

Brief overview of how to Start an Aging in Place Group

- Get together a few people passionate about staying in their own homes and are interested in starting an AIP group; try to find those who are enthusiastic about the concept, have time to share and with whom you would like to work.
- If living in Westchester County, New York, contact the Center for Aging in Place to answer any questions, provide support and work with you in developing your group.
- Increase the core number of people involved in an effort to gain volunteers for a start-up committee: ask others you know if they would like to participate; hold community meetings to find other interested people, distribute flyers, etc.
- Look at the Village to Village Map (https://www.vtvnetwork.org/content.aspx?page_id=1905&club_id=691012) to find existing Villages (Groups) across the country. Look at their websites to become more familiar with the concept, see how they are organized and what services and programs they provide.
- Conduct a survey and/or organize a series of focus groups with various segments of the community, i.e., older adults, children of older adults, social service agencies, businesses, government officials, etc.
- Assess your community: research the demographic of your area; determine the resources available; talk with your social service and local government agencies to find out what they do and what they see are the unmet needs, and, in the process, to introduce them to the concept of Aging in Place.
- Begin to answer questions about the boundaries of the area you want to include, what services and programs you want to provide, what governance structure you will use, what do you want to call your organization.
- Begin the process of incorporating as a not-for-profit organization.

*PLEASE NOTE – there are many resources to guide you along the way: Village to Village Network; The Center for Aging in Place if you live in Westchester County; most existing Aging in Place Organizations that are generous with their counsel.