

## 55+ COMMUNITY BENEFITS

The 55+ communities provide the following benefits:

1. They are self-governing and must, by law, provide their association members with recreational amenities and a clubhouse, taking the financial burden from the county.
2. Some communities maintain their own roads and utilities.
3. Financial stability. Low to zero rate of foreclosures.
4. Support local businesses year round, especially in off-season. Without senior population, about 35 percent of the Manatee County, many businesses would fail.
5. 55+ communities have a low crime rate; a huge difference between multi-family high-rise apartments.
6. In 2007, a good year, the rental vacancy rate was 18.5 percent.
7. They volunteer for local activities and charitable causes.

An American turns 62 every 7.5 seconds. By 2015, more than 45 percent will be 50+. We need more 55+ housing, not less!