

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

Date: August 7, 2023

PARTICIPANTS

- Chelsey Kirby – SDS Staff
- Cherie Linnemeyer – SAC Member
- Connie Wilkerson – SDS Program Director
- Eleanor Ponomareff – SAC Member
- Jennine Greenwell – SAC Member
- Jeremy Wolf – APD District Manager
- John Curtis – SAC Member
- Leah Swanson – SAC Member
- LeAnne Turnbull – SDS Staff
- Liz James – SAC Chair
- Natalie Mettler – SAC Vice Chair
- Noriko Toyokawa – SAC Member
- Paul Golding – SAC Member

GUESTS

- Angela Franklin – Older Adult Behavioral Health Specialist (Josephine County) Options for Southern Oregon, Suicide Prevention Coordinator
- Olivia Robinson – Age+, Community Outreach and Engagement Manager
- Rai McKenzie
- Sharen Yeager

SAC MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

- Colleen Roberts – Jackson County Commissioner
- John Irwin – SAC Member
- John West – Josephine County Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER – Liz J. called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS

Introductions of guests and public comments – No public Comments.

Public Comments – none.

Additions to agenda – None.

Review and approval of June 5th, 2023 Minutes – Paul G. motioned to approve the June 5th, 2023 minutes as written. Cherie L. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements – Liz J. announced that the September Senior Advisory Council meeting will be held on Monday, September 11th at 12:30pm. Liz J. also announced that the Legislator’s Dialogue hosted by the Joint SAC/DSAC Advocacy Committee will be held hybrid via Zoom and at the RVCOG Lewis Conference Room on September 15, 2023 from 12:00pm-1:30pm.

Angela F. shared in the chat – “There are spots still open for the ASIST Suicide Intervention Training for volunteers and staff who support older adults in Southern Oregon.” Held on September 21st and 22nd in Medford at Pacific Retirement Services. Sign up: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/asist-applied-suicide-intervention-training-tickets-680290686757>

John C. shared in the chat - This story was on NPR this morning.

<https://www.npr.org/2023/08/07/1192432635/study-suggests-that-exposure-to-different-smells-could-help-improve-memory>

Angela F. also shared about the Josephine County Senior Resource Fair to be held on September 8th from 9am-3pm at the Josephine County Fairgrounds hosted by Team Senior. LeAnne T. asked Angela F. to share the flier with her so that she can distribute it amongst the SAC.

Director’s report – Constance W. reported.

- Connie W. shared about upcoming classes held by SDS: Life Reflections (Guided Biography) classes will be held at the Josephine County Senior Resource Center in Grants Pass starting in November. The Buried in Treasures classes will begin again in February 2024. The Chronic Disease Self-Management classes (staffed by LeAnne T. and LaClinica staff member) will be starting in a few weeks. With the AAA in Douglas County, Powerful Tools for Caregivers classes will be provided virtually.
- Susan Jay Rounds is attending End of Life Planning Training in October. SDS will discuss how to incorporate that into our SDS work/programs.
- There is still a 5 month wait list for the SDS Behavioral Health programs. SDS is currently onboarding around 15 new Oregon Project Independence clients.
- Looking ahead, the next Area Plan will be due June 1, 2025. The Community Services and Supports Unit is reviewing what form the 2025 Plan will take and the information for the shape and content of the Plan will not be available until next February. Some SDS staff is meeting this week to determine what activities such as focus groups, assessments, etc. can be done prior to the availability of the transmittal that will describe the essential portions of the Plan. Some of the delay may be attributed to the Older Americans Act proposed changes that impact Four Year Plans and State Area Plans.
- The SDS contracts went out in late June. SDS is awaiting the transmittal to determine the type of updates to the Service Equity Plan that will be due in either September or October.
- Connie W. had a meeting today with the state regarding the Mental Health grant. It is still unclear if the legislature will provide our yearly funding for 5 years. It is still being negotiated. We will receive the contracts soon.

- SDS has applied for an ACL grant for our vaccine initiative to continue in the fall and winter. If it isn't approved, Connie W. plans to work with Olivia R. at Age+. Age+ is doing some really innovative work in vaccines now.
- SDS is also potentially applying for a micro grant for our Behavioral Health Programs if qualified.
- SDS is still waiting on further instructions on the policies and procedures for the upcoming OPI-M Program.
- Connie W. shared that she will be attending the Oregon Association of AAA Director's meeting on Friday. ACL is seeking input on proposed updates to the regulations for most of its Older Americans Act programs. Comments must be received by Tuesday, August 15, 2023. Connie will send out a template on the talking points she's identified that related to RVCOG's SDS programs/populations. Liz J. and Connie W. encouraged SAC members to either used the template or write their own letters of support.
- Paul G. mentioned he will be drafting a proposal to the state regarding expanding our freeways.

Aging and People with Disabilities District Manager Report – Jeremy Wolf reported.

- Jeremy W. shared they are still working on the “Public Health Emergency Unwinding”. They are still focusing on medical re-determinations. They are still using lists of individuals receiving Long Term Care services that may be over income or over resource. Employees are making proactive calls to those individuals to discuss the financial requirements of APD programs ahead of their redetermination dates.
- They are recruiting for a new Josephine County Adult Protective Services Manager. Mary Sharkey-Christian has been promoted to APS in the Central Office.
- Jeremy W. shared that he has been in the role of Deputy District Manager for 2 ½ years and has applied for the District Manager position. Effective June 1st, Jeremy W. is the new permanent APD District Manager for District 8.
- APD is rolling out a new tool to use during fire season. They didn't have a dedicated system internally. APD now has a web based system to streamline communications internally. Training was finished last week.

Focus on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) – “Why Don't Black People Live in Oregon: The History of Black Exclusion Laws” and “History of “Redlining” and “Urban Renewal” in Portland videos were played.

Discussion & video review.

Angela F. shared about BASE “BASE is a good resource and would be an options for JoCo folks. <https://baseoregon.org/about/>” in chat.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive – Liz J. reported.

- Liz J. shared the upcoming 15 minute spotlights and 30 minute presentations. The committee reviews upcoming meetings.

Communications & Outreach Committee – Natalie M. reported.

- They had recently revised the publicity flyer and are looking for ways to share it. They are now working on revising the SAC brochure.
- Liz J. and Natalie M. continue to explore options in order to store shared files digitally.
- LeAnne T. is handling most of the communication with potential members.

Support Services – Nutrition and ADRC Advisory – Quarterly meeting

Council Development – See Communications and Outreach Committee report

SAC/DSAC Joint Advocacy – John C. reported.

- Most of the meeting involved planning the Legislative Dialogue. They are hoping for a good response from Southern Oregon Legislators.

Home & Community Based Care – John Curtis reported.

- This group meets quarterly. They have been working on developing a standardized template agenda.

Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) – Sharen Yeager reported.

- Sharen Y. shared about the Accessibility and Resource Fair. The DSAC planned, promoted and paid for by the DSAC. Sharen shared a slide show from the event. It was held on June 29th in the HASL (Center for Independent Living) building in Grants Pass.
- The committee has two workgroups. The Accessibility Parking workgroup and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing workgroup.

PRESENTATION: Alzheimer Association overview, programs & services

Lori Stanton, lstanton@alz.org, Community Outreach Director, Alzheimer's Association Oregon and SW Washington Chapter

ADJOURN – Liz J. adjourned the meeting at 2:36 pm.