

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Statement

Purpose

This document is intended to communicate the guiding principles of the Council on Aging for Henderson County with regard to equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Mission/Vision

The mission of the Council on Aging for Henderson County is to “provide and coordinate services that engage, connect, and support adults in our community as we age.” The word “we” near the end of that statement is intentional. Aging is a journey that every individual experiences. However, that experience varies for each person. Our vision, that **No One Ages Alone**, highlights our desire to be there for anyone in this community that needs support.

Values

Our values of Community, Dignity, and Stewardship reflect the balance we seek to achieve as an organization. We believe in the dignity of older adults, and we strive to create a relationship of mutual respect with those we serve and those who support our work. We value members of our community whom we serve, those who help us serve, and those who provide the resources which enable us to serve. We believe in a connected community, supporting one another through care and compassion. We seek to make ethical and prudent decisions about our organizational and community resources. We believe responsible and long-term financial stewardship ensures that our organization can meet the growing demands for services for years to come.

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The Council on Aging for Henderson County welcomes people of all backgrounds as clients, volunteers, and staff. The funding for many of our services requires clients to be 60 years of age or older, but we recognize that the impact of aging can affect family and friends of all ages. Therefore, we recognize the needs and priorities of people regardless of gender or gender identity, race, ethnicity, religious or non-religious affiliation, national or geographic origin, philosophical or political beliefs, sexual orientation, physical ability, or socioeconomic status, and we are committed to serve all people fairly, compassionately, and without judgment.