What is Community Resilience and how can it be fostered?

Associate Professor Janine Wiles
The University of Auckland
Fostering Community Resilience

1. Resilience at micro, macro, and meso levels
Resilience and social connectedness

- Personal health and mobility
- Relationships with family/friends
- Ability to connect
- Access to community groups
- Media representations
- Neighbourhood characteristics
- Public transport
- Access to supportive resources
- Income
Māori and mokemoke
Flexible models

Wiles, Janine, Tessa Morgan, Tess Moeke-Maxwell, Stella Black, Hong-Jae Park, Lisa Williams, Merryn Gott, People haven’t got that close connection’: Meanings of loneliness and social isolation to culturally diverse older people. Journal of Aging and Mental Health (accepted June 2019).
Resilience at micro, meso, and macro levels

Societal resilience
Community resilience
Neighbourhood resilience
Family resilience
Household resilience
Individual resilience

Design barriers, traffic, neighbourhood design and maintenance, transport inaccessibility, insecurity, pollution, climate change...


Lawton, M. Powell (1980)
Resilience and Inequalities

‘exposure to adversity is rarely random. The most vulnerable and least endowed people are often most likely to be exposed to adversity [and] have the least resources or assets to successfully cope with adversity.’

Huisman, M., Klokgieters, S., & Beekman, A. (2017). Successful ageing, depression and resilience research; a call for a priori approaches to investigations of resilience. *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences, 26*(6), 574-578.
Fostering Community Resilience

1. Resilience at micro, macro, and meso levels

2. Is fostering collective resilience a way to address inequities and injustice?
Older renters in a majority home-owning population

Bates, Laura, Janine Wiles, Robin Kearns, Tara Coleman (accepted June 2019). Health & Place

Bates, Laura, Tara Coleman, Janine Wiles, & Robin Kearns (accepted June 2019). Island Studies Journal
Fostering Community Resilience

1. Resilience at micro, macro, and meso levels

2. Is fostering collective resilience a way to address inequities and injustice?

3. Community resilience – new ways to think about adversity?
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1. Resilience at micro, macro, and meso levels

2. Is fostering collective resilience a way to address inequities and injustice?

3. Community resilience – new ways to think about adversity?

4. Need to work collaboratively
Meaningful participation at all scales
Making Auckland an Age-friendly City

13 June 2019
Crowne Plaza
Community

Older Aucklanders are an increasing part of the region’s population. How do we work towards making sure that older Aucklanders and those approaching that age group are respected and valued in our community?

Auckland will be home to substantially larger numbers and greater proportions of ethnically and culturally diverse older people over the next few decades. The older population is growing faster than any other age-group and is predicted to increase from 11 per cent in 2013 to 19 per cent by 2046.

The aging population will create opportunities as well as greater and more complex demand for services and infrastructure. Insufficient planning for this could mean the challenges worsen as the number of older people grows significantly over the next 20 years.

Some older Aucklanders have needs that are not being met by existing services. While Auckland is a great place to live for most older people there are some who face greater challenges. Those in the “older-old” age group and of lower socioeconomic status are more likely to be socially excluded which in turn has an impact on their health and happiness. How can we improve the wellbeing of older Aucklanders, especially those most in need?

Join us at Auckland Conversations as we discuss with Sir Bob Harvey and a panel of experts how we can work collaboratively to develop a plan for an age-friendly city which will also allow us to obtain membership to the World Health Organisation’s Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities and demonstrate our collective commitment to Auckland being friendly and inclusive where everyone can contribute and participate.

Register to attend
What does this mean?

• Diverse older people need to be involved as experts
• Consider grassroots as well as macro strategies - partnerships
• Help older people negotiate meaningful access to services and resources
• Definitions/interventions focused only on individuals and choices/attitudes are potentially toxic
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