



Network Practices: Social Engagement

HumorCon

Kirkland Village

This community offered a variety of activities to promote laughter. Residents and team members brought jokes, they had a resident stand up comedy performance and were featured in the local news for the event.

Resident Family Feud

Multiple Communities

Create your own version of Family Feud by polling the residents with questions such as favorite places to travel, favorite program at the community, etc. Use the answers to form the game. Answers can also be used along with other game show themes and skits for the event.

Not Your Grandma's Bingo Anymore

Multiple Communities

Try some new games for Masterpiece Living flair and to excite the crowd.

☑ "Lousy Card Bingo" – Everyone is asked to stand up from their seats. The caller calls a number. If the player has that number on their card they must turn the card over and sit down. Repeat with other numbers with the object being to be the last player standing without having any of the called numbers on their card...thus giving them the lousy card of the night.

☑ "Math Bingo" – This version has more work for the caller. Instead of saying B-10, the caller would say a math problem like 2×5 and the player would know to cover "10". Keeping the problems easier enough to solve in their heads, this can be a lot of fun.

☑ "Gotta Go!" Only "G" and "O" numbers are called. When they have both column covered, they yell "I've gotta go!" instead of yelling BINGO!

Life Stories with Art Students

La Loma Village

Invite art students from a local school to visit the community to interview participating residents about their life stories. The students work for a period of time on an art project based on the resident's story, and then return to the community to present their projects.

"Masterpiece Mixers" Block Parties

Multiple Communities

Concierge hosts an individual party for each floor of the building to help people connect with their neighbors. Icebreaker games are played at each block party. 90% of residents attend the parties. Those who don't attend are sent a follow-up note from the concierge.

Social Train/"Fast Friends"

Multiple Communities

Building on the speed-dating concept, residents sit across from each other at long tables and discuss answers to "getting to know you" questions. They discuss each question for two minutes with the person seated across from them. Then the residents switch seats and discuss another question. Note: have one side of the tables reserved for those who do not want to switch seats, and the other side for mobile residents.

Social Bingo

Multiple Communities

Create social bingo as a means for residents to become better acquainted during Active Aging Week. Residents have a week to complete their bingo card, which means they have to find others who share their birth date, place of birth, similar interests and hobbies, and other interesting and fun commonalities. The goal is to inspire residents to become more connected.

Caring Circle

Multiple Communities

Form a committee of residents who visit those who are isolated in their apartments/homes. They can then provide special attention, extend personal invitations, etc. as needed.

Reconnection Groups

Multiple Communities

In an effort to blur the lines between the levels of living, host Reconnection Groups that bring together people that used to live in Independent Living together or in the same building/area of the community. Residents receive invitations and must RSVP. Team members set up a gathering place for people to socialize, and provide a few snacks and drinks.

Communication Board

Terraces of Los Gatos

A bulletin dedicated to highlighting resident interests and hobbies. For example, one month the residents could bring pictures of their first cars, or if they didn't have a picture the team member would print one from the internet. Making this a contest also ensures great participation.

Isolation Referral Forms

Elim Park

To combat loneliness and isolation the team created referral forms. Front line team members were invited to use the form when they encounter a lonely/isolated resident. They also worked with the welcoming team and the care visitor team to develop additional strategies.