



Age-Friendly Housing Tip Sheet

Age-friendly housing is affordable, accessible, connected and safe. Everyone deserves housing options that meet our changing needs and preferences.

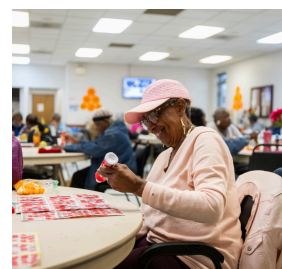
Why It Matters

- Nearly 9 in 10 people ages 50+ want to stay in their current homes as they age. Only 2.5% of older Americans live in group settings, like nursing homes.
- 56% of our county's residents ages 75+ live alone, whether by choice or by circumstance.
- The median cost for a private room in a nursing home in Allegheny County is \$131,400 per year, making this option inaccessible to many.
- About 70% of Allegheny County homeowners ages 65+ live in homes built before 1970, compared to 40% nationwide. Only 6% live in homes built since 2000.
- Among the nation's 25 largest metropolitan areas, Pittsburgh tops the list for housing inadequacy.
- About 79% of our county's homes have stairs required to enter, and 61% are three or more stories. Nearly a third of residents ages 75+ report difficulty with stairs, and over half are afraid of falling on stairs.
- Almost 1 in 3 Black residents rate their neighborhood as "fair" or "poor" for older people.
- Rates of living alone are higher for older adults who are Black (62%) and those with incomes under \$25,000 (75%).
- Communities of color are less likely to have access to amenities that support aging in place.

Most people
want to live at
home—and do.

Our housing stock
is older. And
challenging.

Disparities run
deep between
our neighbors.



Where did we source this information?

This tip sheet draws on data and information from University of Pittsburgh's University Center for Social & Urban Research, AARP Livable Communities's HomeFit Guide, American Society on Aging's Generations Journal, the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University, Genworth, and the U.S. Census Bureau.

Who is Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh?

Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh is dedicated to making our region more inclusive and respectful of all ages. We bring generations together to reimagine how our communities are built, and to advance equity through advocacy, education and innovation.

What Age-Friendly Progress Looks Like

In our homes

- At least one entrance to the home has zero steps to enter. Staircases are wide, well-maintained and adaptable for modifications like railings or chair lifts.
- Doorways provide at least 32 inches of passing space.
- A bathroom is on the main living floor.
- Sturdy grab bars (aluminum or stainless steel) are installed near showers, tubs and comfort height toilets.
- Steps and floors—especially in the bathroom—have non-slip mats.
- Ample lighting is installed, particularly outside and in bedroom and bathroom areas.
- Affordable, reliable internet, smart home tech and devices—plus tech support—make life easier.

In our communities

- Many different housing options—apartments and single-family homes, as well as townhouses, duplexes, cottages, co-housing and long-term care communities—and price points exist in every neighborhood.
- Housing costs are no more than 30% of a person's monthly income.
- Grocery stores and other essentials are nearby, as well as community assets like parks and libraries, so it is easy to engage.
- Sidewalks are well-paved, at least three feet wide and have curb cuts.
- In higher density areas, transit stops with seating, shelter and clear signage are less than a half mile away.
- Accessible parking options are available close to home.

Get Involved

Want to be
an age-friendly
champion?
Get in touch!

Visit agefriendlypgph.org to:

- Sign up for our newsletter
- Download Photo Bank images
- Update your stats and facts at our Learning Hub
- Schedule a focus group or speaker

Not sure where to start?

Email info@agefriendlypgph.org or call 412-532-7144 and we'll take it from there.

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