



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, 2024

Advisory Council Members

x	Alex O'Reilly		Dick Woo	x	Lorna Stone
x	Barb Williams	x	Dolores Wiens		Marli Larimer
	Cathy Moore	x	Joe Hailey	x	Patricia Schnepf
x	Cindy Snyder		Joel Domingo	x	Tom Minty
x	Diana Thompson		Kim-Khánh Vãn	x	Zelda Foxall

Others Present

Guests: Kari-Mae Miles (VAPSHCS), Cricket Farr (Full Life Care)

AAA Partners: Traci Adair (King County DCHS), Andi Parnell (SCA), Vedrana Durakovic (Sound Generations), Pamela Williams (MCAAE).

HSD Staff: Michael Adusah, Maria Langlais, Allison Boll, Jessica Gardner, Andrea Yip, Irene Stewart, Karen Winston, Mary Mitchell, Naisha Williams, Kevin Mundt,

WELCOME

We have 3 new voting members:

- Dolores Wiens
- Joel Domingo
- Patricia Schnepf

Their applications were approved by the Mayor's Office and forwarded to the City Council for final approval.

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ADSAdvisoryCouncil.org

In partnership with:



PRESENTATION

“Hoarding: How Much is Too Much?” by Catherine “Cricket” Farr, MA., CMHC, GMH, Director of Housing Stabilization and Supports at Full Life Care. Catherine is also Co-Chair of the NW Hoarding Coalition with Ashley Craft, Clutter Support Coordinator at Seattle Housing Authority.

The presentation focused on identifying what is Hoarding Disorder (and what it is not), learning what you can do, (and not do) to help someone who hoards, and some tools you can use today.

Conversation highlights included:

- We live in a consumer-oriented society which can contribute to the issue of hoarding.
- Situations vary; it can be because older adults downsize which requires the willingness to part with items, though there is a difference between high-clutter and hoarding.
- There is no data or programs on un-housed individuals, though conversations are taking place.
- This is a serious mental health disorder.
- The original research was not done with just older adults, but people of all ages.
- If you have questions about hoarding: <https://fulllifecare.org/northwest-hoarding-coalition/>

Please see the [presentation](#) for more details.

RACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE MOMENT

RADI-AID for Corporations – Michael Adusah

A video link <https://www.radiaid.com/> was distributed prior to the meeting and a discussion was held during the meeting with major takeaways being:

- Fundraising ads are designed to pull at heart strings by highlighting deficits of individuals they try to raise funds for.
- The deficit approach flips the messaging for well-meaning campaigns.
- Legislation just passed “Nothing About Us Without Us” focuses on inclusion of the audience.
- Please note that the video is satirical in nature to address “What responsibility does corporations have in terms of telling nuanced stories about the world and their work with social responsibilities?”

ADVISORY COUNCIL BUSINESS

I. **ACCEPTANCE OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES** – Alex O’Reilly

MOTION: A vote was taken to approve minutes from the meeting held February 9, 2024. The minutes were accepted as written without added comment.

Move to Accept: Barb Williams

Seconded: Cindy Snyder

Outcome: The February 9, 2024, approved minutes will be posted as written.

II. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Advocacy Committee - Diana Thompson

- The Skyline Skybridge Task Force is asking that the council write a letter of support for a skybridge to be built connecting the two buildings (Skyline Continuing Care Community building and Olympic Tower) across 8th avenue due to falls and injuries occurring when crossing the street. There are about 20 falls annually when crossing between the two buildings and one 9-1-1 call was made due to injuries related to a fall.

MOTION: A vote was taken to approve the writing of a letter of support for building a Skybridge between the Skyline Continuing Care Community Buildings on both sides of 8th Avenue.

Move to Accept: Alex O'Reilly

Seconded: Cindy Snyder

Outcome: The motion has passed, and Michal Adusah will draft a letter of support for the construction of a sky bridge being built.

- The Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging (W4A) is getting \$12 million for nutrition, which will fund many programs all over the state.

Planning and Allocations Committee - Lorna Stone

- The Quarterly Community Review was held last week, and it would be useful for the council to discuss it as an agenda item.
- Hoping to hear more soon on the RFP and RFQs being put out now with the city budget freeze on grants over \$1 million.

VSHSL Board Seniors Committee

- No updates were provided this month.

NW Universal Design Council - Tom Minty

- A presentation was given yesterday on NWUDC at the South King Housing and Homeless Partners, and it was well received.
- The Steering Committee Meeting is next Tuesday at 2:00 p.m.

Mayor's Council on African American Elders - Pamela Williams

- The February event for Black History Month included three programs serving African Americans. Panelists included Margaret Boddie (Program Manager of African American Elders Program Catholic Communities), Nacala Ayele (Board Chair of Harriet Tubman Center for Health and Freedom Program), and Nathan Yamane (founder and Executive Director of Health Heart N' Soul Hospice). This was our first hybrid meeting of 2024 and there were over 35 attendees.

- The March 15 meeting will have representatives from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid with presentation on those services and Marketplace health insurance.

Age-Friendly Seattle (AFS) – Michael Adusah

- The Social Connectivity Network is being launched to bring together people to discuss current efforts to help keep older adults connected.
- The next Civic Coffees are being held at CISC and cover how to spot fake news and summer entertainment opportunities.
- The public-facing Anti-Ageism Trainings are heading into production, and internet rollout with COS employees.
- Debrief discussions scheduled with Parks and Animal Shelter staff.
- The AFS Strategic Framework is now posted online.

III. REPORTS FROM AAA PARTNERS

King County Department of Community and Human Services – Traci Adair

- VSHSL Board will be meeting next month.
- VSHSL Older Adult and Elder Aging Team launched the first procurement from the renewed levy (the Senior Center Procurement). The procurement closes next week, then we'll know which centers come into the King County Senior Center Network.
- Procurement for Villages, Caregiving Supports, and Health Promotion are rolling out.
- Coordinating with Age Friendly on Emergency Outreach and supplying vulnerable older adults with emergency supplies through a Department of Health grant. This work is being highlighted at the American Society on Aging Conference in March.

Public Health Seattle-King County

- No updates were provided this month.

Sound Cities Association - Andi Parnell

- Many city leaders are headed to the National League of Cities Conference to talk about Health and Human Services, Transportation, and Housing.

IV. ADVISORY COUNCIL IN THE COMMUNITY

Alex O'Reilly:

- Trying to get information out about the property tax relief for seniors and people with disabilities.
- Met with the new director of Greenwood Senior Center and sent her the link to Community Living Connections.

Joe Hailey

- Reached out to Community Living Connections on behalf of a friend to see if he qualifies for Caregiver Respite help and passed along that information.

V. ADS DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mary Mitchell

- Maggie Thompson has accepted the permanent role as HSD Deputy Director. Division Directors (Safe and Thriving, Youth and Family Services and ADS) will continue to report to the Interim Deputy Director, Anne Lee.
- Contract Manager III position is open in ADS:
<https://www.usaging.org//Files/2024%20APB%20Agenda%20for%20Website.pdf>
- Attending the USAging Policy Briefing Conference next week in Washington D.C.
<https://www.usaging.org/2024apb>
- Received funding for WA Cares Long Term Care Benefit outreach (Raising awareness, enrollment, navigating options, etc.).
- Teams are providing documents to ALTSA for the onsite monitoring visits on April 2-5, 2024.
- ADS's Investment Processes for Senior Centers will be delayed. Agencies qualified through the VSHSL Investment Process will be invited to participate in the Senior Center process.
- In addition to the hiring freeze, the city is reviewing all contracts over \$1 million as part of their budget gap analysis.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tax Relief Presentation - Alex O'Reilly

- A presentation by the King County Assessor's Office (how to get information on tax relief eligibility requirements for seniors and people with disabilities out to communities) is scheduled for June. After the presentation, volunteers from AARP will help eligible people fill out their applications. If you are interested in setting this up in your neighborhood or community, email Michael Adusah.

Upcoming Advisory Council Meetings and Other Advocacy Events

- The next Advisory Council Meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2024, and will be held in person at the Memory Hub.

Meeting Adjourned