Four Cornerstones

The Bernard Osher Foundation funds 117 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes around the country in order to ensure the following opportunities for those 50 years of age and over:



Lifelong Learning

OLLIS are to provide opportunities for people to gain mental, physical, and holistic growth to ensure healthy aging.



Civic Engagement / Community

OLLIs are to engage with each other and the communities in which they are located.



Collegiality

OLLIs are to have environments that exhibit cooperative atmosphere toward continued expansion of opportunities.



Leadership

OLLIs are to be cooperatively led by members and the host university. Leaders are to focus on the continued depth and breath of OLLI.

Three Measures

To ensure OLLIs are effective, The Bernard Osher Foundation looks at three measureable outcomes:



Diversity

OLLIs are to reflect diversity of gender, age, race/ethnicity, economics, education, and faith that are representative of the entire coverage area.



Sustainable Fundraising

OLLIs are to gain philanthropic resources outside of the Osher Foundation in order to gain community visibility, have local people who are invested in the OLLI purpose, and to enable continued growth and innovation.



Sustainable Membership

OLLIS are to ensure that membership reflects the community and is diverse in age groups in a way that ensures the future of OLLI beyond the current membership.

