

**PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging
Virtual Advisory Council Meeting
Friday, October 27, 2023
10:00 AM
MINUTES**

A. Call to order and Flag Salute

Meeting called to order at 10:12 AM.

B. Roll Call (Establishment of a quorum)

Teri Gabriel	PSA2	Present
Tina Kennemore	Lassen	Absent
Justin Cadili	Lassen	Present
Sharon Howard	Lassen	Present
Vacant	Lassen	-----
Clinton Davis	Modoc	Excused
Debbie Mason	Modoc	Present
Tiffany Gwinn	Modoc	Excused
Vacant	Modoc	-----
Frances Cole-Boyd	Shasta	Excused
Maggie McNamara	Shasta	Present
Nancy Quirus	Shasta	Present
Staci Wadley	Shasta	Present
Heather Solus	Siskiyou	Absent
John Dell'Amico	Siskiyou	Absent
Lydia Gil	Siskiyou	Present
Linda Smith	Siskiyou	Absent
Michael Cottone	Trinity	Present
Melanie Miller	Trinity	Absent
Benjamin Sarkisian	Trinity	Present
Vonnie Westbrook	Trinity	Absent

Quorum established.

C. Introduction of guests

Cindy Lane, Deputy Branch Director (Adult Services) – Shasta County HHSA
Colleen Nelson, Program Supervisor – ShiningCare
Jerry Kirouac, Program Manager – PSA2 Ombudsman
Jennifer Moody - Siskiyou County Public Health
Shawn Buckmaster, Program Coordinator – PSA2 AAA
Joanne McCarley - ShiningCare

D. Approval of Agenda (Changes, additions or deletions)

M/ Mike Cottone
S/ Staci Wadley
To approve the agenda as presented.
Approved.

E. Approval of Advisory Council Virtual Meeting Minutes – August 25, 2023

M/ Mike Cottone

S/ Nancy Quirus

To approve minutes as presented.

Approved.

F. Open Session / Announcements

(Opportunity to hear comments from the community and for announcements)

No announcements.

G. Reports:

Chairman's Report – Nancy Quirus, Chairman

- Advisory Council Membership/Recruitment Report

Nancy has reached out to Advisory Council members who have been unable to attend recent meetings.

May have an individual in Shasta County who is interested in participating.

We may have a vacancy in Siskiyou County that we will need to fill.

TACC Report – Frances Cole-Boyd, Vice-Chairman

- Update on Recent TACC Activities

No report.

California Senior Legislature Report – Teri Gabriel

- CSL Vacancies

We still have vacancies for Senior Senator and Senior Assemblyperson. We are losing out on updates on what is happening at the state level with these positions still vacant. If you know someone who may be interested, please ask them to contact me and I'll get them connected to the representative from PSA3 CSL to walk them through the process. There is a lot happening with the Master Plan for Aging.

CA Commission on Aging is looking for nominations for members to serve 2-3-year terms. Teri will share the letter from the COA. Members serve 2-3 year terms and travel is reimbursed. I don't know how frequently they meet, but probably quarterly in Sacramento.

Nutrition Report – Nancy Quirus, Chairman & Lydia Gill

- Update on CalFresh Healthy Living Program

The Good News-- CalFresh benefits increased this month (reflective of the increase in the cost of the government's Thrifty Food Plan). This is an annual re-calculation. Just like all of us CalFresh shoppers were having a harder time purchasing routine staple items in the quantity they were accustomed to, higher food prices can mean less nutrition in your shopping cart.

The downside is food security for many seniors and families remains out-of-reach. Weekly a Food Assistance listing of county locations where additional, free food is available. Please check the PSA2 website for your counties helpful information that you can share with those in need or alert your contacts that this resource is available PSA2-wide. Food assistance information is also shared on the PSA2 AAA Facebook page.

Program changes for CalFresh Healthy Living in California — New emphasis on four disciplines/practices within our local unit — Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. Training to ensure each CF program assistant is learning how the concepts translate into better service, which leads to healthier outcomes. Every program assistant is assigned to be a part of an on-going discussion committee, they refer to as Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) groups. Our first committee meeting focused on communication guidelines, and we were encouraged to apply them in our work settings. Plus examining the characteristics of our 'White Supremacy Culture' for future discussion opportunities.

Lydia Gill - You said there would be more money included in the CalFresh card. Is there going to be an increase? Nancy - I don't know the exact amount. I just know that the cost of the Thrifty food plan went up and that's what they base the benefit. I will get back to you with the information. Lydia – I also want to give a big shout out to Great Northern in Yreka. They have provided great food boxes. Everything is non-perishable, but it did include cheese. They're going to do it again in November. The cars line up and get loaded up and on their way. The fresh fruits and vegetables did come to an end because of the time in the year, and some of the farmers have donated fresh fruits and vegetables from their own garden.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Report - All

- Update on Each County's MHSA Services Activities

Teri Gabriel – Have not seen much MHSA activity recently in Shasta and Siskiyou Counties. What I am hearing is huge shifts in the funding for Mental Health Services Act programs, behavioral health systems. I know that at the state level, there was a request for more funding to be focused on older adult services.

Mike Cottone - I reported last time that we have been meeting with our mental health partners a lot around housing lately. There is a new push to pull MHSA

funding to use for housing, which will have an impact on existing services. There is also CARE Court that will need to be implemented by December 2024. Cindy Lane – One of the pilot counties is Glenn County. October was supposed to be their kickoff for starting everything. We are in the same boat as Trinity and so we'll be starting the following December. The other issue also is Senate Bill 43, which Gavin Newsom just signed into law. It changes the definition of grave disability to include substance use. We already have people that are concerned that we have difficulty finding placement for.

Food Access Report – Staci Wadley

- Update on Food Bank and Food Access Activity

Staci Wadley – Renovations on our facility are underway. We're still anticipating being done with this construction project in March or April. Our senior brown bag program is going to be distributed quarterly instead of monthly for the next couple of months. We also provide the supplemental commodities box that we refer to as the brown box program which is specifically for seniors. And we have had increasing registrations for that program over the last several months, maybe 40-70 registrations every month.

Lydia Gill – Partnership HealthPlan of California (PHC) Transportation Services - I contacted them in April to schedule transportation to Bend, OR. They told me that I was contacting them too early and to contact them two days before my appointment. When I contacted them two days before the appointment, they told me I was contacting them too late. I called Ombudsman of Siskiyou County, who referred me to Brian Dahle. One of the staff members called me and I told them what happened. My nephew was able to take me to the appointment. Partnership should have a questionnaire to determine the person's transportation needs.

Director's Report – Teri Gabriel

- Update on Direct Nutrition services

Trinity Senior Nutrition Program - Church of the Nazarene in partnership with Dignity Health Connected Living. We are serving home-delivered meals to 63 participants on Tuesday and Thursday. We are looking at opening up the C1 congregate dining there at Church of the Nazarene one day a week on Wednesday. We had hoped to start this the first of November but we need to revise our agreement with Dignity Health.

Lassen County Dine Around Town - We are up and running with home-delivered meals. It's been two weeks now with home-delivered meals. Currently, we're working with 10 individuals. We're starting slowly and giving it another week or two and then we'll start our process to add more volunteers so we can add more meals and serve more seniors. C1 congregate dining continues to serve up to 159 individuals. They get 10 to 15 vouchers a month and they use that voucher to go into the restaurant. We'll continue this program for sure until June 30. Both of these programs are interim programs. The RFP will start in January. Advisory Council members can be a part of this process to review the applications.

Justin Cadili – The restaurant is interested in doing a Thanksgiving meal for free. Teri – That’s wonderful. Justin will be meeting with us on Monday to learn about the RFP process to become a contracted service provider.

Nancy – Back in August, Pam was going up to do a presentation during one of the mealtimes. How did that go? Did the people like it and are you continuing presentation on a monthly basis or quarterly or whatever? Teri - Passages Caregiver Resource Center did a presentation, but unfortunately attendance was low. We'll keep trying. We'll still be reaching out because we do know that seniors do want to congregate.

Teri – The RFP process will Title III-E funding for caregiver support. There will be America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding as well as area plan funding. The community assessment survey for older adults also drives how we use funding. Nutrition is always a priority.

- Update on Master Plan for Aging

Last Friday, October 20th we had a North State Master Plan for Aging community awareness event which I shared the flyer with the Advisory Council. This was held in Red Bluff and hosted by the Local Master Plan for Aging Advisory Committee. The SCAN Foundation approached the Independent Living Center for disabled individuals and asked that they develop a Local Master Plan for Aging. The Independent Living Center in Redding and Chico covers 9/10 counties that comprise PSA3. Some of you were involved in our listening sessions that were taking place so that they can gather information of what is needed from our older adult population. With that information, the plan is developed to initiate services and advocate and bring in our elected officials and community-based organizations. The Plan was presented at a community awareness event in Red Bluff. Focused on three counties - Shasta, Butte and Glenn. Susan DeMarois, Director of California Department of Aging, presented on demographics on the aging population.

- Other Agency Activity

FY23/24 Area Plan Update has been approved.

H. Report on FY 23/24 Area Plan Goals & Objectives Activities

- Quarterly Advisory Council News Brief Update

Teri - We weren’t able to do this last quarter because HICAP had to get their newsletter out quickly. Next newsletter will be Jan/Feb/Mar. We will discuss to prepare for the next newsletter.

Nancy - Trinity County Nutrition Action Partnership Walk and Roll – One of our objectives is related to community nutrition advisory boards. In Trinity County it goes by Trinity County Nutrition Action Partnership. We

have our first event coming up in the spring. It is a Walk and Roll to encourage physical activity and make a strong statement about needs for sidewalks in some of the areas in Trinity County for safe physical activity for our seniors.

I. Discussion on FY24/25 Proposed Area Plan Goals & Objectives

Teri Gabriel – We will need to start looking at this to determine if we need to revise/add objectives in preparation for the March meeting. We don't meet in December or February, so we will need to finalize our goals and objectives by the January meeting.

If you have any preliminary ideas related to FY24/25 Area Plan Goals and Objectives that we can discuss in the next meeting, please let me know. This is how we added our efforts toward disaster preparedness.

J. Correspondence

Incoming: None

Outgoing: None

K. Adjournment

11:58 AM

Next Meeting – Advisory Council Virtual Meeting – Friday, November 17, 2023