

BACKGROUND

- Beacon Communities is a real estate company that invests in affordable housing with multiple apartments in the Pittsburgh area, including **The Carina** and **Letsche School** apartments.
 - Newly acquired buildings needing establishment of programming.
- A sense of community has been associated with increased wellbeing, feelings of safety, and community participation (Francis et al., 2012).
- It is critical to address all 8 dimensions of wellness (DoW) for health (Stoewen, 2017).
- A clear programming framework is needed to engage residents, build connections, and strengthen stakeholder engagement.

OBJECTIVES

- Objective 1:** Understand the methods of stakeholder engagement when developing community programming.
- Objective 2:** Determine how to synthesize site and population information to create a sustainable framework.

STAKEHOLDERS

- Resident Services Coordinator (RSC)
- Residents - children, adults, and older adults
- Community Partners

METHODS

Meet and Greets

- Hosted community events to engage residents and introduce ourselves
- Collected surveys on program interests (categories linked to 8 DoW)



Program Development

- Compiled data from meet and greet surveys
- Created program calendar for each month



Program Implementation

- Hosted weekly events at each site
- Residents filled out satisfaction survey after each event

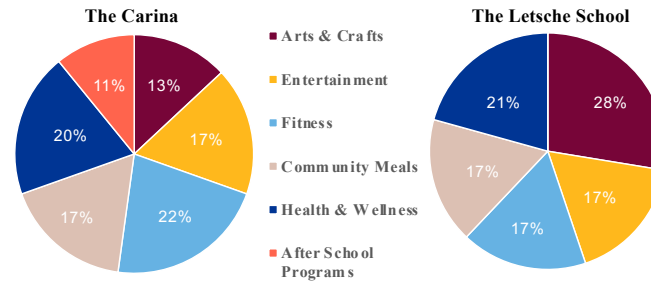


Framework Development

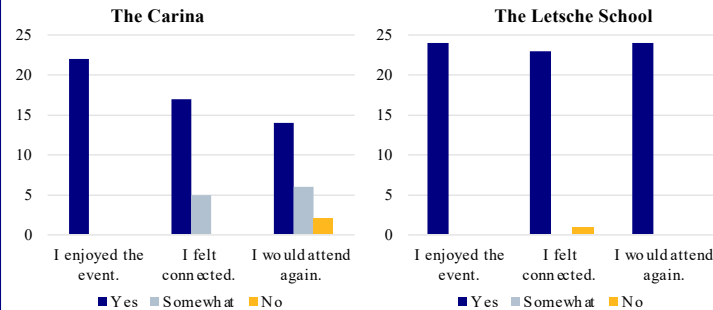
- Examined post surveys to determine resident satisfaction
- Created framework to outline programming based on resident feedback surveys for site mentor to guide future programming

RESULTS

Meet & Greet Surveys



Satisfaction Surveys



The most popular events at the Carina were the **after-school events** for children (avg. attendance = 11 children). The adult events had little to no attendance.



The most popular events at the Letsche were the **entertainment** events. There was a consistent group of older adults who came to our events (avg. attendance = 5).

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

We successfully increased stakeholder engagement by incorporating resident feedback to shape programming and framework. We increased attendance over time as our events offered opportunities for community participation and connection. We consistently received positive feedback regarding our events, with residents expressing excitement for future programs.

Our **sustainability plan** includes the development of a framework and connections with 4 community partners to supplement programming: The **framework** will guide our site mentor in future programs.

- Results of our meet and greet surveys, detailing most popular options and times for events
- Descriptions of each event held with instructions for easy replication, including what 8 DoW were met
- Attendance of each event
- Community partners and the programming they offer, along with contact information and instructions on setting up programs

Community partners include:

- Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – in person or virtual story time
- Wesley Family Services – Medicare 101, parent support classes
- AgeWell – home health information sessions, home safety classes
- Pittsburgh Zoo – zoo mobile program

Limitations:

- Low numbers in attendance, especially at the Carina adult events
- Limited staffing at each site that limits the number of events that can be held monthly

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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