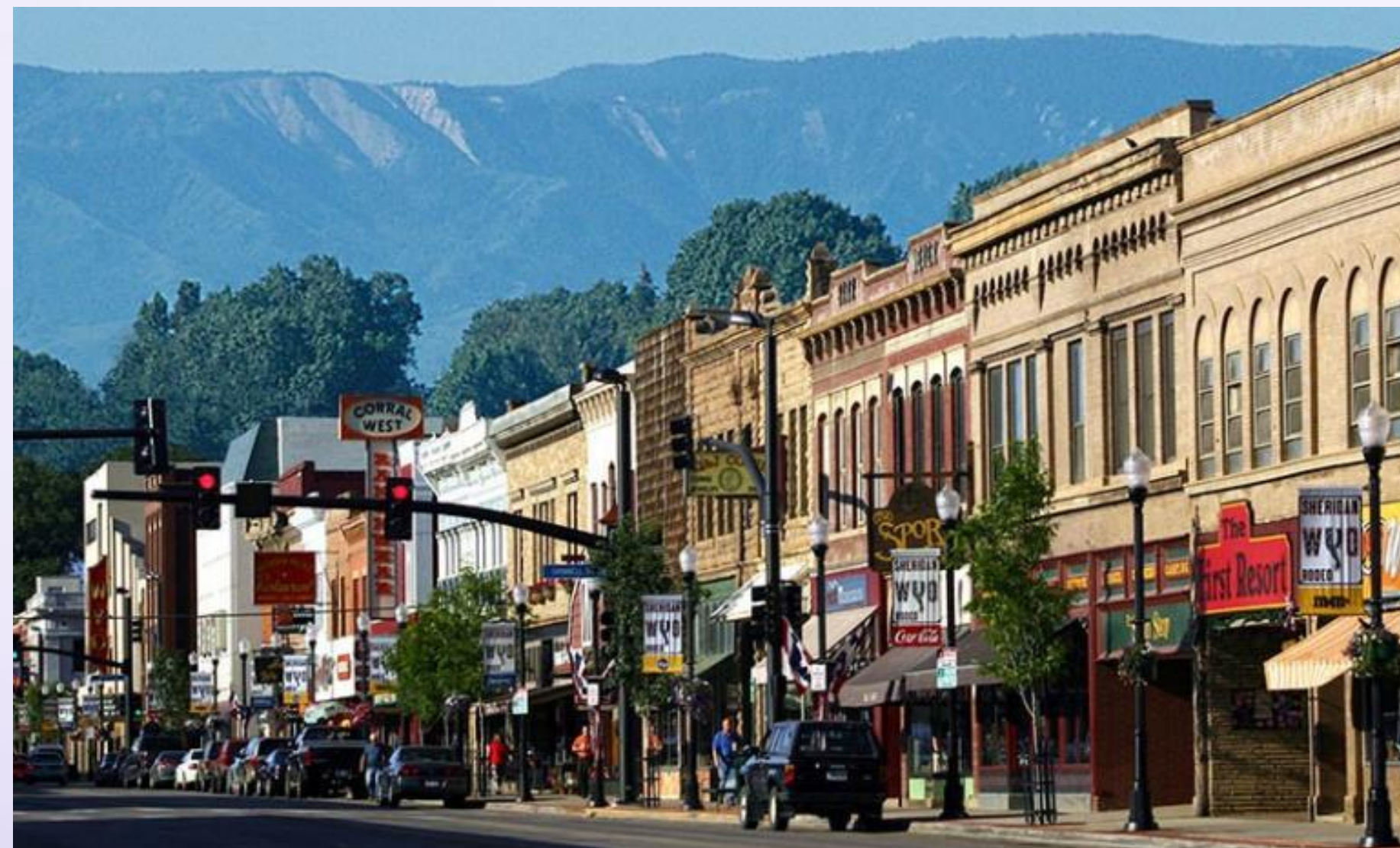


# Dementia Screening Initiative (DSI): Providing Dementia Screening and Community Support in Sheridan

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## Purpose

The purpose of the Dementia Screening Initiative is to offer community dementia screening to Sheridan elders, ages 65 and older, and to provide positively screened people with a community member trained to offer dementia resources and support.



*Historic downtown of Sheridan, WY*

## Background

- Sheridan County, WY has a population of 30,032
- 19.5% of Sheridan County's population is age 65 and over as of 2016
- This population is expected to grow to over 24% by 2040
- 41.6% of elders 65 and over in Wyoming have Alzheimer's as of 2016
- This population is expected to grow to 61.8% by 2025

## Methods

- A literature review identified community dementia screenings to be effective at increasing overall screening and a valuable experience to those screened
- A plan for implementing dementia screening was discussed with Sheridan's Dementia Friendly Community founder and Sheridan Senior Center's Executive Director and Director of In-Home Services

## Results

- DSI includes:
  - Received written permission for use of the Mini-Cog™ by author, Dr. Soo Borson
  - Training In-Home Services case managers to administer and score the Mini-Cog™
  - Offer Dementia Screening to new and established clients of In-Home Services
  - Connect clients with abnormal screening results with a community physician for further screening and testing
  - Connect said clients with a personal Gathering Positive Solutions (GPS) volunteer who will provide resources and support
- The Senior Center Directors approve of this plan and look forward to implementing this intervention as soon as GPS volunteers have been trained



*In-Home Services Case Managers practice administering and scoring the Mini-Cog™*

## Discussion

- Positive aspects of this intervention:
  - Easy to implement
  - Administration of the screening can be performed by a layperson and training is simple
  - Cost of the intervention is free
  - Helps the GPS program locate elders with dementia for their volunteers
- Challenges of this intervention:
  - GPS is not fully functioning yet, so the intervention cannot be implemented right away
  - This intervention only reaches elders who are clients of In-Home Services
- Once Dementia Friendly Community and the Senior Center hear back about their funding grant, they will proceed forward with the GPS program and begin to implement this intervention
- If they receive funding, they may be able to expand this intervention to reach more elders in Sheridan; if not, they can continue with the plan as proposed
- This intervention is being taken on by Dementia Friendly Community and the Senior Center as just one of many new projects designed to increase dementia screening in Sheridan