Takeaways and Opportunities

Takeaways

• Need more older adult input
  o Participants valued the user panel
    ▪ Can always incorporate greater diversity in this type of session
  o Reaching out and soliciting the input of users (older adults) ahead of time would help guide the innovations discussion
    ▪ Idea from survey feedback: Bookend roundtable with user panels. Start event with user panel to better inform brainstorming and then present solutions at the end
  o Draw in more older adults throughout the event; as one participant’s intro slide said: “design with us, not for us”

• Negative stigma around aging is persistent
  o Most pessimism around different innovations throughout the conference mapped to some form of this fundamental barrier (e.g., older adults don’t want to admit they need help, young people don’t want to admit they will get old)
  o Cultural change is needed among young and old.
  o Demographic analyses might be helpful
  o Storytelling could bring “alive” this issue
  o Poignant intro slide by attendee asking us to reconceive senior identity

• Tremendous appetite to explore these issues
  o We need to continue the dialogue and expand policy, private sector and payer participants in this conversation
  o Survey feedback: participants wanted more time to discuss issues more in-depth; requesting reading materials ahead of time; eager to keep the group together and the conversation going
    ▪ LinkedIn group - Easy way to connect individuals from a networking standpoint to continue this conversation and forge partnerships
    ▪ Convene additional roundtables
    ▪ Convene design thinking sessions at different regional locations
    ▪ Create a central website for data exchange, dialogue, etc.

• Disruptive ideas are all around us
  o We need to analyze and consider these seriously
  o “Less is more” is an interesting theme to think about
• **Researchers can help ground practitioners**
  - Researchers could provide useful advice to innovators on how to evaluate programs, provide best practices for training workers, etc.
  - In breakout groups, consultants/practitioners creating business models leaned on researchers for necessary context and data

**Opportunities**

• **Future research**
  - Better understanding of the current living situations of older adults
    - What is the scale of this challenge?
    - How do we leverage existing housing stock?
    - Which communities have been successful?
  - Identify/define/describe best practices in services and housing
    - Resource library on services and housing. SCL and Urban could be great partners to aggregate existing resources into one place
  - Ageism – Research projects unpacking an issue we don’t typically talk about
  - Sharing economy
    - The “Sharing Economy” presents a particular opportunity for both older workers and support for people at home. What are the implications? What are the related policy questions?

• **Awareness is key – need to get services and housing front and center**
  - Aging with Attitude TV show – pilot could be an option
    - One attendee considering moving forward; possible opportunity to piggyback off of his efforts and involve interested parties

• **Model age-friendly zoning code**
  - Urban published a blog on the age-friendly model code
  - Need to consider how to get the community to “own” the need for affordable senior housing

• **BPC Housing Task Force**
  - Will be looking for feedback on 2016 recommendations and could solicit input through a webinar with the roundtable participants

• **Design challenge**
  - Use this group to help identify SCL’s design challenge next year

• **New partnerships are needed to make progress in housing and services**
  - What are the partnerships we haven’t even dreamed of?
  - What are the key partnerships we need to build on?
  - Convenings could play a key role here