



# SOUTH CHICAGO VILLAGE

... A VILLAGE INTERDEPENDENT COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

## WHY FORM A VILLAGE?

# 92 percent aged 65+

92% of Americans age 65 and older want to live out their lives in their current homes – even if they should need help. And why not? After all, home is special in many dimensions: comfort, privacy, control, familiarity; and is the place through which we express our identity – a notion grounded in American cultural values of independence and self-reliance. But now, the idea of going it alone is being questioned.

People understand this and as a result we are witnessing the emergence of a new idea: “aging in community.” It represents a shift in emphasis away from dwellings and toward relationships, the central idea upon which Villages were created and operate. Villages are an innovative, grassroots response to the yearning to age in community. And they benefit the whole community.

# IMMEDIATE & LONG-RANGE BENEFITS?

- ✓ One-Stop-Shop for most neighborhood services and City resources
- ✓ Relieving isolation and loneliness among the elderly
- ✓ Aging men and women receive support from nearby neighbors
- ✓ Programs are free and provide opportunities for information, entertainment, discounts, volunteering and additional income

“The concept is focused on building vital communities that engage people of all ages and abilities in a shared, ongoing effort to advance the common good.”

Moving Beyond Place: Aging in Community by William H. Thomas and Janice Blanchard

“It allows older adults to stay in touch with their surroundings and give back.”

David Baker, President, Fremont St. Associates; VP, The Village Chicago board of directors.

# INITIATIVES PLANNED:



## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

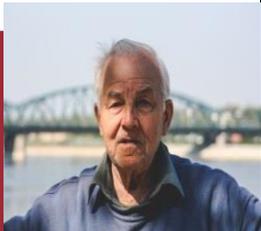
### Farmers' Market

Seniors grow, harvest, package, promote and sell goods (fruit, vegetables, flowers) from South Chicago Neighborhood gardens.

## BUSINESS RELATIONS

### Age-Friendly Service Program

Business owners offer age-friendly services (waiting chairs for long lines, loading assistance for shopping bags) and discounts (10%-15% off all purchases) to senior customers.



## INFO WELL

### Resources Directory

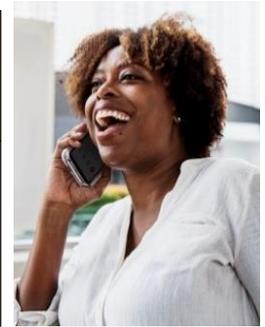
Contains information related to the range of activities/services/providers available to senior citizens living and/or working in the South Chicago neighborhood.

# INITIATIVES PLANNED:

## ENGAGED VISIBILITY

### Telephone Reassurance Program

Neighborhood seniors will receive wellness checks (phone call or video call via Skype, FaceTime or Messenger) once weekly from a Village Volunteer who documents the time and feedback obtained during call.



## GENERATIONAL EXCHANGE

### Adopt-A-Senior / Grandfamily Program

Youth and young adults are partnered with seniors in their neighborhood to encourage seniors to be active, creative, expressive and social to combat isolation and loneliness.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### Giveback Initiative

Seniors have an opportunity to receive needed assistance (snow shoveled from driveway, prescriptions dropped off at drug store, jump start a car, etc.) as well as provide it to others (donate crafts to sick children, create holiday cards for hospice patients, read stories to children at daycare, etc.).



**LET'S DISCUSS YOUR IDEAS TOO!**

## OUR SENIORS HAVE SPOKEN.

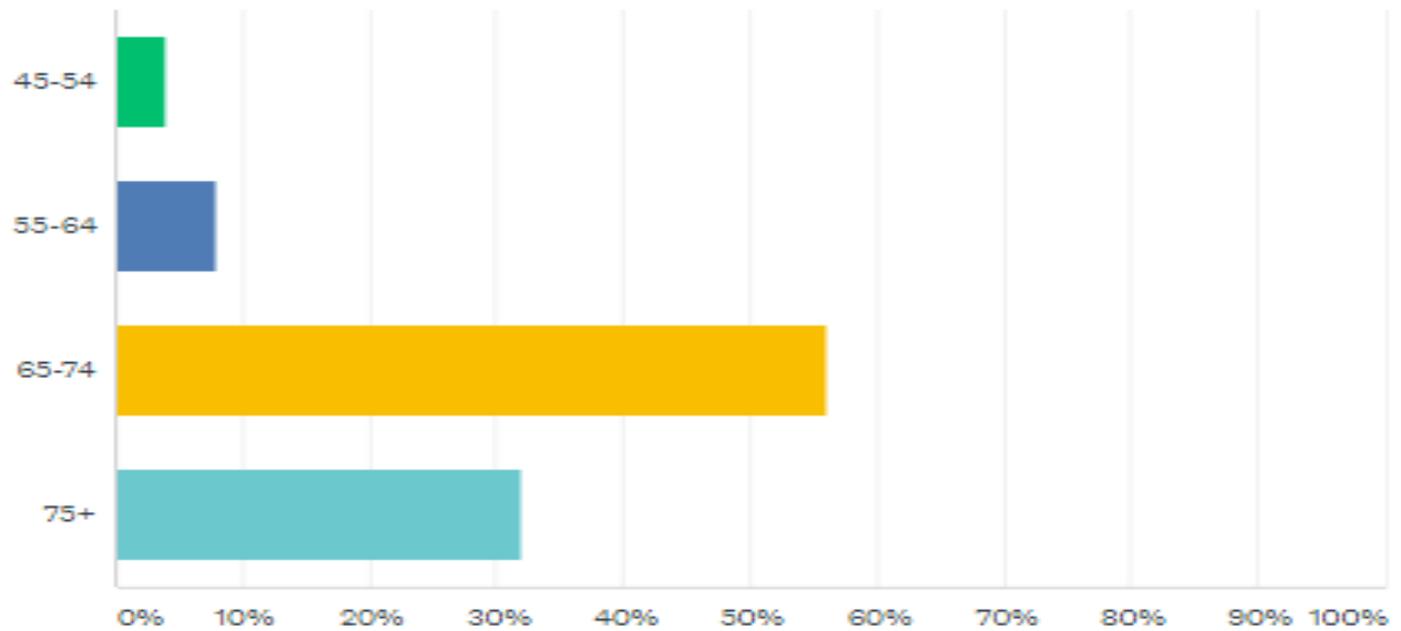
The Seniors we've talked to in the South Chicago neighborhood about VICs are excited about the prospect of having a **South Chicago** Village!

LET'S LOOK AT THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY WE RECENTLY ADMINISTERED SO YOU MAY SEE FOR YOURSELF EXACTLY HOW SENIORS FEEL.



Q1

What is your age?

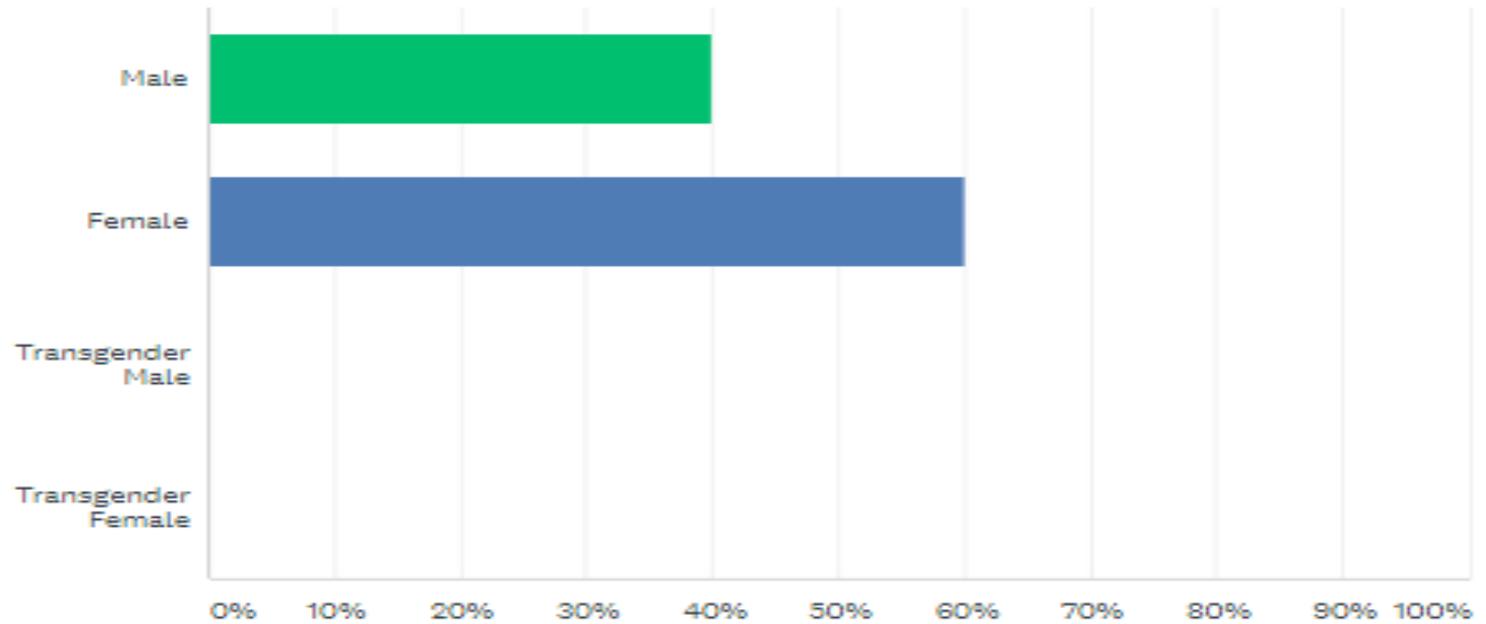


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
45-54	4.00%
55-64	8.00%
65-74	56.00%
75+	32.00%
TOTAL	

88% of the Seniors who completed our survey were 65+

Q2

What is your gender?

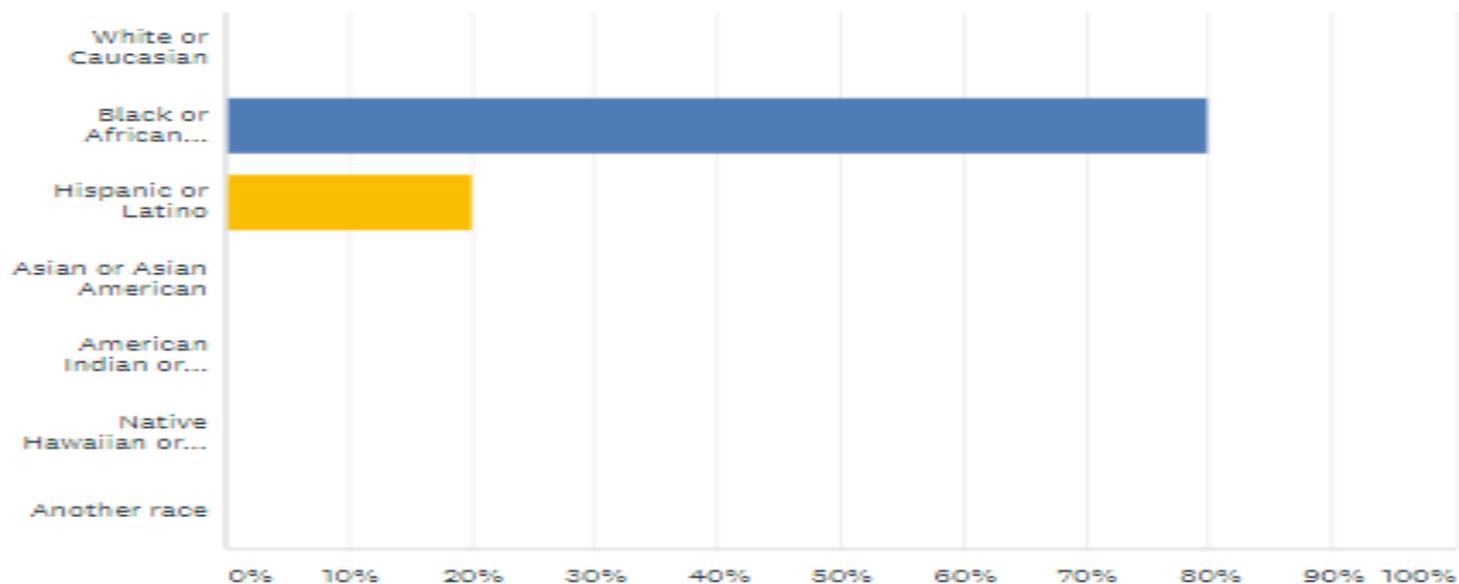


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Male	40.00%
Female	60.00%
Transgender Male	0.00%
Transgender Female	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	

40% of respondents are Males; 60% are Females

Q3

## What is your race?

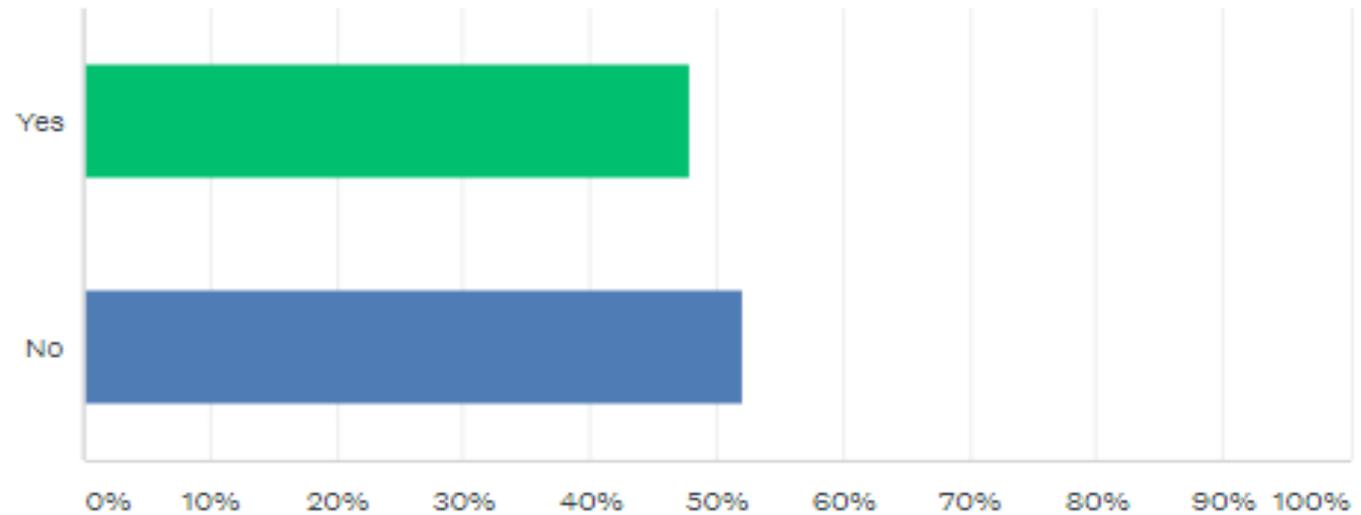


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
White or Caucasian	0.00%
Black or African American	80.00%
Hispanic or Latino	20.00%
Asian or Asian American	0.00%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.00%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00%
Another race	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	

20% are Hispanic / Latino; 80% are Black / African American

Q4

Do you live in the South Chicago neighborhood?

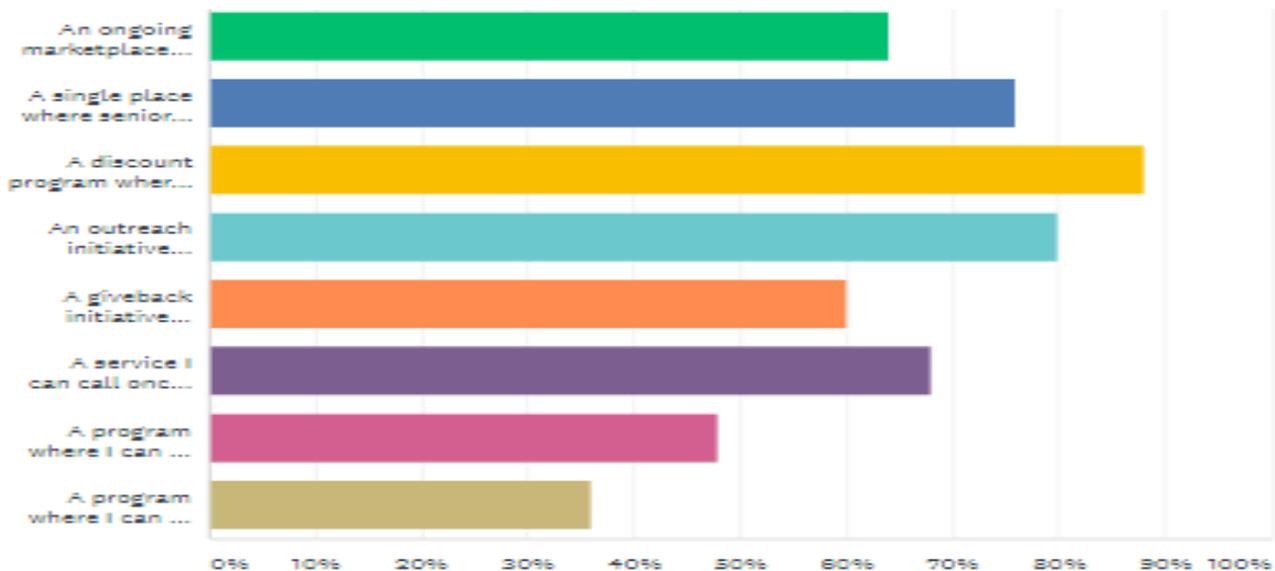


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Yes	48.00%
▼ No	52.00%
TOTAL	

48% of participants currently live in South Chicago

Q5

Which of these services do you think would benefit South Chicago's senior citizens?

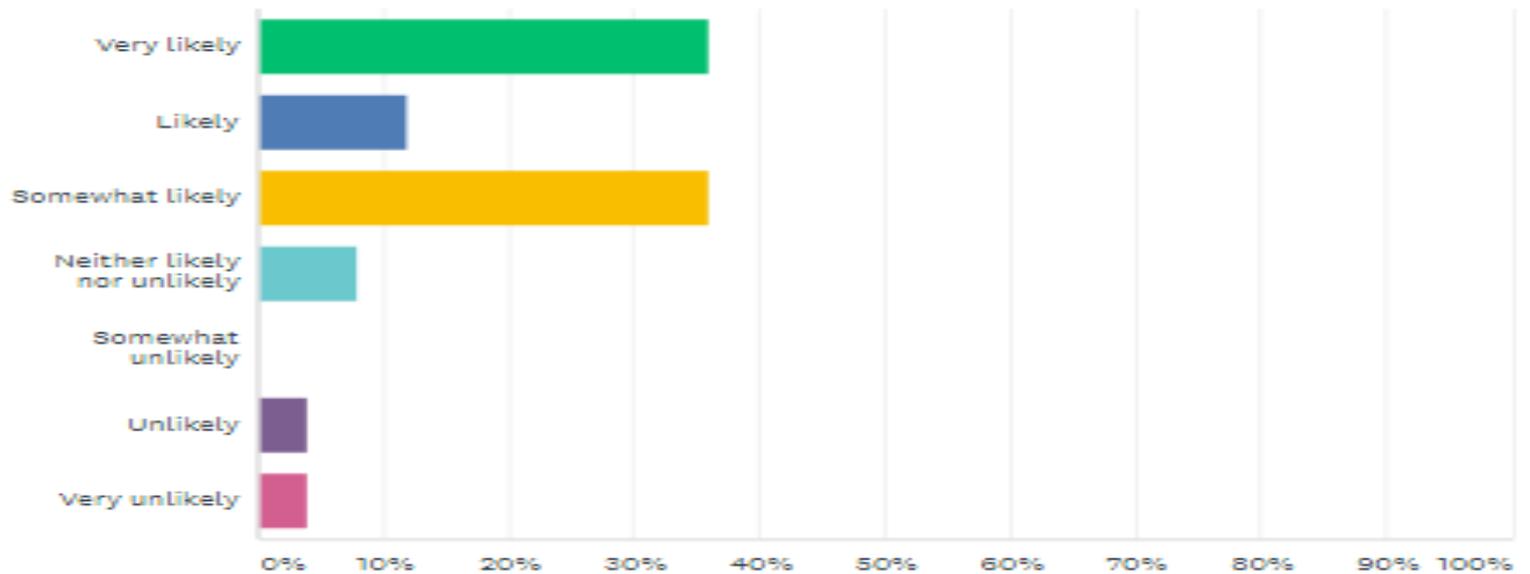


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ An ongoing marketplace where seniors may sell crafts, produce, etc.	64.00%
▼ A single place where seniors may access information on services and resources available to them throughout the city and within their neighborhood	76.00%
▼ A discount program where seniors may save money when shopping in their own neighborhood	88.00%
▼ An outreach initiative where seniors may request assistance (same day or next day) as needed	80.00%
▼ A giveback initiative where seniors may volunteer to help others as needed	60.00%
▼ A service I can call once a week (or people will call me weekly) to check on me and verify I'm okay	68.00%
▼ A program where I can get people to spend a little time with me	48.00%
▼ A program where I can get support with raising my young children or grandchildren	36.00%
Total Respondents: 25	

SoChi Seniors are mostly interested in BUSINESS RELATIONS, followed by COMMUNITY OUTREACH, then the INFO WELL, and ENGAGED VISIBILITY.

Q6

How likely would you be to participate in a Social Enterprise program that facilitates a SENIOR'S MARKET?

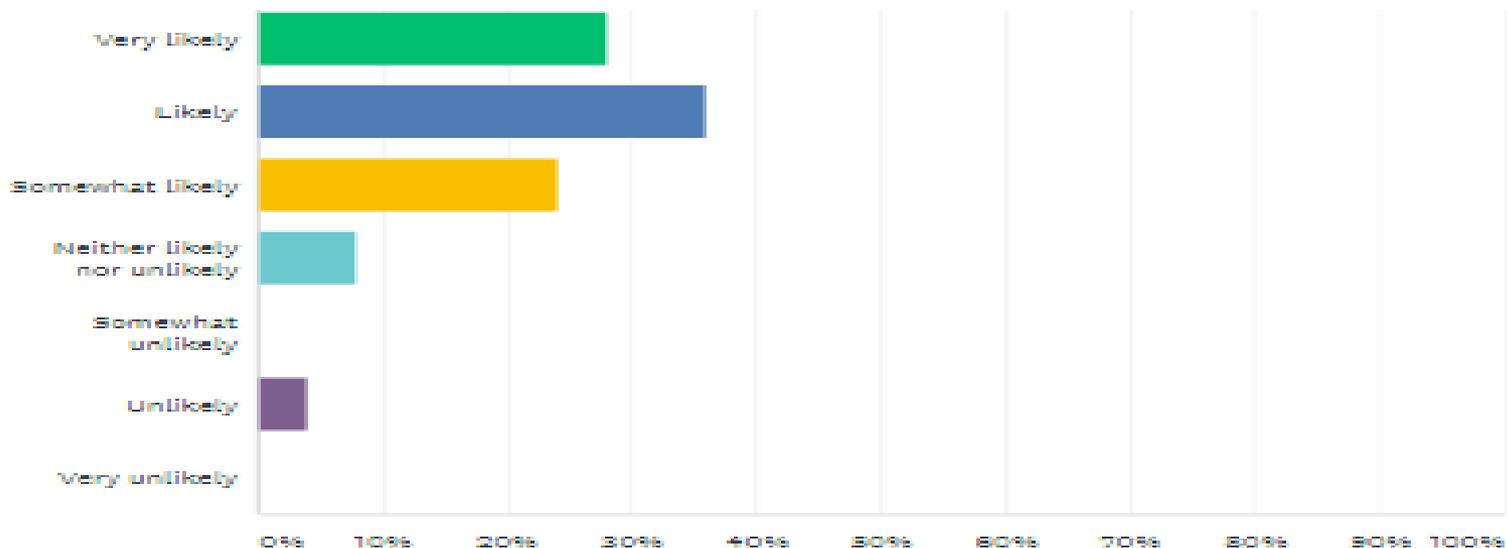


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Very likely	36.00%
Likely	12.00%
Somewhat likely	36.00%
Neither likely nor unlikely	8.00%
Somewhat unlikely	0.00%
Unlikely	4.00%
Very unlikely	4.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	

64% thought a Senior's Market beneficial (Q5) and 84% said they may participate

Q7

How likely would you be to participate in a Community Outreach program where you can request and donate services?

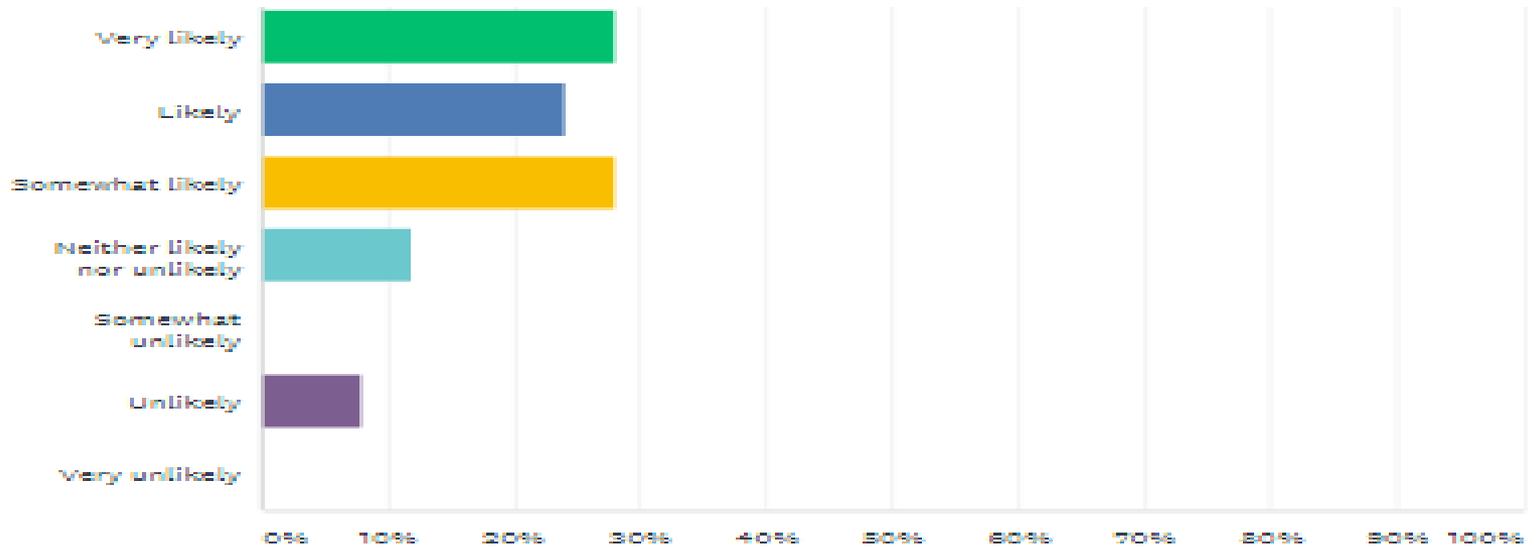


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Very likely	28.00%
Likely	36.00%
Somewhat likely	24.00%
Neither likely nor unlikely	8.00%
Somewhat unlikely	0.00%
Unlikely	4.00%
Very unlikely	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	

80% deem Community Outreach beneficial (Q5), with only 4% unlikely to participate

Q8

How likely would you be to participate in an Engaged Visibility initiative that heavily relies on a TELEPHONE REASSURANCE PROGRAM?

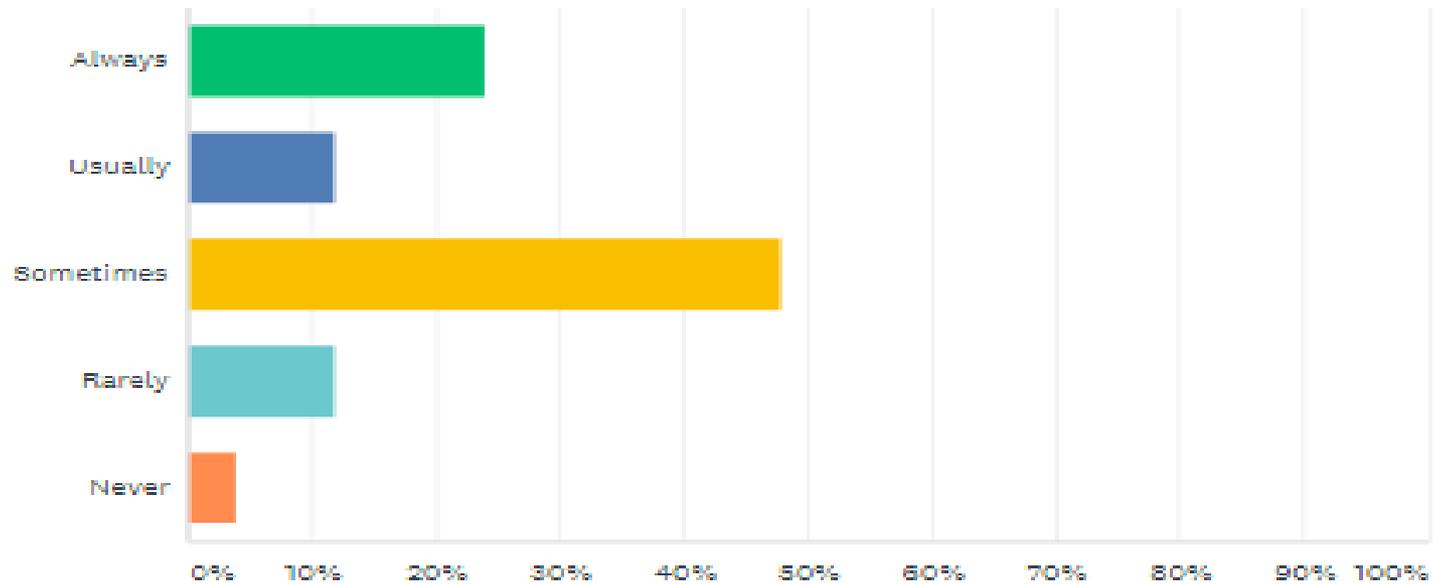


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Very likely	28.00%
Likely	24.00%
Somewhat likely	28.00%
Neither likely nor unlikely	12.00%
Somewhat unlikely	0.00%
Unlikely	8.00%
Very unlikely	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	

65% see the benefit of Telephone Reassurance (Q5), with only 8% are unlikely to participate

Q9

## How often do you shop with South Chicago businesses?

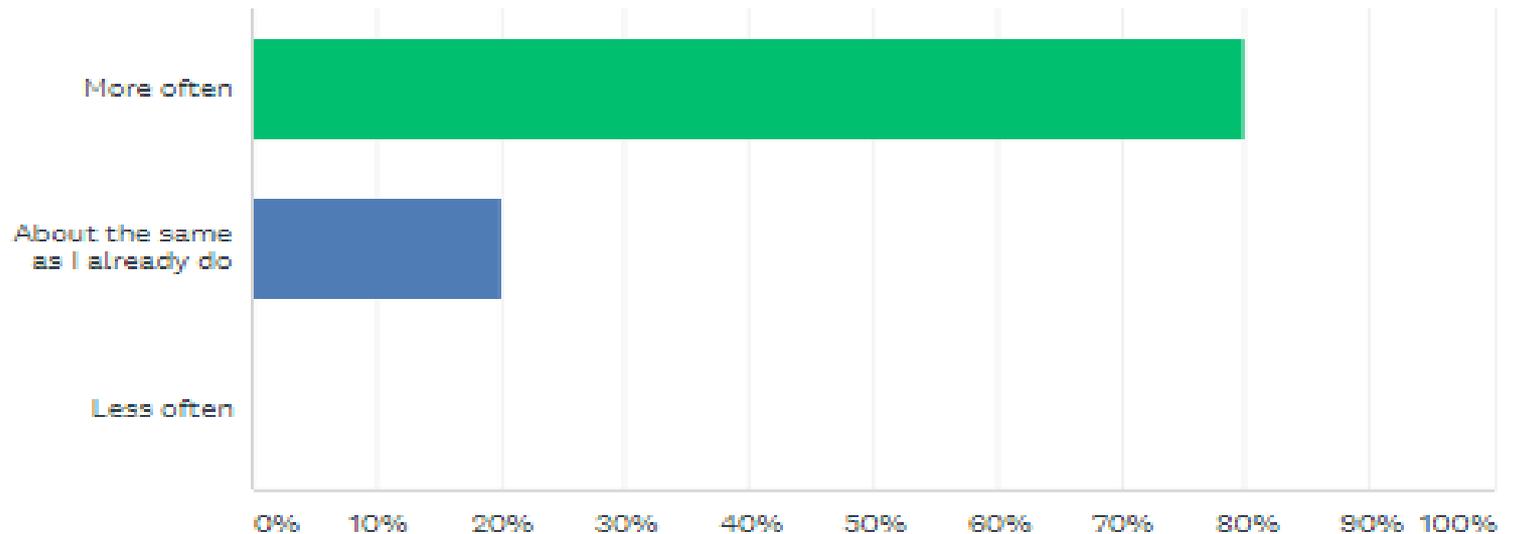


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Always	24.00%
Usually	12.00%
Sometimes	48.00%
Rarely	12.00%
Never	4.00%
TOTAL	

48% say they sometimes shop with neighborhood SoChi businesses

Q10

How often would you shop with South Chicago businesses if they offered a SENIOR CITIZENS DISCOUNT?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
More often	80.00%
About the same as I already do	20.00%
Less often	0.00%
TOTAL	

80% would shop in neighborhood more often if discounts were in place

# WHAT ELSE DO SENIORS WANT?

- New information to keep current
  - Coats and blankets during Winter
  - Art classes in neighborhood
  - Health club in neighborhood
  - Free water and free garbage for homeowners 65+
  - More police in the area
  - More of everything for SoChi and nearby neighborhoods including Jeffery Manor
- 

## OUR SENIORS ARE READY!

The Seniors of the South Chicago neighborhood are a unique breed of **exemplars**. They value activity and relationship, and are **pioneers and visionaries** who remain engaged within their neighborhood and throughout the City of Chicago. They have also raised their families to uphold those same **values of community!** Let's do what we can to show our appreciation for them, and to help them remain in their homes and within their community as they continue to **age gracefully**.





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*Thank you for  
participating!*