Isolation in older adults is rarely caused by a single event. More often, it's the result of multiple causes, including poor physical and mental health, poorly designed communities, and major life events such as loss and retirement. Risk factors include:

about

Social Isolation

from Connect2Affect.org

Most prevalent causes of isolation

Responses that may prevent or reduce isolation



Transportation Challenges

Lack of accessible and affordable transportation options

Driving retirement

Volunteer-based ride programs

Liveable/age-friendly community initiatives

Poor Health and Well-being

Untreated hearing loss

Mobility impairments

Frailty

Poor mental health

Falls prevention programs

Chronic disease self-management

Life Transitions, Role Loss or Change

Leaving the workforce

Loss of a partner or

friends

Becoming a caregiver

Support groups
Lifelong learning
(Volunteering)
Senior Centers
Creative/artful aging

Societal Barriers

Ageism

Lack of opportunities for older adults to engage and contribute

Intergenerational programs

Lifelong learning (Volunteering)

Policies to support an older work force

Lack of Access and Inequality

Poverty
Rural living
Marginalized groups
(racial/ethnic/minorities,
LGBT.etc.)

Resiliency & empowerment models
Home-sharing models
Technology training