Engaging Beyond Tablets: Noticing Older Adults during Post Pandemic

Northern Illinois University | DeKalb, Illinois
2022-23 NAPC Community Award | $30,000

Partners

Oak Crest Retirement Home
BarbCity Manor Retirement Home

All of Us Activities

Presentations
Digital Materials

Budget

Personnel – $14,624
Promotion - $1,639
Tablets - $4,160
IT Support - $1,250
Speaker Fees - $900
Indirect - $7,427

Credit: Canva

Summary

This project aimed to improve digital literacy in older adults, increase awareness of online health information resources, and create awareness of the *All of Us* Research Program (*All of Us*). The project team worked with a health sciences librarian to create a health resources toolkit to be downloaded onto tablets for participant use. The team brought these tablets to two area retirement homes and facilitated 10 events reaching 148 attendees. The sessions focused on topics relevant to the community, such as diabetes, chronic pain, cardiac disease, and mental health. Participants were trained to use the tablets to find health information from reliable sources such as MedlinePlus.gov, and the tablets were eventually given to activity participants.

Throughout the project, evaluations indicated attendees' growing comfort with using technology due to these sessions, as well as an understanding of where to find reliable health information online. After hearing about *All of Us*, several activity attendees were eager to learn more about participating in the program. The project also provided an opportunity for nursing students, who supported project activities, to get hands-on experience with aiding older adults in using technology. Students reflected on the value of supporting older adults in developing digital literacy skills in order to navigate digital health information.

Explore funded projects and partnership opportunities with the NNLM *All of Us* Program Center at allofus.nnlm.gov/funding

View NNLM.gov
Project Record

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ALL *of* US RESEARCH PROGRAM

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