Arlington Commission on Aging Assistive Technology Projects

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Presentation at “From Assistive Technology to Smart Homes and Senior Housing,”
GMU, September 19, 2017
Two Assistive Technology Projects, Arlington Commission on Aging

I. Suitcase Project

I. Short Video- Universal Design: Homes For All Ages
I. Suitcase Project

- A project in which we make community presentations about assistive technology, display common examples, and show how they may be used

- Designed by multiple collaborators in Aging and Disability Communities

- Funded by a grant from Alliance for Arlington Senior Programs

- The hour-long presentation includes an educational slide show and a hands-on session
Assistive Technology Definition Used in Suitcase Presentation

- Assistive Technology (abbreviated AT) includes:
  - Anything that helps a person continue to participate in daily activities.
  - Any item, piece of equipment, or product that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the function of individuals.
“Show and Tell” Portion of Presentation

1. Display 35 assistive technology devices (that are carried in suitcases)

1. Participants try out devices

1. Examples of the devices are aids for:

   ● Hearing
   ● Vision
   ● Mobility
   ● Eating/Food Prep
   ● Dressing

   ● Medication Management
   ● Writing
   ● Driving
   ● Fall Prevention
Participant Benefits

- Raised awareness that simple devices can help make people’s lives easier and help them to remain independent and safe in their own homes

- Given a list of all of the devices displayed, where they were purchased and the purchase price
II. Video - Universal Design: Homes For All Ages (6 minutes in length)

- Collaborative project between the Housing and Supportive Services Committee, Arlington Commission on Aging and two Yorktown seniors (Sarah Strunk and Caidy Enroth) who produced the video

- The idea for the video evolved from discussions with realtors

- Video was an opportunity to teach about basics of universal design concepts

- Video was completed in June 2017
Description of Video

The six minute video intersperses lively interviews with a certified aging in place specialist, a design build contractor, a homeowner, and a realtor with displays of universal design features in the entrance, kitchen, bathroom, and other living spaces. The video is aimed at the public, homeowners and homebuyers, realtors, home building and architects-anyone interested in creating or modifying a home environment in which all people can live safely and independently.
Where to See “Universal Design: Homes For All Ages” Video

YouTube link, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4sRwslED6o

Vimeo link (you can download the video from this site), https://vimeo.com/221343165

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonCommissionOnAging