

2013

IMPACT STATEMENT

Public Value

Increased awareness of SDSU Extension Gerontology and Population Aging will assist families and communities by providing unbiased research-based information as they plan to meet the opportunities and challenges of a dramatic increase in the number of adults over the age of 65 over the next 20 years.

The Issue

By the year 2035, nearly 1 in 4 South Dakotans is projected to be over the age of 65. In light of the projected increase, SDSU Extension added a Gerontology focus to their programming efforts. South Dakotans have limited knowledge of this addition to SDSU Extension, and the projected increase in the number of adults over the age of 65, limiting their ability to address these opportunities and challenges.

What We've Done

The SDSU Extension Gerontology Field Specialist conducted the following efforts:

- Wrote Population Aging in South Dakota: Preparing for Success (<http://igrow.org/up/resources/04-2005-2013.pdf>)
- Presented to seven groups on population aging.
- Presented to four groups on advanced care planning.
- Presented Population Aging in South Dakota: Preparing for Success to the Retired Teachers Association Convention in Rapid City
- Population Aging in South Dakota: Preparing for Success picked up by the Black Hills Knowledge Network (<http://blackhillsknowledgenetwork.org/blog/aging-state-population-part-global-trend>)
- Wrote articles and news release for several South Dakota newspapers.
- Leacey E. Brown (<http://igrow.org/about/authors/Leacey-E.-Brown/>) joined Pennington County Council on Aging.

Impact

- Increased public awareness of gerontology component of SDSU Extension and population aging by making indirect contact with approximately 40,000 people through newspaper articles and presentations.

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