

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

Date: June 7, 2021

PARTICIPANTS

- Chelsey Kirby – SDS Staff
- Cassie Rose – SDS Staff
- Connie Wilkerson – SDS Program Director
- Isleen Glatt – SAC Member
- Jeremy Wolf – APD Deputy District Manager
- John Curtis – SAC Chair
- John Irwin – SAC Member
- Liz James – SAC Member
- Nancy Randolph – SAC Member
- Natalie Mettler – SAC Member
- Paul Golding – SAC Member
- Rhonda Lawrence – SAC Vice-Chair
- Richard Hoskins – SAC Member

GUESTS

- Deb McCuin – Community Services and Supports (CSSU)
- Jennifer Bruce – OHSU Nursing Student
- Tony Haas – OHSU Nursing Student

SAC MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

- Darin Fowler
- Rick Dyer

CALL TO ORDER – John Curtis called the meeting to order at 12:31pm.

GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS

Introductions of guests and public comments – Introductions by members, staff and guests were made.

Additions to agenda – none.

Review and approval of May 3, 2021 Minutes – Chelsey stated that the recommendation for Natalie Mettler’s SAC membership was listed twice in the meeting minutes and asked that the first mention be deleted. Nancy motioned to approve the minutes as corrected, Rhonda seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements –

- Nancy spoke with Cassie last week who informed her about a new program called Grants Pass Community Connect. This program will protect the residents and their property by sharing critical information to first responders and emergency response personnel. By providing information about the residents' household, responders will be able to give better aid and assistance in an emergency situation. Nancy mentioned that she has registered her new foster home with the program. She also thanked Cassie for sharing about this new program.

Director's Report – Connie reported.

- Connie stated that June is the month for transitions on the SAC. She thanked the members that are completing their current term on the SAC. Later in the meeting, virtual certificates will be presented.
- Connie shared that she is grateful that Natalie is joining us at this meeting as the newest SAC member!
- Connie announced that all RVCOG SDS staff is back working in the office. We are benefitting from the case conferencing that can now occur in person.
- We still have the open position for a Service Coordinator.
- The Veteran Directed Care (VDC) Program is going extremely well. Our AAA has the largest VDC Program in the state of Oregon.
- Our ADRC call volume continues to be high. May 2021 calls exceeded May 2020 calls.
- Cassie is hard at working doing Disaster Registry outreach. As part of our service equity initiative, we are intentionally improving our service delivery to our Latinx community members, beginning with the translations of our Disaster Registry materials into Spanish.
- Last week, we received notification from the Community Services and Supports Unit (CSSU) about the portion of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds coming to the AAA's. We will receive just over \$1,600,000 million dollars. \$900,000 of that will be spent on our nutrition programs which include congregate and home delivered meals. That will leave almost \$250,000 per year for the next three years for SDS programs that are allowed under ARP funding.
- We are expecting to receive around \$59,000 in funds towards vaccine outreach. We are currently working with KOBI to develop a TV campaign to encourage older adults who have not been vaccinated or are hesitant to be vaccinated to reconsider. We are working with several partners to help provide the funding. Jackson County Mental Health and AARP are both interested in contributing to the funding for this campaign.
- We are still waiting for the end of the OR Legislative session to know what the state mental health funding will look like. This will determine which programs we can support moving forward.
- We completed the revisions to the Area Plan and submitted it last week. Connie reminded SAC members that they were sent an email with a link to look at the State Area Plan and give feedback on it.

Field Office Report – Jeremy Wolf reported.

- Provider Time Capture update – The initial orientation for the new Provider Time Capture will be held from June 15 – June 21. The pilot program is set to start August 1. Statewide, this project is set to go live on September 12.
- They are continuing to work with the COVID response and recovery unit who is continuing to reach out to those receiving services from Adults and People with Disabilities (APD) who have not received a vaccine. They are calling and giving resources as well as checking if there are any challenges or barriers to getting the vaccine. If so, they assist in getting their needs met.
- Jeremy stated that he does not have any updates as he did not attend the APD Stakeholder meeting.
- APD staff is not back in the office. They continue to maintain a low level of staff in the local branch offices. They do continue to social distance and wear masks as well.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Rhonda Lawrence – Chair

John Irwin – Vice Chair

Isleen motioned to elect Rhonda Lawrence as Chair and John Irwin as Vice Chair. Liz J seconded the motion. Motion approved.

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING CHAIRS AND SAC MEMBERS

- Connie recognized John Curtis for SAC CHAIR FOR 2020-2021 with a gavel and a certificate. Connie also presented certificates for outgoing members; Isleen Glatt, John Curtis, Linda Serra and Nancy Randolph.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Deb McCuin announced herself. APD has put out a survey for older LGBTQ adults. (55+) Liz shared the link: <https://goldseninstitute.org/oregonlgbtqolderadultsurvey/>
- John mentioned he could like to review the State Area Plan with other committee members before commenting and wanted to know if anyone was interested. Rhonda, Liz, Isleen, Nancy and John I. raised their hands. John I. suggested Cassie send out an email invite to all SAC members in case someone decides they would like to join in on the discussion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive – John C. reported.

- They have not met. (continue to meet on a quarterly basis)

Council Development – Rhonda reported.

- Rhonda spoke with a few attendees of our Zoom SAC meetings and they seemed to be much more interested in joining the SAC once we are back to in-person meetings.

Communications & Outreach Support Services –Rhonda reported.

- Rhonda shared that Natalie has agreed to chair the committee. No report for May as Linda has resigned from SAC and the committee did not meet.

Advocacy – Liz J. reported.

- Their committee has developed partnerships with the Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities (O4AD) and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A). Both of those entities have legislative arms. AARP also focuses on Oregon legislation. They do work that applies to what's important to us as a AAA. Being connected to these entities expands our ability to be more aware of work/advocacy being done.
- John Curtis put together an amazing replicable evidence based program that includes a website collaborating with large mental health organizations in order to get support and educate folks to try to pass the Mental Health Access Improvement Act. There are 2 bills. (HB432 SB828)
- We are beginning to further grow our collaborative efforts to push forward to get that legislation passed. Liz briefly explained the bill. We have expanded that in collaboration with the O4AD and the American Counseling Association.
- John C mentioned that Jake Jackson – formerly of the National Board of Certified Counselors, got them in touch with the Governmental Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP) team at the American Counseling Association (ACA). An invitation was given to present on advocacy. Hopefully this will pull together a national network of senior advocates and mental health professional advocates.
- Liz shared that Brian Banks (on the GAPP team they spoke with) ran a virtual field day for counselors that the ACA puts on and they dedicated an hour to the Mental Health Access Improvement Act.
- Liz dropped the link to the website in the chat box via Zoom. <https://sites.google.com/view/medicareaccessimprovementact/home>

Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) – Jeremy reported.

- They spent time on the orientation manual. They discussed the community agreements section.
- They also nominated officers at their meeting.
- John C. invited SAC members to attend today's meeting for the presentation on "Equity and Inclusion".

Home & Community Based Care – Nancy reported.

- Nancy asked Deb is she knew of any updated information on the Quality Measurement Council and Deb responded that she had no new information.

Oregon LGBTQ+ Survey of Older Adults - Liz James reported.

- Liz shared how the Oregon APD helped fund this survey. It is the first ever project to assess the needs of older LGBTQ+ adults. Liz acknowledged several partners that made this project possible.

Presentation- "Increasing Social Connection for Older Adults in Ashland"-Jennifer Bruce and Tony Haas, OHSU Nursing Students

ADJOURN – John C. adjourned the meeting at 2:04pm.