



Home for the Long Haul

An Aging in Place Toolkit for Intentional Communities

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Purpose

What's This Toolkit For?

This toolkit helps land-based communities—like rural co-housing groups and community farms—think ahead and take real action so members can stay in their homes comfortably as they age.

It's designed to help your community:

- Figure out what members will actually need over the long haul.
- Spot the most important physical changes your housing needs right away.
- Build a doable, step-by-step plan to get those changes made.

Who is This For?

You can use this for long-range planning before big needs pop up, or as a quick guide during a sudden health issue or life event.

Great fit:

Rural co-housing, community farms, or housing co-ops where people plan to live long-term and some members are aging (or planning ahead for it).

Not a fit:

Communities with no long-term housing on site, or groups currently dealing with major crises like falling membership, money troubles, or serious internal conflict.





Which Path Are You On?

The tools inside fall into two main tracks:

Urgent Need/Crisis Response: Jump straight to the Emergency Response Tool, move into Making a Plan, and then Getting Things Done. Once the dust settles (around 6 months later), circle back to Laying the Foundation to check in.

Long-Term Planning: Start with Getting Started to pull together a small core team. Move to Laying the Foundation to get the whole community talking. If there's good energy and momentum, move into Making a Plan and Getting Things Done. Make sure creating a customized emergency plan is part of that process!

Toolkit Map

Getting Started — Your jumping-off point for long-term planning (and helpful in a pinch). Ideas for finding local champions and checking if your community is ready. [Start here]

Laying the Foundation — A guide for opening up a warm, honest community conversation. Includes tips for 1-on-1 chats, group discussions, and ongoing "salons." [Start laying the foundation]

Making a Plan — Ready to turn talk into action? This tool guides you through setting priorities and mapping out a solid plan. [Make a plan]

Getting Things Done — Practical project management tools to keep tasks moving and keep your "herd of cats" organized. [Start getting things done]

Emergency Response — Best for sudden health or life changes, but also great for scenario planning so you're never caught off guard. [Open emergency guide]

