




Community Impact



Framing the Issues
Aging with Honor



Snap shot of the community

- Erie County has experienced overall population loss, with Buffalo leading the trend.
- Population loss for residents between 18 – 44, while increasing for those over 65.
- Predicted population growth for those age 85 at over 10% annually.

Dependency Ratio



- Portion of the population deemed either too young or too old to work.
- Indicates what portion of the population needs to be cared for and supported by others.
- Erie County ranks 56th out of 236 counties with a score of 62.7 – this will continue to climb.



Education

- Erie County's overall educational attainment is increasing.
- Currently 31% County and 28% of City residents have a high school diploma or GED.
- Drop out rates in the County have increased over past 5 years.



Official Measure of Poverty

- The Official poverty threshold is \$9,800.00 for an individual.
- For the general population, rates were 12.2% for the County and 26.6% for Buffalo in 2000.
- For those age 65 and older the rate was 7.8% in Erie County and 14% in Buffalo.
- The mean Social Security Income in Erie County was \$13,977.00

Income and Poverty

- Erie County's median income was \$38,567 while Buffalo's was \$24,536 (2000).
- In 2000, 30.9% of those between age 65 – 74 had an income between \$0 – \$19,999, this percent rises to 45.5% for those 75+.
- Buffalo ranks as one of the nation's most-troubled cities experiencing great Urban Hardship based on:
 - Unemployment
 - Dependency Ratio
 - Educational attainment
 - Income Levels
 - Crowded Housing
 - Poverty



Self Sufficiency Standard

- Calculated based upon geographic location with consideration for costs associated with working
- Includes: housing, child care, transportation, health care and food costs.
- Based on work of Dr. Diana Pearce

Self Sufficiency Standard

	One adult, 1 Pre-schooler	One adult
Monthly Costs	Cost	Cost
Housing	\$510.00	\$423.00
Child Care	\$563.00	\$0.00
Food	\$249.00	\$164.00
Transportation	\$190.00	\$185.00
Health Care	\$196.00	\$83.00
Misc	\$171.00	\$86.00
Taxes	\$324.00	\$184.00
EITC	-\$40.00	\$0.00
Child Care Tax Credit	-\$44.00	\$0.00
Child Tax Credit	-\$42.00	\$0.00
Self Sufficiency Wage Monthly / Hourly Yearly equivalent	\$2,078.00 / \$11.81 \$24,936.00	\$1,125.00/ \$6.39 per adult \$13,500.00

Well-Being for the Aging Population



The aging population is more ethnically and racially diverse than before and better educated.

- It is expected that the number of those age 65 and older living alone will decline.
- More males than females age 65 and older are married: 72% and 42% respectively.

Economics of Aging



- More elderly live in the low income bracket (100-199%) than in ANY other bracket.
- The median income of white householders over age 65 is increasing while it is decreasing for non-white householders.
- Housing costs are increasing and will continue to consume a greater proportion of spending.

Health Status, Risks, and Care

- Alzheimers outpaces diabetes, pneumonia and the flu as the #1 cause of death for those age 65 and older.
- Home health care visits are decreasing while SNF and hospital stays are increasing for Medicare enrolees age 65 and older.
- Prescription drug costs have more than tripled over the past 10 years. In 2002, those age 65 and older spent an average of \$740.00 as compared with \$542.00 in 1992.

Bringing it together



- Services must be a responsive to changing community profile: i.e. older, more frail, more diverse population.
- Community based interventions must recognize limitations those age 65 and older have relative to personal mobility and transportation
- In light of increasing Dependency Ratio, the community must prioritize to identify and serve those most in need.