Aging and Disability Services
COVID Social Connectivity Initiative
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Community Technology Advisory Board
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Outline

- Area Agency on Aging
- Aging and Disability Services
- COVID Social Connectivity Initiative
- Current status and next steps
AAA’s Across the Nation

- Nationally established in the 1973 Older Americans Act
- “On the ground” organizations charged with helping vulnerable older adults live with independence and dignity within their communities.

AAAs play a key role in planning, developing, coordinating, and delivering a wide range of long-term services and supports.
The Local Aging Network

• AAA is granted the ability to adapt to its local service area
• AAAs contract with local service providers to deliver many direct services
• Some AAAs are direct providers of services, such as case management
• May leverage other state or local dollars to offer additional programs
ADS by the Numbers

- 2021 Budget: $82.6 million
- 150 contracts with 70 community provider agencies to provide services throughout King County
- 209 ADS Staff
  - 177 Case Management Program
  - 21 Contracts
  - 9 Planning
  - 7 Division Administration
- Served over 51,000 individuals in King County in 2020 (unduplicated)
Where can I Find Information?

COMMUNITY LIVING CONNECTIONS
Seattle & King County

communitylivingconnections.org
1-844-348-5464
COVID Social Connectivity Initiative

- Planning staff shifted 100% to emergency response in the early days of 2020.
- Response areas were food, health services/access, and vaccine access (in 2021)
- Quickly realized that promoting social connectivity was also needed.
“All of the Above Strategy” to social connectivity

- Low tech
- Mid tech
- High tech

Many strategies required digital equity!
Specific technology strategies

- Digital Skills Coaches
- Tablet and WiFi Distribution
- Other devices – Portal and VidStream
- Acquaint
- “Furry Friends”
- Close to Home
Current status and next steps

- Wrapping up COVID projects
- Determine next steps for Digital Skills Coaches (partnering to increase the reach)
- Contributing to Internet for all Seattle and other Digital Equity initiatives
Contact Information

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