

From
the desk
of...

Barbara Hughes Sullivan, Executive Director



Dear Village members and friends,

Like the old proverb, March is marching in like a lion... hopefully it will march out like a lamb! With this winter weather, we at Village to

Village Network are very busy preparing new and exciting webinars, news features and working productively on the National Village Conference. This month's newsletter has some great details and information on registration, calls for proposals and hotel details. I am looking forward to our conference in Chicago in September. Please get your presentation proposals in by March 8th!

Last year, when I took over Village to Village Network, I promised many Villages that I would look at the dues structure and ways to include Villages that do not have budgets that can afford our regular annual dues of \$425 per year. The Board of Directors and I worked on creating a

semi-tiered alternative. You know that old saying, "together is better", well I firmly believe that having more Villages join the Network benefits not only our national presence, but also individual Village communities.

There are many Villages out there that are applying for grants from state, local and private foundations. Showing solidarity in numbers allows us to advocate and unite our model for aging, which will only strengthen each individual Village. We hope that many of our smaller Villages will take advantage of this great opportunity.

Check out our membership level details and changes on the next page of this newsletter. We hope that these changes will alleviate the financial burden for some of our smaller member Villages and encourage others to join the Network if the cost of membership was the limiting factor.

VtV Network is the sole organization formed by Villages to support the creation and continued success of Villages. We are stronger when we stand together to share our experience and knowledge with each other.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at vtv@vtvnetwork.org or call **617-299-9638**.

Have a great March and a very Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Changes to VtV Network membership dues

Here are the new membership dues! We hope these changes will encourage more Villages to join the national Village Movement!

Hub and Spoke

We have always had a Hub and Spoke dues level, but prior to this year, only the hub was shown on the Network map. Now hubs can join and they will be on the map, while spokes will sign up separately and their website, information and affiliation with the hub will be shown also! Member spokes will have their own marker on the Network map! Hubs are reduced to **\$425** per year but each spoke that registers will have **\$100** annual dues. Hubs will get 20 secondary members, and spokes will get 10 secondary memberships! All memberships will have access to member benefits such as preferred providers and discounts, webinars and the documents library.



Opportunity Membership

In the past, our Opportunity Members joined at \$125 for six months. We all know, that it takes more than six months to form a Village. We also know, for our movement to grow, we need new communities to take advantage of the tools, resources and mentoring opportunities we have available. To help these developing Villages

get going, the new dues fees will be **\$150 for a whole year!** This is renewable for an additional year and will allow for 10 secondary members. This effectively reduces the two-year cost for a developing Village by \$200! As always, Opportunity members have full access to VtVN's member benefits.

NEW!

Individual Village Membership

This new category is for Villages that have annual budgets that are under \$25,000. The membership comes with one primary, Village representation on the Network map, links to their website and information listed for referrals. The member will have access to all VtV Network materials and benefits. The fee for the Individual Village Membership is **\$150** per year. This membership does not include any additional secondary or tertiary members.

Village Friend

This membership is for people who wish to support and remain involved in Village to Village Network and the Village movement. To qualify, an individual must have previously been a primary or secondary member of VtV Network. Typically, these individuals were former staff or board members of a Village. This membership is **\$150** per year and gets full access to all Network resources but does not include secondary or tertiary members.

Other membership categories will remain unchanged at this time.

Contact VtV Network for questions about these or other membership options. If you are not currently a member, consider joining! We are stronger together!

[Click Here To Join](#)

There is still time to submit a proposal for the National Village Conference!

Details are still coming together for the National Village Conference in Chicago, **September 18-20** at the Sheraton Grand Hotel!

SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

The call for proposals is out and there is still time to get your proposal in! The deadline for submission is **March 8**, so don't hesitate!

Click the button below to download the submission form.

(Please note that the deadline printed on the submission form has been extended to March 8th!)

[Proposal Submission Form](#)

BOOK YOUR HOTEL ROOM

A room block at the Sheraton is available for conference attendees.

The special rates are available from September 14-22, in case you want to come to Chicago a little early or stay a little late. You must book by **August 15** to get the special rate.

Click the button below to book your room now!

[Book Sheraton Room Here](#)



BECOME A SPONSOR!

We are still looking for Sponsors and Exhibitors for the conference. If you or someone you know would like to become a sponsor of this year's conference, check out the Sponsor Prospectus!

[Sponsor Prospectus](#)

Fill out and return the Sponsor Agreement form by **June 28, 2019**.

[Sponsor Agreement](#)

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!!!

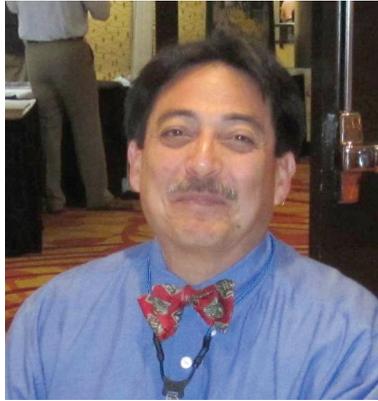
Registration for the 2019 National Village Conference is now open! Visit the [Conference](#) page at vtvnetwork.org to view pricing and to keep up on the latest details.

[Click Here To Register](#)

**See you in
CHICAGO!**

New board member elected

The Village to Village Network Board of Directors just elected their newest member! **Edgar (Eddie) Rivas** of Potomac, Maryland, will join the ranks with more than 34 years of experience working on issues that impact older adults.



The New York Times once listed Rivas as one of the six most powerful aging-policy lobbyists in Washington. As part of a long career, he served on the staff of the U.S. House Select Committee on Aging and also held positions at state and area offices on aging and national aging organizations including AARP.

"I wanted to join the Board because I wanted to enhance my volunteerism and the growth of Villages throughout the nation," Rivas said.

"As a baby boomer, I understand that the public sector will never be able to support our long term care needs as we age. Hence, Villages are one approach to addressing this growing need, that we now know will be even greater when Millennials reach old age."

Rivas is a planner and policy analyst with project management skills and hands-on experience in advocacy and coalition building, with an emphasis on working on behalf of underserved communities, as well as extensive experience in the aging and disabilities field.

"I believe that Villages should join Village to Village Network for knowledge and wisdom garnered from other more-experienced Villages; to provide support and camaraderie to each other; to strive to meet the needs and demands of an aging population; to advocate for public policy that helps address those needs; and to help assure the sustainability of the Network over time," Rivas said.

He is a board member of his local Village, Potomac Community Village, and of the Washington Area Village Exchange (WAVE).

"The greatest challenge facing the aging community, in my estimation, is in providing all people with a quality of life as they grow older and eventually more frail," Rivas said.

Aside from his involvement in the aging-in-community/Village movement, Rivas enjoys sharing his background as an educator and naturalist within his community.

Join us in giving a warm welcome to



Eddie Rivas leads a group of youth on a hike in the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historic Park.

Eddie Rivas as we are certain that he is a valuable addition to our board!

Village Anniversaries!



Santa Fe Neighbors - Santa Fe, NM - 2 years
Village Santa Cruz - Santa Cruz, CA - 2 years
Waterfront Village - Washington, D.C. - 2 years
Community Connections at Findley Lake - Findley Lake, NY - 6 years
Foster City Village - Foster City, CA - 6 years
NEST - North East Seattle Together - Seattle, WA - 7 years
Canopy of Neighbors - Buffalo, NY - 8 years
Nauset Neighbors - Orleans, MA - 8 years
Westside Pacific Villages - Los Angeles, CA - 8 years
North Shore Village - Evanston, IL - 9 years
Ferrington Cares - Pittsboro, NC - 29 years

VtVN at CNAP Workshop

Village to Village Network Executive Director Barbara Sullivan is the keynote speaker at the upcoming Community Network for Aging in Place's CNAP-III Workshop on March 29 in Newton, Massachusetts.



The CNAP-III Workshop provides a forum for examining the spectrum of needs and interests of an aging population that are critical to individual health and well-being.

For more information and to register, click the button below.

CNAP-III Information



Village Movement in the News

Check out this excellent article from the *Rochester Beacon* about Villages, with an interview of Barbara!

<https://rochesterbeacon.com/2019/02/20/a-new-way-to-age/>

Please Support Village to Village Network

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