- Depression & Loneliness
- Care for the Caregiver
- LC Office on Aging
- Transportation

www.larimerseniors.org



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Senior Access Points Outreach



SENIOR ACCESS POINTS
OF LARIMER COUNTY

One Contact. Many Resources.

Services, programs, and
information for older adults.

LarimerSeniors.org

970.498.7740

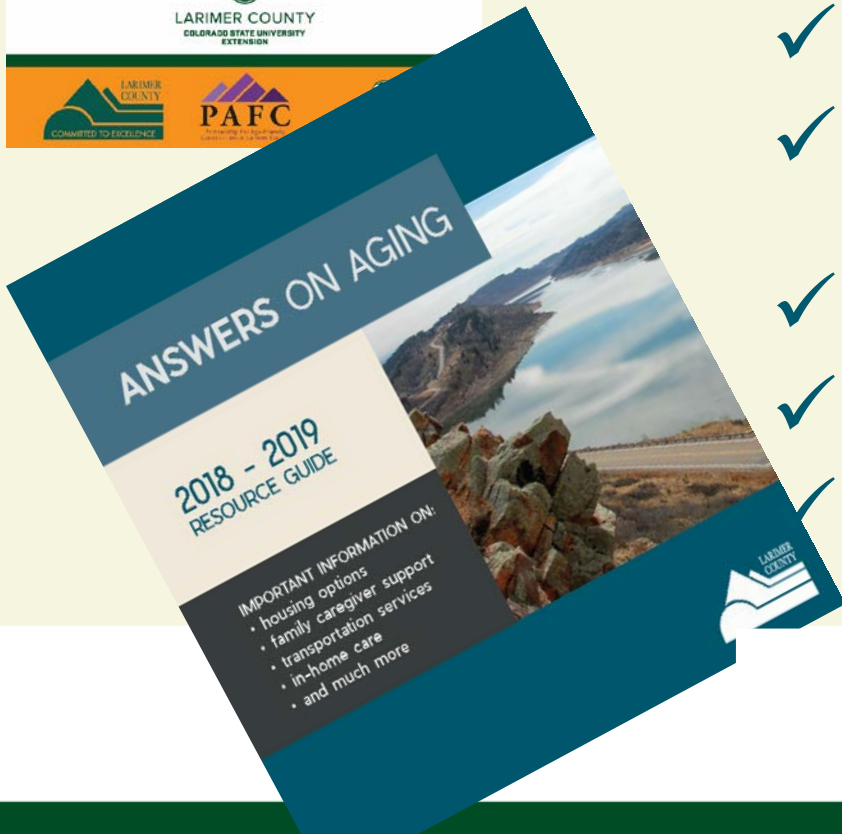
get connected to Larimer County Office on Aging



LARIMER COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Between Jan. 2018 – Sep. 2019:

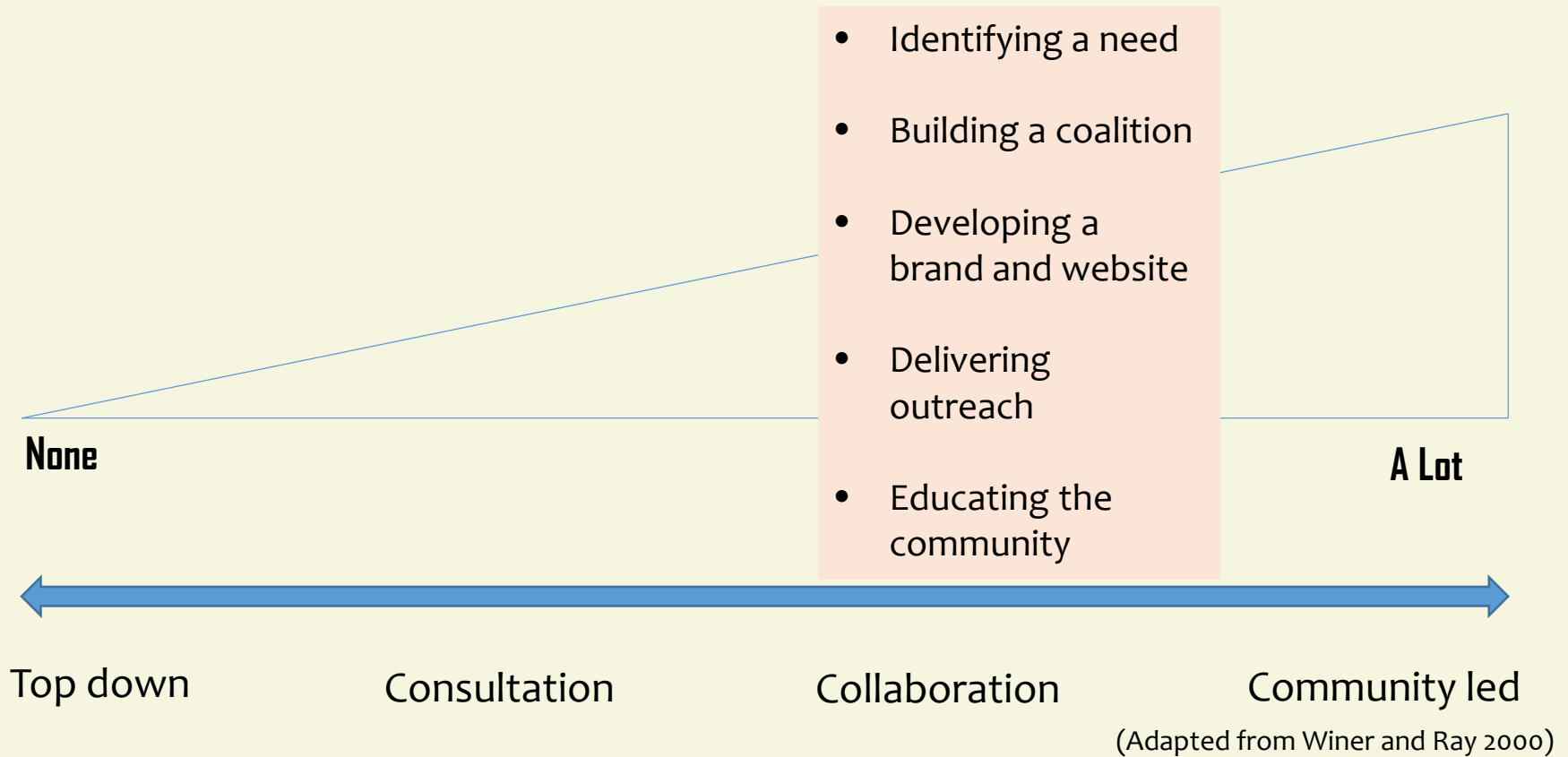
- ✓ 19,384 SAP cards & magnets distributed
- ✓ 66 presentations given
- ✓ to 1,436 attendees
- ✓ 58 medical outpatient sites equipped to provide outreach materials
- ✓ 26 Ambassador Volunteers trained
- ✓ 312 New website visitors per month
- ✓ 213 New calls to the Office on Aging



How Did All of This Happen?



Continuum of Community Engagement



Power in Partnership



SENIOR ACCESS POINTS
OF LARIMER COUNTY

Outreach & Education



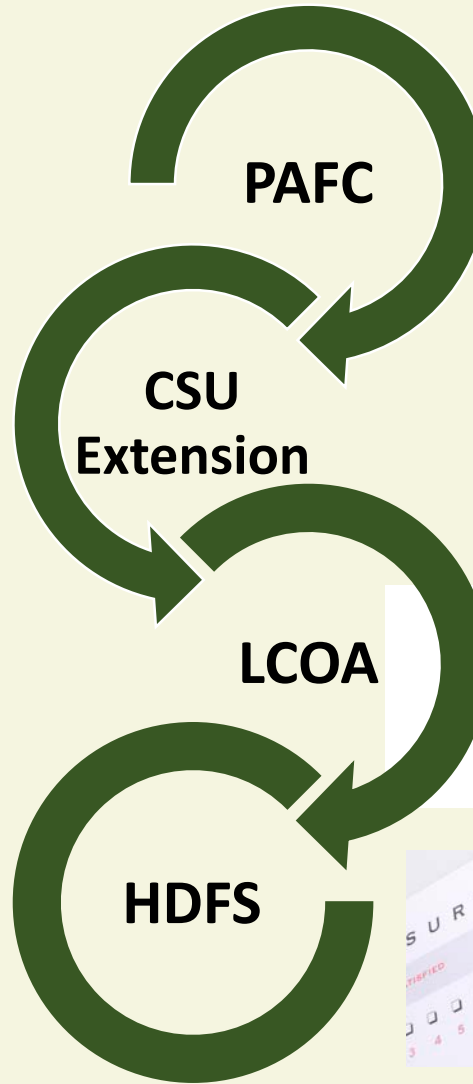
Building
Relationships



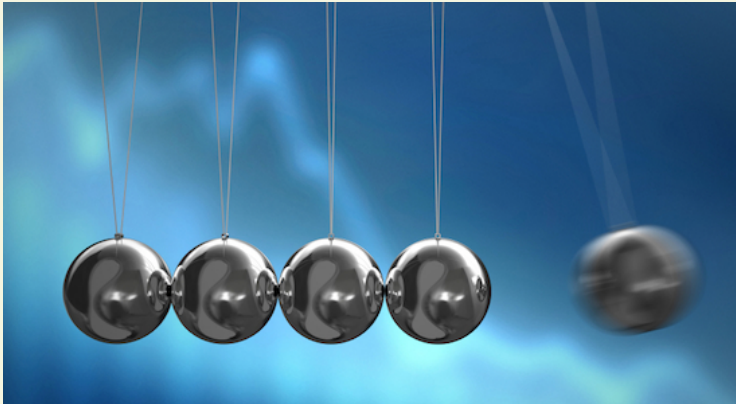
Training Volunteer
Ambassadors



Research, Program
Evaluation & Grant
Writing



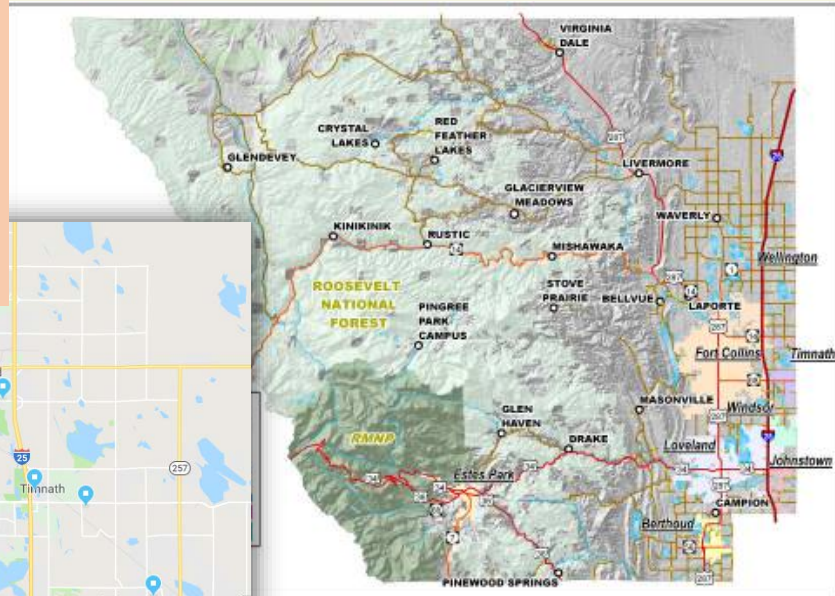
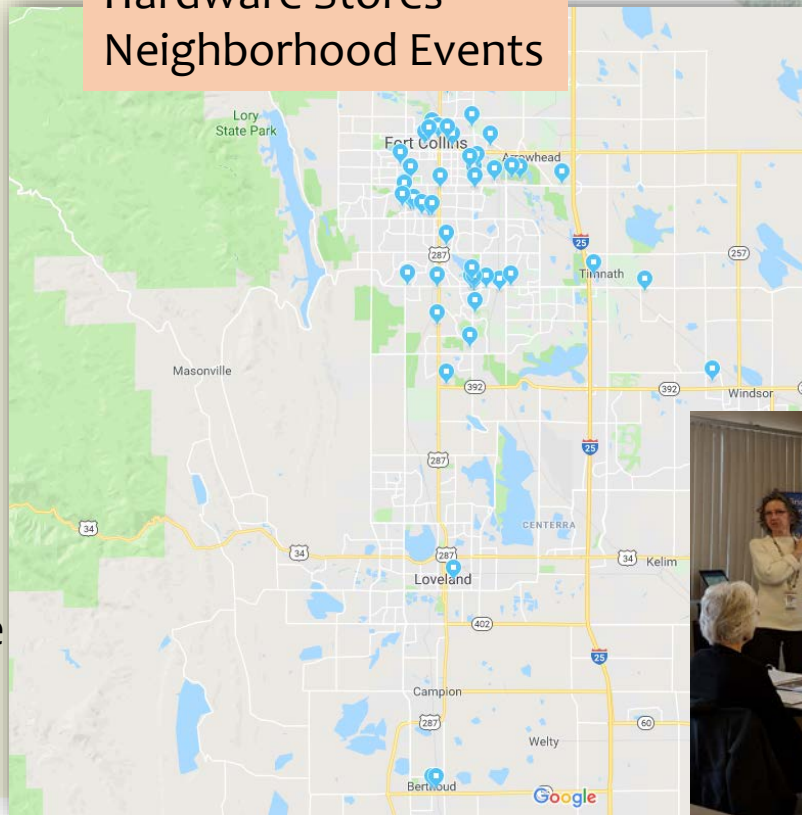
Momentum through Seed Money



Relying on Volunteer Ambassadors

Hair salons
Chiropractors
Eye Centers
Assisted Living Centers
Food Bank
Financial planners
Book clubs
Faith communities
Medical centers
Independent Living
Libraries
Home Health Agencies
Social workers
Health clubs
Chamber of Commerce
Rotary Clubs
Pharmacies
Rehab Centers
Volunteers of America

Fire Stations
Pancake Breakfasts
Lyons Clubs
Hardware Stores
Neighborhood Events



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EXTENSION

Connections for Students



SENIOR ACCESS POINTS
OF LARIMER COUNTY





SENIOR ACCESS POINTS
OF LARIMER COUNTY

The Big Picture:

Engaging Older Adults as Partners in Community Change



- Acknowledging **older adults as key partners for enacting change** helps communities to thrive
- **Opportunities to participate in meaningful work** are directly connected to well-being and healthy aging
- Societies with an active and engaged older adult population have **lower rates of ageism**



We are Grateful to Our Partners!

Academic

- Colorado State University (CSU) Extension
- CSU Department of Human Development & Family Studies (HDFS)
- Student Assistant & Interns

Community Partners

- Partnership for Age-Friendly Communities of Larimer County (PAFC)
- Larimer County Office on Aging (LCOA)
- Our Volunteer Ambassadors

Funders

- NextFifty Initiative
- AARP Colorado
- Colorado State University Extension/HDFS



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Contact Us!

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