

# Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services

*Creating choices for elders and adults with disabilities in Seattle-King County*

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www.adsadvisorycouncil.org

## MONTHLY MEETING DECEMBER 11, 2007

### MEMBERS PRESENT

<u>CITY OF SEATTLE</u>	KING COUNTY	UNITED WAY
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacancy	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacancy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Midge Levy, Secretary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barbara Hurst	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacancy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diane Snell	<input type="checkbox"/> Elsie Erickson	<input type="checkbox"/> Thelma Pegues, Member-At-Large
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Pierre Loebel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Silversity Madrazo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Jonathan Wanagat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Rasmussen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kaylene Moon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Moreland, Chair
<input type="checkbox"/> Marie Cook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rose Finnegan	<input type="checkbox"/> Phil Pitruzzello
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Houston Brown, V- Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art Mussman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Miller
<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Robert Gross	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kate Slaminko	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Ballard
<input type="checkbox"/> Candace Inagi	<input type="checkbox"/> Cathy VonWald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Astle-Raen

**Excused Absence** Marie Cook, Dr. Robert Gross, Candace Inagi, Elsie Erickson, Cathy VonWald, Phil Pitruzzello, Thelma Pegues

**Guests** Ninfa Quiroz, Carolyn Hale

**ADS Staff** Pamela Piering, Rosemary Cunningham, Marcy Kubbs, Karen Winston, Doug Ricker, Maria Langlais, Andrea Yip

**United Way Staff** Linda Woodall

**King County Staff** Linda Wells

## MINUTES

**Don Moreland, Chair**, welcomed Advisory Council members and ADS staff to the meeting. He asked those present to introduce themselves.

In association with the Area Agency on Aging for Seattle-King County and sponsored by:



## **PROGRAM : HOLIDAY CELEBRATION & LUNCH BUFFET**

Following the lunch buffet, the Advisory Council's three Sponsors, **Patricia McInturff**, Director, City of Seattle Human Services Department, **Jackie MacLean**, Director, King County Community and Human Services Department, and **David Okimoto**, Vice President of Community Services, United Way of Seattle-King County spoke to the Council about a variety of issues facing their organizations.

### **United Way**

**David Okimoto** thanked Don Moreland for chairing the Advisory Council the last two years and for providing his guidance to the Sponsors, Advisory Council and Aging and Disability Services (ADS) as the designated Area Agency on Aging. He congratulated Michael Miller on his being named the new Chair for 2008.

United Way has a current budget of \$100 million. Of that, \$60 million goes directly to designated agencies and \$10 million to United Way administration. Thirty million dollars is discretionary funding. The current top priority for the discretionary funds is providing services to the very ill who are without homes. United Way's goal is to raise \$25 million for the chronically homeless to provide 1000 units of permanent supportive housing. In the near future his organization wants to apply a similar strategy to obtain additional funding to serve older adults.

Pam Piering serves on United Way's Older Adult Impact Council. The council has identified priorities that include caregivers, healthy aging and hunger.

### **King County**

**Jackie MacLean** thanked the Advisory Council for its spirit, knowledge and hard work. She had three items she wished to discuss with the council.

- The Veterans & Human Services Levy is a property tax levy voters passed almost two years ago that provides \$11 million a year in additional funding for human service and veterans programs. In the first year, funding went to the housing capital program. Funding is being provided for the PEARLS program. An RFP is out and will close next week.
- King County also has a new sales tax of one tenth of one percent that will provide funding for 30 projects including two focusing on elders: 1) depression treatment and 2) Geriatric Regional Assessment Team (GRAT) services.
- While new sources of funding are available for services, King County government operations will face cuts for 2008 and probably for 2009 as well.

### **City of Seattle**

**Patricia McInturff** reported a recently completed budget process has been good to Human Services and includes such things as:

- \$200,000 additional funding for senior centers
- 3.7% inflationary adjustment

- Other services that support older adults such as dental clinics, and rent assistance

Patricia reported that in April, the City will start a new two-year budget process. She is sorry Councilmember Rasmussen will not be Chair of the Health, Housing and Human Services Committee through that process.

The Council broke up by sponsoring agencies for small group conversations.

### **City of Seattle**

Patricia reported that the budget for the Human Services Department is about \$100 million to fund such programs as ADS, Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Prevention, Children & Families, Youth Services, Emergency Services and Ending Homelessness. In response to a question, she indicated she has served in a number of public and non-profit agencies over the years, including Public Health-Seattle & King County, Senior Services of Seattle-King County and more recently the City's Parks Department.

Former Advisory Council member Murray Meld inquired about a Resolution regarding condo conversions. In response, Patricia stated she serves on the Interagency Council for the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness and indicated the Mayor recognizes the importance of having affordable housing to attract families to live in the City. She mentioned Adrienne Quinn with the City's Office on Housing may be an interesting person for the Advisory Council to invite to a meeting. Diane Snell indicated Senator Frank Chopp has apologized for not supporting the State Condo Conversion Cap bill and has indicated he will support it this year.

Pam Piering added that after the Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) and King County Housing Authority (KCHA) presentation to the Advisory Council this year, ADS began exploring the possibility of the three organizations studying future housing needs for older adults and adults with disabilities. Margaret Casey will lead the work. The City's Housing Levy will be up in 2011, and it is hoped the needs assessment will contribute to discussions of renewal of the levy.

Dr. Loebel who is a geriatric psychiatrist observed that people appear more concerned about Alzheimer's disease than with the issues of depression and suicide among the elderly. Patricia shared data that indicates the longer individuals live, the greater the likelihood they will have Alzheimer's creating expensive challenges for communities with fewer and fewer caregivers. She added that King County is responsible for funding mental health services in the county and a new sales tax of one tenth of one percent will bring additional funding for services.

Dr. Loebel noted that with older adults you are not looking at a single entity disease model, but more often several chronic diseases. Networking and teamwork across disciplines including primary care providers, social services & caregivers will be necessary. Pam noted that the King County Care Partners chronic disease management program has required just such community networking.

Diane Snell indicated a recent article on brain tissue examinations of the deceased found no differences in the brains of active older adults and those with Alzheimer's disease. The only difference was active older adults did not exhibit the symptoms of Alzheimer's.

Murray mentioned "aging in place" communities, such as Beacon Hill Village in Boston, a nonprofit association that helps residents of the Boston neighborhood stay in their homes as they age. For a membership fee of \$550 a year for a single person, a variety of services are provided such as weekly rides to the grocery store, access to a geriatric-care manager and concierge-type services. Murray indicated it is an interesting model that enabled people to help themselves.

## **King County**

During the small group discussion with Jackie MacLean, King County Sponsor, Advisory Council members asked about the following issues:

### **(1) What providers will benefit from the 2% COLA?**

The 2008 base budget maintained the 2007 COLA increase for programs that serve women, youth, families, and aging. There were no additional COLA increases for programs in 2008.

The one tenth of one percent sales tax revenue for Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division will provide additional funding for many programs in King County, including the Geriatric Regional Assessment Team.

The Veterans and Human Services Levy will provide funding to expand the PEARLS program for treatment for mildly depressed older adults, older veterans and older spouses of veterans.

### **(2) Why does the County keep crisis interventionists in agency-based programs when the wages are so low? Why doesn't the County assume responsibility for these positions?**

Jackie acknowledged this as a contentious issue and indicated that the sales tax revenues will help decrease caseloads in the future.

### **(3) What's the plan regarding transportation?**

Jackie acknowledged that there are many long term issues on the horizon for 2008. She stated that problems with the viaduct have over-shadowed everything. The King County Special Needs Transportation Steering Committee is working together to develop an ongoing coordinated plan for King County. Outreach workshops will be held in early 2008 to provide information to and gain feedback from interested parties living in King County.

### **(4) Other upcoming issues:**

- Domestic violence and elder abuse.
- Cross-county projects such as a senior employment program that will serve adults 45+.
- Second Chance Initiative to assist people who are seeking to boost their education and employment opportunities. She referenced the Self-Sufficiency Calculator, a tool used to

determine how much it really costs to meet a family's basic needs. For more information visit the Workforce Development Council website at:

[http://www.seakingwdc.org/Templates/js\\_calculator.html](http://www.seakingwdc.org/Templates/js_calculator.html)

- The county will also be examining issues of importance in the developmental disabilities system.

### **United Way**

**Don Moreland** thanked Ann Ballard for her service on the council. **David Okimoto** handed out United Way Advisory Council appointment letters and opened up the discussion for current members to talk about their concerns and interests.

Ann emphasized the need for a housing focus and expressed concern that United Way might be focusing too much on the homeless without emphasizing how to house them. David responded that they understand the importance of housing and the need for a broad definition of homelessness. He noted that many of the homeless in King County are over 60 years of age. Linda Woodall noted that 30% to 40% of the homeless are veterans.

Midge Levy stated that the homelessness agenda was something the whole council could support, but wondered if we know enough about the causes of homelessness. Is more research needed?

David noted that there are three broad categories of homeless: youth, families with children, and single adults. United Way is seeing an increase in the latter category due to traumatized veterans returning from Iraq and individuals being inappropriately discharged from mental health facilities. On the housing front, he said two key actions needed are to advocate for more housing and for more support from the state.

Will Parry asked for clarification regarding the \$100 million United Way budget, and how much of that comes from "mega-donors" versus workplace donations. David acknowledged that big donors are playing a larger role, due in part to a flattening in workplace donations.

Michael Miller urged the expansion of United Way's Mental Health Work Group, or the creation of a new group focused on people with disabilities. David agreed the system is not well set up to deal with adults (especially veterans) who have disabilities. Data are poor as well. Linda mentioned the BRFSS data as one promising source.

Don asked what the Council can do to help United Way. David said the Council should work with Linda Woodall and the Impact Council. Linda mentioned three areas the Impact Council's interests overlap with the Council's: caregiving, falls prevention, and depression/suicide prevention.

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

### **Minutes**

**Action Taken:** It was moved/seconded and passed that the November 9, 2007 minutes be approved once corrected to reflect that Ann Ballard was present at the meeting.

### **COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS**

#### **Seattle City Council**

**Councilmember Tom Rasmussen** indicated he will be on the City Council another four years but committees will be reorganized and he will no longer be Chair of the Health, Housing and Human Services Committee. He stated he has enjoyed working on issues for seniors and is pleased the City Council has been able to support older adults in a variety of ways such as funding minor home repairs and Senior Centers.

Don Moreland thanked Councilmember Rasmussen for all his work.

#### **Sponsors Meeting**

Pam reported that Emergency Preparedness was the topic at the Sponsors meeting. The role of ADS in emergency planning included such things as providing telephone reassurance to clients, education, and including language in contracts on emergency preparedness. Planners from Public Health-Seattle & King County discussed steps their agency is taking to plan for vulnerable populations. Their organization is interested in funding emergency preparedness planning for homecare agencies because of the contact those agencies have with vulnerable populations.

#### **Planning & Allocations Committee**

**Rose Finnegan** reported the committee has not met so there is no report.

#### **Outreach and Advocacy / Health Care Task Force**

**Michael Miller** reported there was no meeting this month. Kaylene Moon and Diane Snell reported meeting with their legislators. Also, plans are being set for Pam and a few Advisory Council members to meet with Senator Sharon Tomiko-Santos. Doug Ricker reported he has heard from Peter Greenfield who has items he would like to discuss with the committee.

Senior Lobby Day will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2008. Doug will send details to members. Members were also reminded that this year the Advisory Council will hold its biennial Legislative Forum.

#### **Retreat Committee**

**Diane Snell** reported the retreat will be held on January 11<sup>th</sup>, the second Friday in January. The agenda for the retreat has been finalized, and Bill Grace who led the Center for Ethical Leadership for several years will be the guest speaker. Details will be mailed to members before the retreat.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Director's Report

**Pamela Piering** reported on several items including the following:

#### 1. **Legislative Report**

- **Senior Lobby Day** – Pam reported Senior Lobby Day is being held early this year, on January 22, 2008, because there is a short legislative session. The meeting will be held in the ground level of the Capitol Building and the Governor has been invited. A formal program will be provided from 10:00 am to noon and attendees will meet with their legislators after that. Pam requested any members making their own appointments with legislators contact Doug Ricker, so he can track planned visits with legislators. Pam indicated a map has been created to show the number of clients served by ADS in each legislative district. This map will be a useful advocacy tool and will be sent to members prior to the event.
- **Governor's Budget**- The Governor's budget will be out next week. It may include additional funds for Aging and Disability Resource Centers or family caregivers.
- **Legislation** -Legislation based on the work of the Long Term Care Task Force may be introduced this session. Legislation related to the Senior Citizen's Services Act may also be introduced.
- **Washington Area Agencies on Aging (W4A)** - The W4A will support raising the funding level for the Senior Citizen's Services Act, Family Caregivers, and for Aging and Disability Resource Centers.
- **Federal Level** – Because of the ongoing stalemate in Congress, a stop-gap resolution to continue funding services until December 21, 2007 was passed. This includes Older Americans Act services.
- **Today's Sponsor's Presentation** – Pam noted she was pleased the Sponsors reported an increase in funding for services for older adults. This includes King County's plans to provide funding for the PEARLS program and United Ways future plans to raise money to support caregivers. Pam mentioned that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has provided 3 years of funding to improve ADS's PEARLS program and includes funding for another counselor.

2. **Housing Needs Assessment** – Seattle Housing Authority, King County Housing Authority and ADS will evaluate housing needs for the coming Baby Boomers.

3. **Area Plan** – The Area Plan was submitted to the State and ADS received only a few comments back on the plan.

4. **Mental Health** – The Geriatric Regional Assessment Team (GRAT) is now a certified chemical dependency agency. It has received \$20,000 from King County to provide in-home chemical dependency outreach services.

**Will Parry** with the Puget Sound Alliance for Retired Americans added that their organization's Fall Legislative Conference identified three primary advocacy issues. He suggested ADS may want to build an action component into its Legislative Forum. He also suggested that in the future ADS invite former Advisory Council members to its annual holiday party.

### **Special Recognition**

Pam gave a certificate of appreciation to Ann Ballard for her great advocacy work while serving on the council. She is leaving the Advisory Council at the end of the month. Pam also recognized Don Moreland and thanked him for his superb leadership the last two years while serving as chair of the council. He was given a certificate of appreciation and gift certificate.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

### **NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

**Friday, February 8, 2008**

**Noon – 2:00 p.m.**

**6070 Conference Room**

**Seattle Municipal Tower**

**700 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

**Seattle, WA 98104**

**(206) 684-0660**

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