A Boomer’s Perspective on ….

An Aging Maine, Technology, and the Challenges and Opportunities Facing the Affordable Housing Industry

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The Demographics are Unprecedented

• One million people turn 60 every month around the world
• Ten thousand people turn 65 every day in the United States
• Fifty people celebrate their 65th birthdays everyday in Maine
The Longevity Revolution

• Growing 3 times faster than the young
• 40 million (14% of the population) are 65 and older
• By 2030 there will be 70 million persons 65+
• Fastest growing group are the 85 and over
• People 65 today will live another 18 years
• By 2030, 25% of elders will be minorities compared to 16% today; By 2050 it will be 36%
The Context for Affordable Housing

- Oldest state in U.S.
- Most rural state
- More than 18% are 65+ (14% nationally)
- By 2020, 1 in 5 Mainers will be 65+
- Largest proportion of baby boomers in U.S.
Don’t Forget About the Oldest Old!

- 1900: Rare
- 1982: 32,000
- 1995: 61,000
- 2007: 80,000
- 2040: 450,000
- 2050: over 700,000

*More than 30% of centenarians today live independently*
Look Out! The Boomers Have Arrived!

• Beginning January 1, 2011, started celebrating their 65th birthdays
  - 10,000 people turn 65 every day
  - Will continue for 20 years

77.3 million Boomers
I’m a Boomer and I Want to…

- Age and thrive in place
- Remain independent, autonomous, mobile, active, and connected
- Remain in the work force for longer periods of time
- Take advantage of life long learning opportunities
- Return to school to further my education and prepare for an encore career
- Travel
- Remain civically engaged
- Have choices in terms of how and where I live my life
- Utilize health and wellness and fitness facilities
- Use technology
Boomers Will …

- Be troublemakers and risk takers
- Test your skills to the limit
- Know a little but think they know a lot
- Tell you what they are thinking
- Demand high quality care
- Keep you on your toes
- Not go quietly into the night
Not Your Father’s Oldsmobile!

**Boomers are ...**

- Less likely to display a stiff upper lip mentality
- Less hesitancy to accept “charity” or “public assistance”
- Less suspicious of “outsiders”
- Less fierce loyalty to tradition and custom
- Less importance placed on a people orientation and face-to-face interaction
The Generational Differences Are Noteworthy!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Me</th>
<th>My Dad</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individualistic</td>
<td>Conformist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical</td>
<td>Accepting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More educated</td>
<td>Less Educated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Rewirement” and encore careers are the norm</td>
<td>Retirement/Disengagement is the norm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifelong learning</td>
<td>“I know what I know”/Familiarity</td>
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<td>Improve society by changing the system</td>
<td>Improve society by working within the system</td>
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The Successful Aging Initiative for Living

• UMaine is partnering with businesses, other educational institutions, state and local agencies, healthcare systems, older adult groups

• Developing new strategies and technologies to promote successful aging
UMaine Aging Initiative
Impact Resisting Material - Head Protection
Mobility Enhancement
Augmentations to Prevent Falling
Enhanced Edge Detection
Indoor Navigation
Thank you!

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