



Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services
Advocating for local, state, and national programs that promote quality of life for older adults and people with disabilities in partnership with Seattle Human Services and King County.

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2019

Members Present

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor David Baker | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CM Marli Larimer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cindy Snyder |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenny Becker | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Low | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ava Frisinger | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June Michel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diana Thompson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zelda Foxall | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Minty | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Weston |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CM Debora Juarez | <input type="checkbox"/> Andrea Sawczuk | <input type="checkbox"/> Dick Woo |

Pending Members Present

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connie Bown | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Others present:

Guests: Barb Williams, Christy Stangland, Pamela Williams, Simon Rojas

AAA Staff: Cathy Knight, Maria Langlais, Andrea Yip, Janelle Jackson, Lori Sanford, Allison Boll, Sara Godinez, Dottie Hepzibah Banks, Sariga Santhosh

King County: Mary Snodgrass

DSP Crisis: Jenny Becker

- Direct Service Providers (DSPs) through Supported Living Services care for people living with intellectual and developmental disabilities – 21 million service hours for roughly 4,600 clients each year.
- Uncompetitive wages and limited resources have resulted in high turnover (~50% in the last three years) and decrease in clients served.
- DSPs leave for opportunities at Home Care, State operated programs, fast food, etc.
- \$2.25 per hour increase from the last biennium is not enough and by next biennium, DSPs will be funded well below minimum wage.
- 4.4% vendor rate is in Governor’s budget, but no sponsors
- Hourly rate is typically consistent across the state, which is a problem in areas like King County, where cost of living is high.

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- Given timing, advocacy maybe more feasible next year, but interested in meeting with legislators this session for more visibility.

National Advocacy Priorities: Cathy Knight

- Cathy attended n4a 2019 Aging Policy Briefing on March 5 and 6 in Washington, D.C.
- This year's focus was on [reauthorization of Older Americans Act](#). Last authorized in 2016, the act is due for reauthorization at the end of this federal fiscal year (Sept. 30, 2019).
- There is some nervousness about delays and concerns about the impact that demographic shifts may have on the process. The aging population in East and Midwest states are going down, while increasing in the Western states. Discussions are happening over how to reallocate funding between states, but issues like setting the funding formula are controversial. This was also a challenge for reauthorization in 2016.
- There is also talk about giving more control to states.
- There is also risk of sequestration impacts on appropriations for OAA, since it affects defense and non-defense funds.
- n4a and ADS want to ensure that OAA continues to provide a strong a strong framework for aging networks while enabling flexibility in responding the needs of communities. The state plan should reflect the local plans of 13 AAAs in Washington State.
- Social Determinants of Health - education, income, neighborhood, reliable transportation -> things that have far greater impact on health than genetics or health care -- is one of n4a's 2019 policy priorities. 80% of a person's health is based on social determinants, whereas 20% is based on health services.
- AAAs are more becoming more valuable to health care organizations and bills like Chronic Care Act validates the vital role of AAAs.
- Cathy met with staff at Senators Cantwell and Murray office and they understood our positions. She also met with staff of Reps. Jayapal, Schrier, Smith and Delbene.
- [Talking points](#) with legislators:
 - Reauthorize Older Americans Act.
 - Increase investments in supportive services, specifically: Title III B Supportive Services (20% increase), Title III E National Family Caregiver Support Program (10% increase), and Title VI Grants for Native American Aging Programs (20% increase).
 - Address social determinants of health to support our aging network.
 - Reauthorize 'Money Follows the Person' (S 548/ HR 1342) and maintain the mandatory provisions of the Medicaid Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Services.

Other Business

I. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to modify and approve December meeting minutes
 - Ava – move to modify or correct minutes
 - Connie – misspelled name on minutes
 - Ava - move to approve corrected minutes

- Passed unanimously among council members

II. COMMITTEE UPDATES

Executive:

- Will send letter from Council Chair to House budget writers (Macri and Cody) to support \$9.9 million for case management and indexing budget.

Advocacy:

- Discussed successful Senior Lobby Day - 25 in-person meetings and 4 packet drop offs

Planning and Allocations:

- Reviewed the [2018 Area Plan Report Card](#)
- Discussed current County RFP for Connections to In-Home Care that would award \$2 million for app development. Advisory Council members on the VSHSL Board will bring up issues at their next board meeting.

Universal Design:

- Developing new forum on May 30 on [planning accessible events](#).
- Discussing happy hours events with other orgs with focus on inclusion.

Mayor's Council of African American Elders:

- Focusing on community engagement opportunities with African American groups around the upcoming Area Plan.
- Hoping to schedule meeting with Mayor to discuss 2019 priorities that includes low- to very low-cost housing and a housing resource fair.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- ADS had a series of meetings with Councilmember Bagshaw. She is not running for re-election, but is interested in developing age-friendly plans for the Market to MOHAI area, specifically adding more benches to route.
- Trying to find opportunities for MCAAE and AC to collaborate on advocacy.
- Busy with Medicaid waiver -> have couple providers who do case management and family caregiver support
- Going through collaborative funding process. Qualified providers are meeting frequently to figure out service coverage and partnerships needed to deliver maximum impact. The process is expected to wrap up in June.