

Talking Points

Village Movement in the Northern Columbia County Area

Public Meeting:

Wednesday, September 20, 10-noon, North Chatham Free Library

What is the Village Movement?

- The principal purpose of the Village Movement is to provide access to services that enable seniors to remain at home as long as possible.
- A group forms a non-profit membership organization to support this goal.
- A village can range from a few blocks to a rural area with much wider radius.
- Members determine which services it will offer. Offerings shared by all members may include: home-safety modifications, transportation, meal delivery, dog walking, technology training and support, health and wellness programs, social activities, and the services of visiting nurses and care managers.
- Most villages hire an administrator, either part-time or full-time, who can connect members with services as needed, as well as coordinate village-wide programs and activities.
- Many villages recruit and rely on local volunteers to help deliver services to its members as well.
- This model is established nationally, including a local one in Rhinebeck.

What are the goals for the meeting?

The goals of this meeting are to determine if there is sufficient interest in the concept, select a general geographic target area and to identify members of a working steering committee.

The agenda is:

- **Review of the Village Movement Concept**
- **Determine interests, share preferences and perceived barriers**
- **Share common costs and timelines based on other models**
- **Discuss possible geographic target areas: one or several towns, etc.**
- **Discuss what is known about rural models**
- **Share common commitments of members based on other models**
- **Identify members who are willing to devote time to serve on a steering committee**

Pre-registration is required because space is limited: Email Karen McGraw to reserve. (mcgrawkrn@yahoo.com.)

