

Meeting: Senior Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting – via ZOOM

Date: May 3, 2021

PARTICIPANTS

- Chelsey Kirby – SDS Staff
- Cassie Rose – SDS Staff
- Connie Wilkerson – SDS Program Director
- Darin Fowler – Josephine County Commissioner
- Heidi Gehman – SDS Staff
- Isleen Glatt – SAC Member
- Jeremy Wolf – APD Deputy District Manager
- John Curtis – SAC Chair
- John Irwin – SAC Member
- Linda Serra – SAC Member
- Rhonda Lawrence – SAC Vice-Chair

GUESTS

- Andrea Kidney
- Carol Terry – PACE Program Enrollment Coordinator
- Cherie Linnemeyer – PACE Program Marketing Coordinator
- Linda Smith
- Marcia Cottrill
- Mona Huntley
- Natalie Mettler – SAC applicant
- Pat Bath

SAC MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

- Liz James
- Nancy Randolph
- Paul Golding
- Richard Hoskins
- Rick Dyer

CALL TO ORDER – John C. called the meeting to order at 12:30pm.

GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS

Introductions of guests and public comments – Introductions by members, staff and guests were made. Mona mentioned her concern that there's a disconnect with the blind community. Pat shared that she is a guest at today's meeting to learn about what is going on in the senior community and what services are available.

Additions to agenda – none.

Review and approval of April 5, 2021 Minutes – Jeremy mentioned that his name was not listed in the participants section of the minutes. Rhonda motioned to approve the minutes as corrected, John I. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements –

John C. announced that the Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) has scheduled training on Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI). As it is usually a long training, it will be split into two parts. The first training will be held at next month's DSAC meeting on June 7, 2021 at 3:00 pm. Contact John C. to reserve your spot as space is limited.

Director's report – Connie reported.

- Connie introduced the newest staff member, Cassie Rose as the new SDS Program and Advocacy Coordinator. Cassie shared her background with the SAC.
- The Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) continues to reap results from the Outreach made last November and December.
- Heidi was invited to share at the statewide ADRC Council meeting on our vaccine initiative.
- All Oregon Project Independence (OPI) Program consumers were sent a letter offering Assistive Technology Equipment and Disaster Preparedness Supplies. Funding for this project will need to be spent by June 30, 2021. Additional service hours may even be approved for special circumstances.
- The Veteran Directed Care (VDC) Program continues to grow with new referrals each month. Monique and Patty have done a great job as we are the largest VDC Program in the state of Oregon.
- We have received recognition throughout the state for our Options for People to Address Loneliness (OPAL) program. A limited number of consumers are being put on the Program to Encourage Active and Rewarding Lives for Seniors (PEARLS) Program. The AllCare CCO is interested in contracting with us to use OPAL and other programs.
- We have a waitlist for the Family Caregiver Program. We hope to dissolve that list when we hire a new Service Coordinator. We have been unsuccessful in filling that position, but are still accepting applications and offering interviews to qualified applicants.
- Heidi and Connie are working with two OHSU nursing students to promote the Powerful Tools for Caregivers (PTC) and the Diabetes Prevention Programs (DPP). We hope to offer Powerful Tools in July. (remote or in person)
- Historically state money to support the Older Adult Behavioral Health Initiative has been funneled through Jackson County Mental Health to us to support this work. In late January, Jackson County Mental Health reported to us that the county is not renewing our contract this year. They will retain the funding in-house to support Case Management of those with the most complex behavioral health needs.
- Sean's position will be changing. He will continue to provide community trainings on issues of aging, elder abuse and will continue to create Senior Moments videos. He will help staff PEARLS, OPAL and Family Caregiver Programs and assist with operational needs.
- Sean offered two trainings in April including APD Eligibility 101. Sean is currently coordinating an Elder Abuse Conference and will be distributing flyers this week. He worked with other Southern

Oregon Older Adult Behavioral Health Specialists to create a new education series on advance care planning. He has also taken on the vaccine initiative.

Field Office Report – Jeremy Wolf reported.

- Jeremy shared that the SNAP Program emergency allotments for May have been extended. There are some important changes for May. Individuals who were already receiving the maximum benefit are going to receive an additional \$95. Due to federal guidance, households that received a zero allotment will not receive an emergency allotment in May.
- Provider time capture update: Jeremy reminded the SAC of the provider time capture website- <http://ptc.oregon.gov>. The project mailed out a flyer to consumers and providers with general information in April. There is training to come in June.
- Mike McCormick (APD Interim Director) is holding stakeholder meetings during the Legislative session where he is providing updates on Legislation that APD is tracking. Jeremy shared at last week's meeting Mike discussed proposals the state is putting forward on how to spend the additional 10% in enhanced federal match rate. Jeremy will forward the handouts from last week's meeting to Connie to share with the SAC.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive – John C. reported.

- The committee spoke about the need for more SAC members.
- They discussed the SAC elections which will be held during June's meeting. They asked Rhonda to Chair the SAC and John I. to be Vice-Chair. They will be nominees at next month's meeting. The next term spans July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.
- Linda will chair the Communications and Outreach committee, Liz will chair the Advocacy committee and we will need to nominate a Chair the Home and Community based care committee as Nancy's term is ending. We will also need to fill the Council Development vacancy.
- They also discussed the Jewell Brooks trust. Charitable trust.

Council Development – Rhonda reported.

- Rhonda shared with the guests attending that a SAC member serves a three year term and has the option to serve a second, three year term, but is required to take off a year before submitting another application for subsequent terms. They can always attend meetings as a member of the public.
- On April 27, 2021 the Executive committee interviewed Natalie Mettler.

Recommendation - Natalie Mettler - SAC membership - John I. recommended Natalie to be a member of the SAC, Linda Serra seconded the motion. Motion passed. Natalie's membership will be voted on at the next Rogue Valley Council of Governments Board meeting to be official.

Communications & Outreach Support Services –Linda S. Reported.

- Linda mentioned the reopening of senior centers – They are slated to stay closed, regardless of county risk levels.
- They discussed future SAC committee meeting formats. Connie stated that we will not have in person meetings again until the office is re-opened to the public. At that point, we would want to go with a hybrid model. I.e. Some participants attending on Zoom and some in person.
- Rhonda and Connie discussed having staff presentations to interest new volunteers during COVID. Connie and Rhonda will review the PowerPoint presentation together.
- The committee also discussed updating the Senior Advisory Council brochures. Liz suggested the idea of a one page recruitment flyer to distribute as well.
- They talked about the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) training.
- Liz and Sean talked about Sean making new videos using testimonials from people who have used services of ADRC. He encourages SAC members to let him know if they have areas of interest for other videos.
- John I. requested a consistent meeting time. The Communications & Outreach committee will meet on the 4th Friday of each month from 11:00am to 12:00pm.

Advocacy – John C. reported.

- Connie announced the date of the Elder Abuse Conference which will be held on May 27th.
- May is Older Americans Month. Rhonda posted to the RVCOG SDS Facebook page.
- They discussed the information sent from the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A) and the advocacy efforts of Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging (O4AD) who work closely together in partnership.
- They discussed the same bills Jeremy shared in his report.
- They also discussed AARP's advocacy efforts.
- The Oregon DHS is trying to get a waiver request submitted for the OPI Program.
- The committee discussed bills we are currently tracking HS2336 on visibility standards, HS432 and SB828 called the Mental Health Access Improvement Act. A coalition consisting of mental health advocates and partners have prepared a two-page handout with information on the Mental Health Access Improvement Act of 2021. John C. asked Connie to forward the handout to the SAC.
- The committee is now working with a new set of lobbyists because Jacob Jackson took another position.
- They also discussed the wildfires and COVID and how it impacts our services.
- They also discussed a Jackson County ballot measure to re-establish RVTD service and routes that are set to expire. Routes will cease to exist if this ballot measure does not pass.
- Joseph Lowe, a state APD support person for Disability Services Advisory Councils is trying to put together a quarterly meeting for members. People from both SAC and DSAC will be invited to attend.

Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) – John C. reported.

- The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) training was presented by Peter Buckley.
- They will be discussing community agreements and the orientation manual at today's meeting.

Home & Community Based Care – John C. reported.

- The committee may continue to meet every other month.
- John C. mentioned he plans to come to the committee meetings.
- Rhonda is willing to chair this committee.

Presentation –“PACE – Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly” – Cherie Linnemeyer

ADJOURN – John C. adjourned the meeting at 2:30pm.