



Pioneer Network

We commit to these Values and Principles:

- ◆ Know each person
- ◆ Each person can and does make a difference
- ◆ Relationship is the fundamental building block of a transformed culture
- ◆ Respond to spirit, as well as mind and body
- ◆ Risk taking is a normal part of life
- ◆ Put person before task
- ◆ All elders are entitled to self-determination wherever they live
- ◆ Community is the antidote to institutionalization
- ◆ Do unto others as you would have them do unto you
- ◆ Promote the growth and development of all
- ◆ Shape and use the potential of the environment in all its aspects: physical, organizational, psycho/social/spiritual
- ◆ Practice self-examination, searching for new creativity and opportunities for doing better
- ◆ Recognize that culture change and transformation are not destinations but a journey, always a work in progress



OUR VISION

**A Culture of Aging that is Life-Affirming,
Satisfying, Humane and Meaningful**

We recognize our need to create ways of living and working together different from the traditional models. The Pioneer Network supports models where elders live in open, diverse, caring communities. Pioneers are working for deep system change by both evolutionary and revolutionary means, using Pioneer values and principles as the foundations for change. In-depth change in systems requires change in governmental policy and regulation; change in the individual's and society's attitudes toward aging and elders; change in elders' attitudes towards themselves and their aging; and change in the attitudes and behavior of care-givers toward those for whom they care. We refer to this work as culture change. Our aim is nothing less than transforming the culture of aging in America.

OUR MISSION

The Pioneer Network advocates and facilitates deep system change and transformation in our culture of aging. To achieve this, we:

- ◆ Create communication, networking and learning opportunities
- ◆ Build and support relationships and community
- ◆ Identify and promote transformations in practice, services, public policy and research
- ◆ Develop and provide access to resources and leadership