

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

**Date:** September 13, 2021

## **PARTICIPANTS**

- Cassie Rose – SDS Staff
- Connie Wilkerson – SDS Director
- Jeremy Wolf – APD Staff
- John Irwin – SAC Vice Chair
- Liz James – SAC Member
- Natalie Mettler – SAC Member
- Paul Golding – SAC Member
- Rhonda Lawrence – SAC Chair

## **GUESTS**

- Cara Carter – Housing Authority of Jackson County - Presenter
- Connie Saldana – SDS Staff – Lifelong Housing Presenter
- Rai McKenzie

## **SAC MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

- Darin Fowler
- Richard Hoskins
- Rick Dyer

**CALL TO ORDER** – Rhonda L. called the meeting to order at 12:36pm.

## **GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS**

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

**Public comment** – Liz J. provided comments from John C. regarding his post COVID recovery progress and he acknowledged the work of SDS and APD during this care.

**Additions to agenda** – none.

**Review and approval of August 2, 2021 Minutes** – Rhonda L. was erroneously listed as “co-chair” and needs to be listed as “chair”. John I. moved to approve the minutes based on the correction, Paul G. seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **REPORTS**

**Directors Report** – Connie W. reported:

- The Legislators’ Dialogue will be held Friday, September 17, 2021.
- SDS has the largest Veteran-Directed Care (VDC) program of any AAA in the state.

- ADRC staff fielded 223 calls in August 2021.
- Oregon Project Independence (OPI), OPI Pilot and Family Caregiver programs are maintaining waitlists.
- OHA has awarded SDS a \$10,000 contract to develop a curriculum and to train some community health workers on the OPALS program which was developed in house during the 2020 pandemic to address loneliness and social isolation.
- OHS has awarded SDS a \$45,000 contract to help continue the local OPALS program.
- Current SDS staff vacancies include: three service coordinators, one on-call staff, and an SDS supervisor. Existing staff has stepped into the supervisory role on an interim basis.
- SDS will be involved in rolling out another phase of the vaccination project focused on boosters for older adults. A limited duration part-time hire may be part of that.
- Work continues with KOBI on Public Service Announcements promoting vaccinations for older adults and people with disabilities.
- Staff met with Senator Wyden's team last week to discuss the Mental Health Access Improvement Act (MHAIA). There is hope that it could be included as part of the larger Reconciliation package.
- Connie W. reported the executive branch vaccine mandate will affect employees co-working in APD offices.
- Connie W. reported no in-person services have been allowed since August 24, 2021.
- The Disaster Registry was activated for one recent event this fire season and nearly activated for another.

**Field Office Report** – Jeremy W reported.

- Provided a timeline of how the APD Offices have fluctuated between having the ability to provide field work and the various levels of restrictions on in-person contact.
- Based on OHA rulings APD staff and other affiliated staff will need to be compliant with the vaccination mandate by October 18, 2021. Impact on staffing is unknown at this time.
- Rhonda L. asked about recruitment on the Executive position vacancies. Jeremy W. reported that the local position remains unfilled and the current APD Deputy Director, Mike McCormick, has been in interim status for over a year.
- Liz J. thanked Jeremy W. for filling both top roles at the local APD office.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Committee** – Rhonda L. reported.

- Planning for the Legislators' Dialogue coming up this Friday, September 17, 2021.
- Working to change bylaws to incorporate current organizational structure and to make recruitment and retention easier.

**Communications and Outreach** – Natalie M. reported.

- First committee meeting was held August 24, 2021 and the next meeting will be held September 27, 2021.
- SAC recruitment is a top priority. The following strategies were discussed:

- A flyer has been drafted and other marketing material is being developed.
- Contact is being made with Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) to share publicity or to work on one of their courses.
- Other avenues of advertising are being explored.
- A target list of organizations including senior centers and faith based centers is being compiled.

**Advocacy** – Liz J. reported.

- The advocacy committee drafted and submitted an Advocacy Leadership Award nomination to the National Council on Mental Well Being on behalf of the work of John C. Liz J. provided a brief description of some of things John C. has accomplished before acknowledging that he was not selected, however everyone involved including John C. agree that it is also an opportunity to showcase the work being done on the Mental Health Access Improvement Act and building a nationwide advocacy network.
- The committee is targeting Oregon based legislative work by collaborating with O4AD and AARP.
- A special redistricting session is set to beginning on September 20, 2021 with completion by September 27, 2021.
- An APD funded LGBTQ+ 55 and older survey has been completed. Results will be presented at a future SAC meeting.
- Representative Pam Marsh will host a town hall meeting called “Path Forward”. The meeting will provide an opportunity to look at and hear about the work one year following the Alameda Fire.

**Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC)** – Jeremy W. reported.

- John C. was elected President and Carrie Walters was elected Vice Chair.

**Home & Community Based Care** – Jeremy W reported.

- The Provider Time Capture (PTC) project has gone live statewide.

**PRESENTATIONS**

“**Lifelong Housing Certification**” – Connie Saldana

“**Jackson County Housing Authority**” – Cara Carter

**ADJOURN** –Rhonda L. adjourned the meeting at 2:11pm.