Age-Inclusive Management Strategies (AIMS) Colorado Conference

AIMS Colorado: Employer Successes
Embracing Experienced Employees

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Age-Inclusive Management Strategies: Colorado

Engaging experienced employees to create solutions for workforce challenges

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The AIMS Team
Our Goals

- We want employers to become aware of the aging labor force and recognize unique value and challenges presented by aging employees.
- We want to advance employer efforts to address experienced employees and create age-inclusive workplaces.
- We want to learn about the most effective ways to help employers adapt to the aging workforce.
- We want to share success stories with employers and the community so that everyone can benefit from our work.
Colorado Age-Friendly Employer Study

- 2019-2020
- Survey of 147 Employers
- Identified age-inclusive strategies
- Dissemination & implementation
Demographic Transition in the U.S. Workforce

Figure 1.1 Labor Force Participation Rates, 1988-2016, and Projections for 2026

Demographic Transition in the American Workforce


Notes: Projected labor force participation rates are shaded.
Demographic Transition in the U.S. Workforce

Figure 2. Birth rates for teenagers, by age of mother: United States, final 1991–2019 and provisional 2020

- 18–19 years
- 15–19 years
- 15–17 years

Demographic Transition in Colorado

Colorado Age Group Share of Total Population 1990 - 2050

- Less than 18
- 65 & over

[Graph showing age group share of population from 1990 to 2050]
Age-Inclusive Management Strategies (AIMS) Colorado
Elevating opportunities for employers to engage experienced employees

AIMS Website
Step 1: Onboarding

Engage with the AIMS website to learn about the aging workforce, the benefits of hiring experienced workers, and how companies integrate age-inclusive management strategies.

Nearly 50 percent of employers report a talent gap in filling jobs, as potential candidates lack the skills necessary to excel in specialized roles. More than 35 percent of Americans age 50+ will be looking for work in the year ahead, and these experienced employees could become your solution to closing the talent gap. To attract and retain such experienced employees, your organization may offer continuing education and lifelong learning opportunities to maintain skills sets. Another option includes the development of an intergenerational employee culture where younger workers mentor older workers in

Learn more about:
- Developing education and training options
- Creating an age-diverse organizational culture
AIMS Self-Assessment Tools

The Self-Assessment Tools allow employers to answer short surveys to evaluate age-inclusivity in their organizations.

We use the self-assessment surveys to tailor the consultation we provide to employers.
Step 2: Consultation

• Provide an hour of consultation.
• Review employer's needs and advise on how to select an age-inclusive strategy.
• Recommend implementation of selected strategy and different types of policies based on the organization's structure, size, and capacity.
Recruitment and Retention Examples

**EASIER**
Write age-inclusive job descriptions to demonstrate to applicants that you value experienced employees.

**MORE DIFFICULT**
Allow for more flexible positions such as part-time, seasonal, or remote opportunities.

**MOST DIFFICULT**
Make your benefit structure more appealing to retain aging employees.
Step 3: Engagement

• Provide support in the form of examples, data collection and partnerships
• Determine employer capacity
• Timeline development
Step 4: Assessment

Employers self-define outcome

We treat as binary

• What facilitated success?
• What limited progress?
First Generation Partners
Selected Strategies

Priority Areas for AIMS’ First-Generation Employers

- AARP Pledge
- Housing options
- Ageism education
- Retirement planning: financial
- LTC resources
- Survey
- Video Library
- Flexible workplace options
- Retirement Planning: non-financial
- DEI statement/ policy
- Health Insurance/ benefits for PT
- Phased retirement
- Caregiving resources
- Mentoring/ Succession planning
- Recruitment/ JD/ volunteering
AIMS CO: Status of First-Generation Employers

OCEAN

- **O - Onboarding** - complete the baseline survey and do a follow-up
- **C - Consulting** - identify at least one policy/program they want to adopt
- **E - Engagement** - align with employer and establish a date for adoption and successful outcomes
- **A - Adoption** - The employer reports on outcomes of adoption and completes close-out survey
- **N - Next Steps**

![Chart showing OCEAN process with counts: 13 Onboarding, 9 Consulting, 3 Engagement, 3 Adoption, 5 Completed. Total n=33.]
Directions

Getting to the **OCEAN**

Plotting the Course

Having a Guide
Next Steps for AIMS

• Finish First-Generation Process
• Line Up Next Generation
• Expand Efforts & Partnerships
• Contact our team with any thoughts or questions

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Age-Inclusive Management Strategies (AIMS) Colorado is a multi-year project dedicated to transforming the way employers shape the future of aging in Colorado, by addressing how they meet the needs and preferences of experienced employees (i.e., older workers). This effort constitutes a substantive contribution to improving future opportunities to age successfully. It is a collaboration between the University of Iowa College of Public Health and Transamerica Institute and is funded by a grant from NextFifty Initiative.

University of Iowa College of Public Health works to promote health and prevent injury and illness through its commitment to education and training, excellence in research, innovation in policy development, and devotion to public health practice. www.public-health.uiowa.edu

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NextFifty Initiative is a Colorado-based private foundation dedicated to funding mission-driven initiatives that improve the lives of the older adult population and their caregivers. It seeks to fund game-changing efforts to improve and sustain quality of life for people in their second 50 years. NextFifty Initiative educates about proven initiatives and advocates for transformational change. www.next50initiative.org

The University of Iowa College of Public Health and Transamerica Institute are not affiliated with each other.

For more information visit www.Transamericainstitute.org/AIMS. To get in touch with the project team, email us at AIMS-Project@uiowa.edu.