

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY STUDY OF METRO DENVER / BOULDER 2007

R&D “Boomers” Task Force, Meeting: June 12, 2007

Summary of Preliminary Ideas from R&D Team Members

As much as possible, the preliminary ideas noted by R&D Team members have been classified into categories, but we all realize that there is some overlap — and hopefully some integration of themes can emerge during the process.: These are 99% “verbatim” transcriptions.

Boomer Jewish Engagement & Educational Initiatives

1. Collaboration of CAJE and the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School so that Boomers could take classes at reduced rates ...or find an individual to fund the Melton program.
2. Jewish Elder hostel — Jewish trips to foreign countries with educational components.
3. Community-wide Concierge service (accessible through email, phone and visits) which would connect people to resources and programs.
 - This is not a resource or referral function, but a “personal trainer” model to intake, understand and guide individuals over a period of time, and housed in a destination spot with Starbucks and books, magazines, and technological services.
4. “Fund for the Jewish Future” to level the playing field for all Boomers — based on financial need — in the areas of health and safety net, and Jewish education for themselves , their kids, and their grandkids.
5. How to get Boomers to identify as Jewish Boomers.
6. Spirituality vs. Organized Religion

Retirement, Employment, Volunteerism

7. Prepare Boomers for retirement or creative employment.
8. Fiscal and physical health of low-income Boomers.
9. Volunteer opportunities for Boomers who want to get engaged or remain engaged in being productive.

Classes - Programs

Care Systems

10. Create a nationwide organized referral/respite system for caregivers.
11. Ways to share information about caring for elderly parents in other cities.
12. Many of the most immediate issues which affect Boomers really deal with either: (1) Aged Parents or (2) Adult Children.
 -one area that would be helpful is navigating around the financial quagmire that many find themselves in if there are not financial resources to support oneself, one's parents and (hopefully not) one's children.
 - This is not a strictly Jewish issue, but one which many of us will face.
13. Supporting Boomers who have parents not living in Denver, particularly since altitude is a problem for parents who would move [to Denver area] otherwise.
14. How can we be responsive to the (as yet unknown) needs of the Boomer population as they age...taking into account fitness, tech-savviness, etc.
15. Transportation for the later years ...getting Boomers to activities, appointments, etc.
16. How to avoid duplication of services.

Relationships, Social Contacts

17. Many Boomers are first becoming empty nesters...especially for women...they are looking to re-identify their roles. Even as couples, couples have forgotten how to relate without [involving children], and it can be a process of redefining relationships.
18. Social opportunities for getting Boomers together — meet and greet.

Municipal Context

19. Boulder is too small a community to have its own Jewish agency infrastructure. How can we form linkages with secular agencies so that they can be supported “as if” they were Jewish agencies