

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

AUGUST 8, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT

City of Seattle	King County	United Way
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vacant
<input type="checkbox"/> Barbara Hurst, Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diane Snell	<input type="checkbox"/> Julie Peterson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thelma Pegues
<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Pierre Loebel	<input type="checkbox"/> Silversity Madrazo, Member-at-large	<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Jonathan Wanagat
<input type="checkbox"/> Tim Burgess, elected official	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kaylene Moon	<input type="checkbox"/> Don Moreland
<input type="checkbox"/> Marie Cook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rose Finnegan	<input type="checkbox"/> Phil Pitruzzello
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Houston Brown,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art Mussman, V Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Miller, AC Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Robert Gross	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kate Slaminko	<input type="checkbox"/> Midge Levy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jacqueline Deerr-Lord	<input type="checkbox"/> Cathy VonWald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Astle-Raaen

Excused Absence	Phil Pitruzzello, Julie Peterson, Dr. Pierre Loebel, Tim Burgess, Marie Cook, Silversity Madrazo. Cathy VonWald, Dr. Jonathan Wanagat, Don Moreland, Midge Levy, Amy Holland
Guests:	
ADS Staff	Karen Winston, Doug Ricker, Gigi Meinig, Maria Langlais, Andrea Yip, Hector Sidoine, Margaret Casey, Selina Chow
United Way Staff	Linda Woodall
King County Staff	Linda Wells
City of Seattle	Pamela Piering

MINUTES

Michael Miller, 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:



Business Meeting

Minutes: Action Taken: It was moved, seconded and passed that the June 13 minutes be approved.

COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

Sponsors Meeting – Pam will report under the director’s report

City Council Report – no report

Planning and Allocations Committee – Rose will report at 1:45 during the beginning of the public comment period.

Outreach and Advocacy/Health Care - Kaylene asked if members received her email regarding advocacy. Most of the members did receive her email. Kaylene encouraged people who did not to contact her.

NW Universal Design Council – no report

Legislative Forum Committee – Doug reported the committee completed a draft agenda and scheduled a number of speakers including:

Michael Miller, Chair, Aging and Disability Service Advisory Council

Tony Lee, Advocacy Director, Solid Ground

Sally Nixon, Director Pierce County AAA

Dawn Morrel, State Representative

Jeannie Darnell, State Representative

Eric Pettigrew, State Representative (invited)

Larry Crouse, State Representative (invited)

Terri Baker, Chair, Pierce County Aging and Long Term Care Advisory Board

Kathy Leitch, Assistant Secretary Aging and Disability Services Administration

Pamela Piering, Director, Aging and Disability Services

Michael Miller, Chair, Aging and Disability Service Advisory Council

State Council on Aging – no report

Communications Committee – Kate reported the committee continues to work on September Senior Digest Topics.

Director’s Report

Sponsors Meeting

The sponsors were given an overview of the home care and case management tabletop exercise. Aging and Disability Services collaborated with Public Health, Home Care Agencies, and case management during the six month planning process. The exercise resulted in the creation of an after action report, which focused on communication, business continuity, and back-up systems.

Linda Woodall from United Way reported that a number of non-profit United Way agencies received recent training in emergency preparedness.

N4A Conference in Tennessee

- Pam attended the N4A conference in Tennessee. She moderated a panel for AAA directors analyzing the impact, benefits and challenges of incorporating Medicaid into the scope of AAA services. Washington State is one of the few States where AAAs administer Medicaid programs. Most AAAs continue to administer Older American's Act funds, but are interested in exploring options related to Medicaid.
- Pam reported AAAs in other regions are considering the possibility of hiring a lobbyist. Pam was proud to report the Washington State AAAs have had a lobbyist for a number of years.
- Finally, she reported elder abuse was a major theme at the conference. In Washington State the Elder Abuse system is handled by the State, However, in many States the AAAs administer the elder abuse system.

Mental Health and Older Adults Forum

From Tennessee Pam traveled to Washington DC to participate in a mental health and older adult's forum. Dr. Snowden from Harborview and Bea Rector, Aging and Disability Administration, joined Pam in presenting information on PEARLS. Forum participants set a goal is to implement the PEARLS program in 10 states within the next five years.

State Council on Aging (SCOA)

The governor attended the previous SCOA meeting. She encouraged the creation of local forums to develop strategies to accommodate the baby boom generation as they age. She suggested a wide range of sectors beyond government and non profits, including business, architects employers, transportation be incorporated. It is anticipated a summit will be held in the spring, and may function as a roll-up for local forums held throughout the year. The first Forum will be held October 7 in Spokane. The Forum planners have a number of exciting ideas including the use of wireless voting to gather demographics and record recommendations of participants. Pam suggested King County might consider hosting a forum in February or March of 2009.

Announcements

Important Dates

September 12 – Advisory Council

September 17 – Legislative Forum

October 10 CANCEL King County Advisory Council Meeting

October 16 (Thursday) State Advisory Council, Tukwila

October 17 (Friday) Senior Lobby

Telly Awards www.tellyawards.com

Art reported the film shown at the previous advisory council on *Elder Abuse and Neglect* received a Telly Award, which honors the year's best films created for cable or the web. The award is similar to the Oscars for entertainment films.

Elder Abuse Conference

Linda Wells announced the conference *Making the Case for Justice* on Elder Abuse. The Conference will be held On September 10 and 11 at the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue.

United Way Economic Stimulus Tax Rebate Outreach Strategy Session

Linda Woodall encouraged members to participate in the August 13, outreach strategy session. During the session participants will determine an effective approach to alert individuals of the importance in filing an income tax return to receive their economic stimulus checks. There is some urgency since taxpayers have until October 15 to file. She recommended it as a topic for Senior Digest.

Disability Advisory Meeting with DSHS

At the State Disability Advisory meeting, Michael learned the State will begin implementing a hiring freeze (except for essential service personnel such as police and fire). Larger budget cuts are expected after the November election.

ADA Bills/Regulations

Michael updated the Advisory Council on the several proposed ADA bills and regulations.

- ADA Restoration Act will reinstate many of the items deleted in the last few years. Although it does not restore all of the deletions, it is important to pass.
- Two new ADA regulations were written by the Department of Justice. One is related to government and the other one related to business. The public will have 60 days for comment. A portion of the regulations affect service animals. In particular, service monkeys and miniature horses. Other sections change the burden of proof from the employer to employee when the employee is fired due to their disability.

Michael asked Advisory Council members to advocate for an extension of the deadline on both laws. He will email Gigi the websites to send out to AC members.

It was suggested the AC consider Disability rights for a future as an AC program topic. If the September speaker on the built environment is not confirmed, disability rights would be an excellent back-up. Michael suggested the Advisory Council invite Toby Olson as the speaker.

Program

2008-2001 Area Plan on Aging Report Card Overview

Pamela Piering led the discussion on the progress to date on the Area Plan Objectives due for completion in 2009 including:

1. Work with the Housing Authorities in the King County area, as well as other interested partners and funders, to create a plan to meet current and future senior housing needs that support “aging in place”. (2009)

Progress:

- ADS convened partners to develop a 20 year projection of Housing & Services for King Co. including KCHA, SHA, Seattle Office on Housing, KC Community & Human Services.
- The Partnership contracted with The Cedar River Group to develop plan. Anticipated completion Fall 2008

2. Develop a Business Continuity Plan (BCP) describing how core activities will be carried out in an emergency. (2008)

Progress

- ADS convened Public Health: Seattle-King Co., case management programs, and home care agencies to begin planning - 1st quarter 2008.
- Goal: develop a coordinated response to serve over 7000 homebound Medicaid clients.

3. Study current successes & best practices in senior congregate community meal programs including use of fresh

Progress

- RFP Process 2008

4. Seek funding to increase access to PEARLS evidence-based problem-solving therapy for 25 older adults annually who experience minor depression. (2008)

Progress

- Received \$220,000 for 2008 from the King Co. Human Service & Veterans Levy.
- Contracted with International Drop-in Center and the African American Elders Program to serve persons of color
- Established partnerships with the King County Veterans Program and Plymouth Housing Group, who provide housing for homeless older veterans.

5. Advocate for full coverage by Medicare of preventive behavioral health care and full coverage for psychiatric treatment in primary care settings, and behavioral health treatment by mental health providers. (2011)

Progress

- Mental Health Parity passed both bodies of Congress, July 2008.
- The bill includes “parity” within Medicare. After phase-in patients will pay 20% co-pay for outpatient mental health services.

- Vulnerable patients will be assured to “all or substantially all” of the medications they require, specifically including antidepressants and antipsychotic medication.
6. Develop a financial literacy workshop series targeting baby boomers. The workshops will promote debt reduction and asset management and will be designed to appeal to all income levels. (2008)

Progress:

- Financial planning training to help boomers prepare for retirement was included in the Boomer recommendations to the Mayor in Spring 2008.
- Full implementation would cost approximately \$50,000 annually.
- Implementation is not anticipated in 2008-09

7. Use the new State Unit on Aging’s Tailored Care (TCare) Caregiver Assessment tool to better target family caregiver program resources. (2008)

Progress:

- ADS has been an active partner in 2008 with the state and other AAAs in tailoring the TCare system to assess the caregiver’s needs.
- ADS is set to begin the TCare demonstration as a pilot site in August, 2008.
- Implementation of the statewide TCare protocol (including a computerized assessment system) is set for summer 2009

8. Work with ADSA and local partners to seek funding for the continuation of the Dementia Partnership Project. (2008)

Progress:

- ADS is working with ADSA and its partners on a new federal Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Grant.
- The grant will allow continuation of the current Dementia Partnership Project, in conjunction with a larger Nursing Home Diversion grant from the Administration on Aging.

9. Create new partnerships with the Division of Developmental Disabilities network. (2008)

Progress:

- Five new home care contracts for developmentally disabled clients were developed and implemented in July 2008.

10. Help AC advocate for and monitor elder abuse legislation. (2008)

Progress:

- At the July 11th AC meeting a presentation was held re elder abuse/neglect in King County.
- Representatives from the King County Prosecutor’s Office and the SPD provided local data.
- Next steps: Identify system gaps, advocate for victim protection and additional resources.

For more information, please see the online power point at:
http://www.agingkingcounty.org/advisory-council/docs/Presentation_AreaPlanReport_August2008.pdf

Question: Would people with DD or Alzheimer's disease be considered candidates for the Pearls program

Answer: Only if they have the cognitive performance and level of participation required for the program.

Question: Why was the congregate meal program bid at this time?

Answer: Most services funded by the AAA are bid out every 4 years. Before ADS completed the bid process UW graduate students completed a program evaluation and made recommendations on best practices. Pam mentioned there is a small possibility more Older American's Act Funding may be available with funds targeted to nutrition.

Question: Please explain the T-Care assessments.

Answer: Doug Explained that the T-Care Assessment tool was similar to the "electronic care assessment tool used by case managers.

Question: What is the response from caregivers to the tool?

Answer: The tool was tested nationally and according to Rhoda Montgomery who began the demonstration project, the care givers like the tool because it provides an in-depth assessment progress to measure the stages of caregiving. Locally we are just beginning to test the tool.

Adjourned

The Advisory Council was adjourned at 1:45 PM in time for the Public Comment.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Friday, September 12, 2008

Noon – 2:00 p.m.

4060 Conference Room, Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Ave

Seattle, WA 98124

www.adsadvisorycouncil.org

Receive Public Comment
2009 Preliminary Discretionary Allocations
August 8, 2008

Rose Finnegan, chair of the planning and Allocations Committee gave an overview of the preliminary discretionary Allocation for 2009. The funding picture will remain flat during 2009, however, should additional funds materialize, the P&A committee made the following recommendations:

1. Carry forward the 2008 discretionary allocations into 2009, subject to actual appropriation of funds from the federal and state fund sources, and decisions from the City of Seattle 2009 Budget process.
2. Convene the Planning and Allocation Committee in December to address any impact resulting from potential City of Seattle or King County 2009 budget cuts in aging services.
3. Increase funding for Volunteer Transportation, should additional undesignated discretionary funds become available. Up to \$36,000 may be allocated to raise the volunteer mileage reimbursement rate from \$.35 to \$.45 per mile. This increase addresses the loss of volunteer drivers due to increasing gas prices.
4. Adjust the Nutrition Service Area allocation to distribute funds between Congregate and Home Delivered Meals in 2009 to meet client needs as addressed through the upcoming competitive bid process.
5. Collaborate with the Advisory Council's Legislative and Advocacy Committee to prepare requests for financial support targeted to service clubs such as Kiwanis and Rotary.

Public Comment
Aging and Disability Services
2009 Discretionary Allocation Recommendations
Public Comment Summary
August 8, 2008

The public review and comment period for the 2009 Discretionary Allocation Recommendations ended on August 8. A public hearing was also held in Seattle on August 8. Two persons made comments, and 19 individuals attended the hearing representing the following groups and organizations.

- Aging and Disability Services
- Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services
- Pike Place Senior Center
- Senior Services of Seattle/King County

In response to the July 22 memorandum about the 2009 Discretionary Recommendations, participants made the following comments.

Volunteer Transportation – Senior Services supports the committee’s identification of Volunteer Transportation as the top priority for increased funding, should additional undesignated discretionary funds become available. Senior Services has experienced a loss in volunteers due to increased gas prices. The loss not only impacts the program, but also the quality of life for both the volunteer drivers and clients.

Senior Services also discussed U.S. Senate Bill 3429, proposed legislation that would 1) raise the volunteer standard deduction rate from the current 14 cents per mile to 70 percent of the standard business deduction rate, 2) exempt from taxable income reimbursements from charities for mileage traveled by a volunteer up to the business rate (currently 58.5 cents/mile). Senior Services encouraged AC members to contact their Senators and Representatives to urge Congress to exclude reimbursements from income and to raise the volunteer mileage rate.

Response – Thank you for your comments regarding the Volunteer Transportation Program. We will forward information regarding S3429 to our Advisory Council Outreach and Advocacy Committee.

ADS also received two written comments regarding the recommendations for the 2009 Discretionary Allocations:

1. **Alzheimer’s Association** - What is the Alzheimer's Demonstration Program amount of \$40,387 for and where does the money go?

Response - The funding goes to an Alzheimer's project administered by Kin On Community Health Care. Project staff provides a comprehensive range of services to frail and disabled seniors with Alzheimer's disease, dementia and chronic conditions. Through Kin-On's Community Care Network, frail and disabled clients receive access to a care manager, a coordinated program of social, health, support services and educational programs. Kin-On Community Care Network services include Alzheimer's and dementia support, home care, home health, family caregiver support, personal emergency response and community education and outreach (e.g., newsletters, presentations and informational fairs).

Kin On staff decrease language barriers by providing services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate. This feature remains key to the delivery of case management services. Kin On staff coordinates medical care with a professional care team. Staff also collaborates with professional organizations such as Chinese Information and Service Center, and the University of Washington's Alzheimer's disease Research Center.

2. **Arthur Siegal** - After reviewing the data presented, I have a slight concern about the 3.7% inflation adjustment. Otherwise, all is well. Thank you.

Response – The 2008 3.7% inflationary adjustment was given through the 2008 City Budget process that the City Council adopted in November 2007. That increased amount becomes the 2009 base. The Mayor will present his proposed 2009 budget to the City Council in September for Council approval in November. We will know then if there is any inflationary adjustment for 2009.