

Meeting: Senior Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting
Date: October 1, 2018

SAC AND STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

- Berta Varble – SDS Staff
- Erika Bekermeier – SAC Member
- Isleen Glatt – SAC Member
- Jean Carroll – SAC Member
- Jim Bachman – SAC Member
- John Curtis – SAC Member -via phone
- John Irwin – Guest
- Laura O'Bryon – SDS Director
- Linda Serra – SAC Member
- Nancy Randolph – SAC Chair
- Rhonda Lawrence – SAC Vice-Chair
- Richard Hoskins – SAC Member
- Rodney Schroeder – APD Deputy District Manager
- Sandra Theis – SAC Member

SAC MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

- Bernadette LaLonde
- Colleen Roberts
- Dan DeYoung
- Jamie Callahan
- Pat Jenkins

GUESTS

- Crystal Dawn Walker
- Cherish Dominger – Options for SO
- Ingrid Phillips

CALL TO ORDER - Nancy called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS

Introductions of guests and public comments - Introductions were made.

Additions to agenda – None.

Review and approval of September 10, 2018 Minutes –

Rhonda moved and Jean seconded a motion to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements –

- None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive – Nancy reported.

- The Committee met, developed a short list of presentation topics for future SAC meetings, and agreed to develop a Legislative Concept focused on paid leave for family caregivers to give to Pam Marsh. John Curtis provided an example of a Legislative Concept. Rhonda and Sandy agreed to work with John outside the meeting on the Concept.

Council Development – Nancy reported.

- One applicant has been invited to attend at least two meetings.

Support Services/Nutrition – Sandy reported.

- **Nutrition Advisory Committee.** Evelyn reviewed Meals on Wheels of America flyers and 2018 Food & Friends Survey Results. Most meal participants like the meals. The food quality is good. Oregon has very high standards and it can be difficult to comply, but we do. F&F has hired a new Ashland Meal Site Coordinator who started 9/19/18.

- **Support Services Committee.**

- Staff reviewed Contracts and Area Plan Timelines:

- Four-Year Area Plan – Effective January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2020. Requires annual update (usually due to State Unit on Aging by the end of February/March.) Work on new Area Plan should start fall, 2019.
- Nutrition Program Meal Preparation, Kitchen Supervisor/Driver and Two Drivers contracts – Started July 1, 2015. May be renewed for up to 4 years through June 30, 2020. Work on new solicitations should start winter, 2019.
- OPI In-Home Services – Started July 1, 2017. May be renewed annually for up to 4 years through June 30, 2021. Work on new solicitations should start winter, 2020.
- Small Services Solicitations – Should have been completed December 31, 2017. Should be done every 4-5 years. Staff is starting work now.

- The Committee will meet with District 8's two contracted in-home care providers – Addus Homecare and All Care In-home Care Solutions - to discuss outcomes of a self-monitoring. This will happen at the November, 2018 meeting.
- Sandy attended the September 10, 2018 O&C meeting to assure the committees aren't at cross purposes around employers and family caregivers in the workplace. O&C is open to working together with SS. O&C is considering a focus on Human Resources staff. SS suggests approaching organizational leadership and starting small (maybe in Ashland?) with the idea of building a model that can be expanded into the rest of District 8. Also, there are effective models being used throughout the country from which we can draw. In fact, the Southern Oregon Center for Community Partnerships supervised an intern who did a survey about caregiving in the workplace. The work was done several years ago. At that time, employers weren't interested. Though the intern's research is dated, there may be valuable information to be gleaned. Staff will bring research to next SS meeting. The effort could be as simple as having a FCG Resource Specialist hold brown bag lunches for an organization. The SAC could potentially assist in approaching employers to allow us to come in to do presentations.
- Other topics: Mental Health Service Gaps for Medicare Participants – The Advocacy Committee is doing a provider survey. Age Wise Age Well – Staff reports that Lonny Mayeda is coordinating AWAW, but needs clerical support to continue. Staff is meeting with the retiring Executive Director for Community Volunteer Network and her replacement the first week of October to discuss continuation of AWAW and also of the Volunteer Respite program. The Committee wants to invite Lonny to present on AWAW.

Communications & Outreach – Rhonda reported.

- The meeting focused on the RVCOG Website.

Advocacy – John Curtis reported.

- Candidates Meet & Greet went well.
- Committee is doing a survey of mental health providers to determine what are the barriers to treatment for Medicare recipients. John requests SAC members to send him names and contact information of Mental Health providers.
- Medford Deaf/Hard of Hearing Medical Provider Forum went well. Another forum was held in Grants Pass.
- John submitted two Legislative Concepts. One from the SAC focused on paid time off for family caregivers – Sandy and Rhonda assisted in drafting. AARP is also submitting some proposals around caregiver leave. The other Legislative Concept was from John personally and focused on increasing the pool of accessible/affordable

housing. John encourages SAC members to submit their own Legislative Concepts.

- Nancy mentions Department of Human Services (DHS) has sent out draft in-home service rules that require comment with the next three weeks.
- John recruits SAC members to be interested in rule making.
- He encourages SAC members to meet with and introduce themselves to incumbents and candidates alike.

Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) – John reported.

- The Council discussed long-distance transportation (for example, going to OHSU in Portland) for Medicaid consumers. There are some wrinkles to be sorted out.

Home & Community Based Care – Nancy reported.

- They did not meet.
- She added her concern that we are losing adult foster care homes because of the pending new rules that will come out in September, 2019.

Field Office Report – Rodney reported.

- Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) continues to work on “October Changes” that were initiated last year.
- There are no significant changes happening in the Branches.
- They continue to work on the new financial eligibility system for all Medicaid programs – The One System. District 8 is piloting. There is a policy freeze until the new system is implemented.
- District 8’s APD Foster Home Licensing and Transitions Coordinators have moved into their own office space in a building located across the parking lot from the Medford Disability Services office. The Medford Senior Services Office needed the space to accommodate new Adult Protective Services, Case Managers, and Support staff. The new hirings are due to the increased case load District 8 is experiencing. Providers wanting to meet with Foster Home Licensors and Transitions Coordinators will have to schedule an appointment first as the building is not a public building. Rodney adds that when providers need to turn in their background checks, they can take them to any APD office or be turned in “on-line.”
- The SAC requests a presentation on Adult Protective Services statistics at the January, 2019 meeting.
- Background checks don’t feel like they are moving any faster yet.

Director’s report – Laura reported.

- The annual Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities (O4AD) Planning meeting took place last week. Sandy Markwood, Executive Director of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A) presented on national trends and facilitated the O4AD’s problem solving and future planning work. Sandy is sharing a

PowerPoint from which Laura will present selected slides at the next SAC meeting. Ashley Carson Cottingham, Director, Aging & People with Disabilities (APD), discussed pending program shifts. There is a lot of enthusiasm for The One System. Ashley appreciated the shared partnerships around the state between the Area Agencies on Aging and APD. The O4AD Executive meeting focused on election trends. In general, the governor's race can go either way. Trends at the national level are encouraging especially for nutrition programs.

- Laura shared Green Bag Connection flyers. John Javna, Project Coordinator is looking at ways to support seniors and people with disabilities in the community. He is looking for isolated and home-bound seniors and people with disabilities to make reminder calls re: filling green bags in time for volunteer pick up. He thinks this is a way to provide connection for isolated people.
- The new TrackBill system allows Laura to enter keywords that generate a once-a-week list of pending federal and state legislation based on the keywords.
- She participated in two significant presentations:
 - The Smoke and Fire Summit hosted by Pam Marsh
 - Living Longer, Living Stronger Event
- Grants Pass Senior Fair – We had staff at this event. There were a lot of vendors and classes.
- Sharon Johnson wants to present at a SAC meeting.
- OpenBed Foster Care Vacancy Website – Looking at fine tuning and increasing foster home participation. We will be educating providers and consumers about the website.
- She hands out flyers for:
 - Tri-County Conference on Older Adult Issues
 - Film Screening of: Breaking the Silence

PRESENTATION: Gail Armistead, Certified Ombudsman for Jackson County presented.

FUTURE SAC MEETINGS AT OTHER LOCATIONS? Council discussed. It is very difficult to schedule. No benefit to changing at this time.

OTHER: Laura shared statewide data on homelessness.

ADJOURN – Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.