

Environmental Justice Questionnaire for Illinois Department on Aging

When answering the questions below please note if your answers are agency or program specific

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1. Do you consider environmental implications when working on an issue in your agency?
For example, air, noise, and/or water pollution; soil contamination; nuisance odors;
greenhouse gases; etc. If yes, please explain.

N/A

2. How do you determine or define the extent of environmental impacts on the community?
Please provide examples.

3. Do you have an environmental justice mandate for your agency? Yes/No. If yes, please
explain.

No

4. Do you assess the impact of projects on low-income and minority communities? If so, how?

Yes, ventures are designed for communities, based on the identified needs of the older adults residing in each community.

5. Does your agency have programs that address the issues of handicapped and/or elderly populations?

Yes, Illinois Department on Aging has programs addressing needs and interests of older adults and people with cognitive and physical disabilities.

6. Identify staff positions that work with low-income; minority; elderly and/or handicapped populations and communities.

All: need further explanation from Environmental Justice Commission

7. Does your agency have a community involvement/community engagement plan? If yes, explain the plan and specify whether it is general or project specific.

8. How does your agency accommodate communities that are non-native English speakers? For example, providing an interpreter at a community meeting, translating documents, etc.

Illinois Department on Aging employs direct service staff who speak multiple languages, partners with organizations whose staff speak the languages identified for the target populations, has access to a language bank, TTD/TTY phone services, provides resource materials in multiple languages and has sign interpreters available upon request.

9. Does your agency partner with community interest groups, if so who are they? Illinois Department on Aging can directly address this as appropriate upon identification of specific purpose and intent (cannot be engaged with express authorization of Illinois Department on Aging for purposes directly benefiting Illinois Department on Aging).

10. The Mud-to Garden project is an example of how state agencies can work together to address an environmental justice concern. Can you give an example of an opportunity where your agency could partner with one or more agencies on the EJ Commission to address an environmental justice concern?

The staff assigned to the Environmental Justice Commission agreed to inform Illinois Department on Aging when such opportunities arise and request support from Illinois Department on Aging.