Commentary: Claudette Fleming, PhD Project & Support/Director Emeritus Age Concern Bermuda

THE AGEING CARIBBEAN: 20 YEARS OF THE MADRID PLAN OF ACTION



NEKEHIA QUASHIE AND FRANCIS JONES

Remembering the Madrid Plan of Action, 2002 Origins and Intent

"The Madrid Plan of Action offers a bold new agenda for handling the issue of ageing in the 21st-century. It focuses on three priority areas: older persons and development; advancing health and well-being into old age; and ensuring enabling and supportive environments.

It is a resource for policymaking, suggesting ways for Governments, non-governmental organizations, and other actors to reorient the ways in which their societies perceive, interact with and care for their older citizens. "

Kofi A. Annan, Secretary General, United Nations.

Political Declaration and Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, United Nations, 2022; Foreword.

Madrid International Plan Action on Ageing 2002 Three Areas of Focus



Political Declaration and Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, United Nations, 2002

THE AGEING CARIBBEAN: 20 YEARS OF THE MADRID PLAN OF ACTION, 2022 Three Areas of Focus





THE AGEING CARIBBEAN: 20 YEARS OF THE MADRID PLAN OF ACTION NEKEHIA QUASHIE AND FRANCIS JONES, October 5, 2022 Commentary Highlights: Ageing, economic security and public policy



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- 15 National Ageing Plans in Caribbean countries
- Establishment of representative bodies
- All member states have national insurance schemes
- Fewer Caribbean citizens forced
 to work into old age

What's missing?

- Inclusion & social contract with
- younger generation of workers on support of older population
- Exploration of broader opportunities for tax reform
- Coordinated outcomes evaluation of National Plans to assist with replication of best practices

What's Happening in Bermuda?

Source: Government of Bermuda Digest of Statistics

• <u>https://bernews.com/2022/09/ber</u> <u>muda-facing-demographic-crisis/</u>

To date there is no formal National Ageing Plan for however in September 2022, a position paper was released by the Minister of Economy & Labour, the Hon. Jason Hayward, JP MP, in September 2022, calling for an ""aggressive" ageing plan. "Given that the workforce will decline by approximately 500 persons per year over the next few years as a result of an ageing population, it can be assumed that, at a minimum they need to be replenished" Addressing the Challenge of an Ageing Population in Bermuda, Position Paper, Bermuda Government, September 2022



Commentary Highlights: Ageing, Health and Healthcare

Commentary: Claudette Fleming, PhD

- Longer life expectancy
- Caribbean countries developing policies to deal with the epidemic of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD's).
- NGOs have assisted greatly in protecting older person's health & well-being during the Covid pandemic

What's missing?

- National cradle-to-grave disease prevention plans to mitigate consequences of adverse childhood experiences that manifest in old age
 - Action Plan on large scale tax reforms that support universal programs.
 - National strategy to build NGO/Third Sector supportive capacity

What's Happening in Bermuda?

English Espanor



Health in the Americas+



Bermuda spends 11.6% of GDP on health, representing the third highest in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Retrieved on 19/10/2022 on https://hia.paho.org/en/countries-22/bermuda-profile

Our community's health and well-being, pre-pandemic:

Third-highest incidence rate of diabetes in the OECD with over 13% of residents diagnosed



50% of residents have at least one chronic condition such as diabetes, heart or kidney disease



1 in 3 residents have

high blood pressure and/or high cholesterol



\$29m

is spent every year on dialysis and demand for this service grows by 10% each year

What's Happening in Bermuda?

Source: Bermuda Health Strategy, 2022-2027, Ministry of Health, Bermuda Government. Retrieved on 19/10/2022 from: <u>https://www.gov.bm/sites/default/files/MoH%20Bermuda%20Health%20Str</u> <u>ategy%202022-2027%20v10.pdf</u> GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA Ministry of Health

BERMUDA

STRATEGY

HEALTH

2022 - 2027

What's Happening in Bermuda?

Bermuda Government's Commitment to Universal Healthcare Coverage (UHC) within the next five years... "Our vision is to ensure that all people have equitable access to needed informative, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative essential health services, of sufficient quality to be effective, while also ensuring that people do not suffer financial hardship when paying for these services and critical medicines." The Hon. Kim Wilson JP MP, Bermuda Government, Minister of Health.

"Bermuda is not starting from scratch: the island already has an established health system; it's just very expensive. It will take time and consultation to determine what should be included as essential health services under UHC, based on the present and future needs of the population, as well as the resources available." The Hon. Kim Wilson Bermuda, Minister of Health, Royal Gazette, March 8, 2022

Retrieved on 19/10/2022 from https://www.royalgazette.com/health/news/article/20220308/governments-five-year-plan-for-better-healthcare-

<u>explained/</u>

Commentary Highlights: Enabling & Supportive Environments

Commentary: Claudette Fleming, PhD

- Family based support and coresidency with children/family
- Moves toward digital literacy
- Including older persons and the NGOs that serve them in Disaster Risk Managment

gnature What's missing?

- Ageing in place strategies that incentivize and reward family support and bring younger workers back home.
- Greater assistance from private sector with digital literacy efforts

What's Happening in Bermuda? Examples:

The Personal Home Care Benefit (PHC) was introduced in 2015....Family and friends may register as a Care Provider if they meet the registration requirements...and are expected to provide voluntary care to their family member up to 12 hours per day without payment." Department of Health Insurance, Ministry of Health. Retrieved on

19/10/2022 from https://www.gov.bm/personalhome-care-benefit

Seniors Home Loan Guarantee – Bermuda Housing Corporation, Ministry of Public Works, Bermuda Government



What's Happening in Bermuda?

Partnerships with the Private Sector...

Let's Take the Digital Journey Together!





As we embark on this exciting journey, we're with you every step of the way.

In partnership with AGE Concern, we've arranged a series of one-onone tutorials to help you navigate the wonderful possibilities of digital banking. Through demos on the use of iBank, iATM and No Wait Deposits, we'll show you how going digital can improve your total Clarien experience. We will also provide special support for

pension payment days and transactions due at the end of the month.

Retrieved on 19/10/2022 from https://clarienbank.com/ageconcern/



Bermuda Covid-19 Third Sector Coordinated Crisis Response

March 20–May 20, 2020 Summary & Close-out

CONFRONTING THE CRISIS

Helping Bermuda's most vulnerable manage through Covid-19



Partnerships among Public Sector and NGOs/Third Sector...

C#VID-19 VACCINATION HOTLINE





For more information: businessdevelopment@ageconcern.bm

https://www.facebook.com/AgeConcernBDA/photos/1944653462368698/

Final Thoughts and Wish List

Metaanalysis of outcomes of national plans to inform evidence-based ageing models

Greater frequency of convenings for those responsible for national ageing plans to share outcomes, ideas, resources, information and lessons learned.

Systematic tracking of performance to inform the creation of national plan KPIs.

Improved and intentional inclusion of NGOs/Third Sector in plans & actions

Coordination of strategic plans and objectives among Caribbean countries and Bermuda

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