



**CASE STATEMENT ADOPTED BY LEADINGAGE
AS U.S. CHAPTER OF IAHSa:**

ENGAGEMENT with AGEING on a GLOBAL SCALE

Population ageing is a major trend with global implications. One in nine persons in the world is aged 60 and over today. This number is projected to increase to one in five by 2050. It is a phenomenon that presents endless opportunities and challenges, not the least of which is how to ensure adequate, quality and affordable services and supports to those in need.

Countries, including the U.S., have each developed their own solutions to this challenge based on public policies and cultural norms. Across nations, there is a wide spectrum of approaches and considerable ingenuity and innovation. But there are also enormous gaps in understanding aging and in the systems and services necessary to address unmet needs.

Over two decades ago, LeadingAge established IAHSa (International Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing) to embrace the broader, global community of ageing services organizations. IAHSa was established with the belief that we have much to learn and much to share and that only by working together will we create a better world in which to grow old. Solutions are viable across borders, knowledge is meant to be shared, collaboration is essential and learning together is fundamental.

The opportunity is guided by the LeadingAge vision to continually transform society's vision and deepen members' commitment to expanding the world of possibilities for aging. It is shaped by our values:

**Community
Integrity
Dignity
Innovation
Outstanding Quality
Stewardship**

As the U.S. chapter of IAHSa, LeadingAge and its members have a unique window on the global community and an unparalleled opportunity for engagement. We can do so by sharing knowledge, exchanging staff, extending our missions, and participating in cross-border networks. We have the opportunity to develop professional connections and gain experiences that will enrich the lives of staff, residents and organizations. We have a chance to gather new ideas, approaches and innovative solutions. As organizations and businesses compete for a role in burgeoning markets for senior housing and care, new opportunities for business development are present. LeadingAge members can make a difference at home and abroad through IAHSa's global network.

Engagement can occur along a broad spectrum of possibilities.

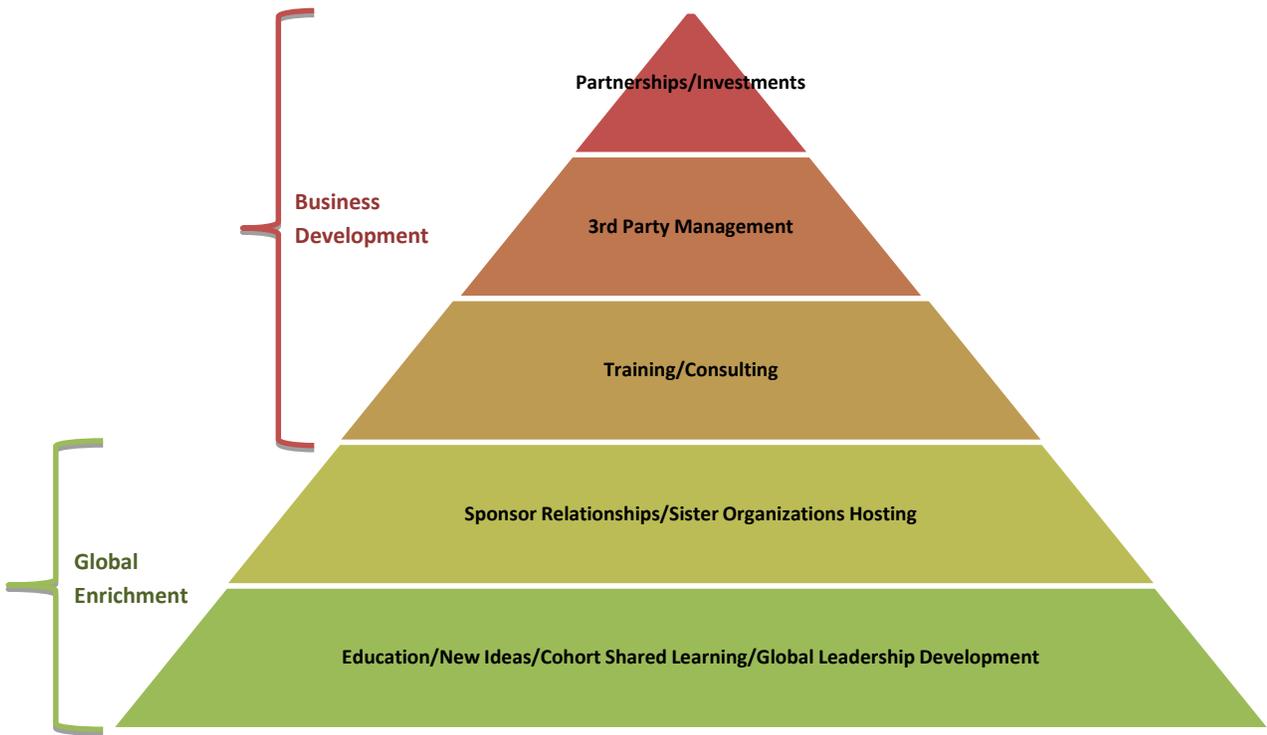
- Attend IAHSA conferences
- Speak at IAHSA conferences
- Connect, via IAHSA, to providers in other countries
- Provide technical support to a provider organization in a less developed country
- Conduct and/or host site visits with professionals from other countries
- Provide story ideas and/or write articles for the IAHSA newsletter (Alliance) or website on exemplary programs, evidence-based research, technology applications and design
- Participate in U.N. activity focused on advocating for a Human Rights Convention for the Elderly
- Exchange staff with a provider in another country
- Submit designs for IAHSA Design for Ageing showcase
- Participate in or send a staff member to participate in IAHSA Leadership Retreat (created based on the principles of the LeadingAge Leadership Academy)
- Develop business partnerships

LeadingAge, through its association with IAHSA, can open doors for its members to unique experiences that come with global engagement. It takes a dose of curiosity, an ounce of humility, an open mind and a commitment to peer learning and meaningful partnerships that will expand the world of possibilities for ageing.

For more information or to become more active in IAHSA and in global ageing, email info@iahsa.net or ksloan@iahsa.net.

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Levels of Engagement



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