



**Approved Minutes of the
Virtual Collaborative Meeting
of the
PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging
EXECUTIVE BOARD and ADVISORY COUNCIL**

June 19, 2023

1. Call to Order & Flag Salute

The Executive Board Virtual Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Jill Cox, Chairman, at 10:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Executive Board Members Present:

Supervisor Gary Bridges, Kay White, Supervisor Tom Neely (alt.), Supervisor Shane Starr, Roberta Hohman, Supervisor Mary Rickert, Ann Morningstar, Supervisor Nancy Ogren, Supervisor Ed Valenzuela (alt.), Supervisor Ric Leutwyler, and Supervisor Jill Cox from the Weaverville Public Library. A quorum was established.

Executive Board Members Absent:

Supervisor Elizabeth Cavasso (Alt.), Supervisor Patrick Jones (alt.), Marie Ingram (Ex.), and David Albiez.

Advisory Council Members Present:

Tina Kennemore (Lassen), Staci Wadley (Shasta), Nancy Quirus (Shasta), Maggie McNamara (Shasta), Frances Cole-Boyd (Shasta), John Dell' Amico (Siskiyou) and Vonnie Westbrook (Trinity). No quorum was present.

Advisory Council Members Absent:

Clinton Davis (Modoc) (EX), Debbie Mason (Modoc) (EX), Tiffany Gwinn (Modoc) (EX), Heather Solus (Siskiyou) (Unexcused), Linda Smith (Siskiyou) (Unexcused), Lydia Gil (Siskiyou) (EX), Melanie Miller (Trinity) (EX), Benjamin Sarkisian (Trinity) (EX), and Michael Cottone (Trinity) (EX).

Guests Present:

Teri Gabriel, PSA 2 Executive Director from the PSA 2 Administrative Office in Yreka; Jerry Kirouac, PSA 2 LTC Ombudsman Program Manager; Pam Smith, PSA 2 HICAP Program Manager from the PSA 2 Conference Room in Redding; Cheryl Rushton, PSA 2 Program Coordinator and Laura Acosta, Dignity Health Community Health Director.

3. Approval of Agenda*

MSP: Supervisor Bridges motioned for the approval of the agenda as presented, seconded by John Dell'Amico, all aye, motion carried.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda*

MSP: Supervisor Rickert motioned for approval of the Consent Agenda, seconded by John Dell'Amico, all aye, motion carried.

5. Approval of Advisory Council Virtual Meeting Minutes – (May 26, 2023)*

No quorum was present to approve the Advisory Council Virtual Meeting Minutes for May 26, 2023.

6. Open Session

No comments.

7. Executive Board's Report

No comments.

8. Advisory Council Report – Nancy Quirus, Advisory Council Chairman

Nancy Quirus reported that one vacancy on the Advisory Council remains in both Lassen and Modoc Counties. Nancy shared highlights discussed at the Advisory Council's May 26th meeting which included 1) the Purple City Campaign and Elder Abuse Awareness Month Campaign as presented by Shining Care in Redding; 2) a report from the Advisory Council's Vice-Chairman on Senior Rally Day's topics on senior homelessness, and fire resistance home improvements for wildfire protection; 4) county health rankings and the social determinants impacting the north state's health; 5) the Dignity Health Connected Living's Food Bank expansion; 6) the Dine Around Town Senior Nutrition Program through a local restaurant in Lassen Co. and the additional funding that will be available to support expanded restaurant meal services in the future and 7) updates on the Master Plan for Aging's through the interview process involving the Advisory Council Chairpersons along with AAA staff.

9. Executive Director's Report – Teri Gabriel, Executive Director

a) Update on Nutrition Service Provider To-Go Meal Service

Director Gabriel explained that nutrition service providers were allowed to offer To-Go Meals in lieu of congregate dining meals during the pandemic. With the return of pre-COVID program services beginning July 1, 2023, all nutrition programs have reopened to offer congregate meals at their dining sites. CDA regulations will allow To-Go Meals options to continue for those seniors wishing to take their meals home. Most of the

contracted nutrition programs expect to see the return of indoor dining increase as program activities resume at the dining centers thereby reducing interest in To-Go Meals. CDA regulations require that a social component of the Congregate Meal program be offered for the meal to be considered a congregate meal. With only one nutrition service provider anticipating the continued success of To-Go Meals, Home Delivered Meal funding would then be used to accommodate the To-Go Meals when the meals are taken home in the absence of social activity.

b) Update on Direct Senior Nutrition Program Services

Director Gabriel reported that the Pastor for the Church of the Nazarene has been hired as the new Program Coordinator for the Trinity Senior Nutrition Program. Efforts to complete the program's data reporting is the priority of the program. Director Gabriel will be visiting the center along with the PSA 2 Registered Dietician to conduct a program evaluation. The program vehicle will be returned to the site. Volunteers continue to serve home delivered meals to 53 seniors in Weaverville and surrounding communities. An agreement with Dignity Health Connected Living has been signed to provide additional meals in FY 2023/2024 as interest in Home Delivered Meals increase and Congregate Dining is planned at Church of the Nazarene's dining hall.

Director Gabriel reported that the Program Coordinator for the Dine Around Town (DAT) Senior Nutrition Program left the agency at the end of April. The AAA staff continues to meet the needs for the program in the interim to ensure meal vouchers are released to program participants in a timely manner and the restaurant continues to be paid for the meals provided. Supervisor Bridges thanked the AAA staff for their efforts in the interim. Interviews continue to fill the vacant position. Vouchers are distributed to 178 program participants with 159 on the waiting list for congregate meals. Adding more restaurants to the program in the near future will help to increase congregate meal services. Efforts continue in developing the Home Delivered Meal service with the volunteers recruited for that program. The volunteers have agreed to start with meal deliveries on Tuesdays and Thursdays to launch the program. Adding additional volunteers in the future will help to increase the number of Home Delivered Meal service days. Interested Home Delivered Meal participants have been contacted by AAA staff to verify interest in the program and to identify the highest priority for those with the greatest need. A visit to the restaurant with the PSA 2 Registered Dietician and a meeting with the program's volunteers is being scheduled in early July. The program procedures for the DAT Senior Nutrition Program continue to be developed.

c) Update on Master Plan for Aging Initiatives

Director Gabriel reported that the Local Master Plan for Aging (LMPA) for Shasta, Butte and Glenn Counties funded by the SCAN Foundation continues to work toward the scope of their project to review and implement goals and objectives for the areas of need identified during the LMPA development process and related listening sessions. Additional participants are being recruited from each of the three counties to participate in the LMPA Advisory Committee meetings which will help to establish and implement the goals of the plan. Director Gabriel invited Supervisor Rickert to participate in the next LMPA Advisory Committee meeting on June 28th. The Shasta Co. Commission on Aging Chairman was also invited to attend the meetings. Director Gabriel announced a save-the-date for October 20, 2023, for the Local Master Plan for Aging Community

Awareness Event in Red Bluff. The keynote speaker will be Susan DeMarois, Director of the CA Department of Aging (CDA). PSA 2 staff will participate to support the event.

d) Other Agency Activity

Director Gabriel reported on the CA State Digital Equity Plan which is offering a public survey to ensure that all California residents have access to high quality and affordable internet services, devices, skills training, and digital support. The survey will gather information on your current experience using the internet and should be completed by one individual per household. Director Gabriel will share the link after the meeting. Additional information was shared regarding an upcoming Annual Virtual Broadband Summit on August 3rd. Community leaders, government officials, business owners, residents and anyone interested in the North State's efforts to bridge the digital divide is invited to participate.

Director Gabriel also reported on the outcome of the recent Siskiyou Healthy Aging Fair on May 17th in Yreka. The event was offered after a 3-year hiatus due to the pandemic. More than 60 individuals participated with 26 exhibitors. With the return of this in-person event, the opportunity for community resource networking was a benefit to all. More exhibitors will be invited next year, and longer hours of the event was suggested. Director Gabriel thanked Supervisor Ogren for attending and supporting the event.

Director also shared a flyer on an upcoming Caregiver event hosted by Passages Caregiver Resource Center on June 28th & 29th in Mt. Shasta.

10. Acknowledge Proclamation for June 2023 as Elder Abuse Awareness Month

Director Gabriel introduced the Elder Abuse Awareness Month campaign and the efforts made to display banners, flags and signs in the PSA 2 area in partnership with the Ombudsman Program and local Adult Protective Services agencies. Director Gabriel then read the Elder Abuse Awareness Month campaign proclamation presented to the board.

MSP: Supervisor Rickert moved to approve the Elder Abuse Awareness Month Proclamation, seconded by Supvr. Ogren, all aye, motion carried.

11. Elder Abuse Report from PSA 2 Programs and Other Services

Director Gabriel introduced a presentation by Jerry Kirouac, Ombudsman Program Manager, on the elder abuse cases reported last year in long-term care facilities as well as information provided by the local Adult Protective Service (APS) agencies on elder abuse cases reported outside of facilities.

Jerry reported that over 1,800 reports or complaints were received last year by the PSA 2 Ombudsman office. Of that, 451 were considered serious involving some form of physical, sexual, or financial abuse. In addition, 1,465 of the reported cases required an Ombudsman to be on sight to respond to or investigate the case. In the PSA 2 region, Adult Protective Services received and responded to 3,692 reports or complaints of elder abuse. Jerry addressed the county breakdown for Ombudsman cases. He explained that there are some cases which cannot be fully resolved and he provided an example. Efforts will be made to increase the number of resolved cases in FY 23/24. Jerry also explained the Resident and Family Council Meetings process which includes the support of the Ombudsman Program

staff and for which a greater number of meetings is planned for the next fiscal year. The use of the Resident and Family Council meetings improves communication between the facility staff and residents, which in turn helps to resolve matters before they become complaints received by the Ombudsman Program. Jerry addressed the various targets for services by the Ombudsman Program next fiscal year. He also addressed the increased number of routine visits to facilities planned by the Ombudsman Program staff. Jerry further addressed the staffing of the program and the efforts being made to increase the number of volunteers to support the program. Upon request, Jerry explained the difference between skilled nursing facilities and residential care facilities. Additionally, Jerry was asked to revisit the number of elder abuse cases reported to APS in Shasta Co. Discussion ensued on the reason for the high case numbers – largely due to the population in Shasta Co., the number of APS social workers to respond to complaints, and the visibility of elder abuse awareness efforts. Unreported elder abuse cases also lead to the vast variance in the number of cases in outlying areas. Supervisor Rickert added that Shasta Co. has very high statistics which are often double or triple the scores in other regions in CA related to child abuse, suicide rate, etc. This statistic also aligns with the increased number of elder abuse cases in Shasta Co. Maggie McNamara of the Advisory Council also added that the high number of seniors in Shasta Co. is also a factor in the elder abuse statistics. Tina Kennemore, with the Advisory Council and with Lassen Co. Adult Protective Services, explained the number of reports vs. the number of confirmed APS cases last year in their region. Supervisor Leutwyler suggested the total population of older adults and the percentage of elder abuse cases be compared in future reports for a better frame of reference by county. Additionally, Supervisor Cox requested a clearer definition in future reports on the number of cases resolved vs. the number of cases unresolved when a resolution could not be reached. Jerry offered to address the clarification of the number of unresolved cases further with the State Ombudsman's Office as the reporting software currently does not define this information. Supervisor Neely inquired on the Ombudsman Program staffing level relative to the number of elder abuse cases reported to which Jerry responded that he is mindful of the program's budget and the benefit in using volunteers to ensure program services can be carried out throughout the fiscal year. Frances Cole-Boyd of the Advisory Council also added that with the growth of the older adult population, more APS workers will be needed to address the increase in the number of elder abuse cases.

12. Advisory Council FY 2022/2023 Year End Activity Report

Director Gabriel explained the Advisory Council Year End Report process. Frances Cole-Boyd led the workgroup in a presentation on the activities the Advisory Council has been working toward this fiscal year. Frances addressed the Educate and Advocate goals and objectives which were displayed in a pie chart indicating the 322 volunteer hours offered by Advisory Council members toward specific Area Plan objectives. Frances added comments in support of Supervisor Ricker's efforts in Shasta Co. Frances also read the shocking statistics on the high suicide rate for older adults, especially in older adult males, as the Advisory Council continues to address Mental Health Services in their regions. Nancy Quirus addressed the Hope Park Project in Shasta Co. Nancy then addressed efforts made toward linking Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia Awareness and Nutrition through participation in workgroups and presentations. Nutrition services were also a focus of the Advisory Council members, especially throughout the pandemic with to-go meals and the restaurant voucher program in Susanville. Awareness of the Fall Prevention Program and Estate Planning/Healthcare Directives were also addressed by the council. Staci Wadley, also a

representative of Dignity Health Connected Living, addressed the Advisory Council's work toward the Transportation goal and objectives. With limited access to transportation, seniors tend to drive longer than is safe and often succumb to injuries from an accident due to their age. Various community meetings focusing on budget and policy changes are attended by Advisory Council members in support of transportation for older and disabled adults. Transportation continues to be an unmet need, especially for door-to-door services which are limited by funding availability. As the population ages, transportation will continue to be a focus for the council. Frances then added that Advisory Council Chairpersons also attend the Triple A Council of CA meetings which represents all 33 area agencies on aging. Participation in the Senior Rally Day by two Lassen Co. Supervisors was greatly appreciated. Volunteer hours by the Advisory Council also included efforts with the Information & Assistance Program.

Director Gabriel thanked the Advisory Council for their report and work to support PSA 2 throughout the year. She also credited the Advisory Council for their advocacy, especially with Shasta Co.'s Hope Park Project, which is partly a result of the Advisory Council's representation of the older adult population at Mental Health Services Act stakeholder meetings. Chairman Cox expressed her appreciation of the Advisory Council for their efforts toward Dementia awareness and other PSA 2 programs in service of the older adults in our region. The suicide statistics shared by Frances were also requested to be shared with the board. Supervisor Rickert expressed the importance of volunteerism and shared her experience with volunteer efforts which aided in the development of the Mental Health Services Act in CA.

13. Advisory Council Member Appreciation – Supvr. Jill Cox, Executive Board Chairman
Chairman Cox expressed appreciation for the Advisory Council's efforts and asked that gratitude be passed along to those who were unable to attend today's meeting. Chairman Cox addressed and read the customized appreciation certificates included in the Advisory Council meeting packets. She also read the meaningful message regarding the joy brought from volunteering. On behalf of the Executive Board and PSA 2 staff, she thanked the Advisory Council members for their efforts. John Del'Amico of the Advisory Council expressed his appreciation of the certificates and the work of the AAA. He also expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to be of service in his community. Director Gabriel thanked Chairman Cox for her efforts in rejuvenating the PSA Certificate of Appreciation for the Advisory Council members.

14. Approval of Board Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Sign CDA's Modernizing Older Californians Act NUTRITION Contract & Related Amendments – NM-2324-02*

Director Gabriel requested the Executive Board's approval of the Board Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to sign the Modernizing Older Californians Act Nutrition funding offered by the CA Dept. of Aging. Director Gabriel explained the funding is specific for nutrition services available July 1, 2023, through March 31, 2029, in the amount of \$1,532,615. Roughly \$400,000 will be available to PSA 2 for each fiscal year through this period. The funding shall support C-1 Congregate Meals, C-2 Home Delivered Meals, as well as Brown Bag services, Groceries, Intergenerational Activities related to nutrition, and restaurant voucher meal options. Agency staff will work with existing nutrition service providers to help direct the focus of the MOCA-Nutrition funding in our region. The Title III

C Coordinator position approved by the Executive Board last month will help to support the use of this funding to support of the contracted nutrition service providers. Infrastructure funding purchases will also be allowed through the MOCA- Nutrition funding.

MSP: Supervisor Bridges moved to Approve the Board Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Sign CDA's Modernizing Older Californians Act NUTRITION Contract & Related Amendments – NM-2324-02*, seconded by Supervisor Ogren, all aye, motion carried.

15. New Business:

The next scheduled Executive Board meeting will be on Monday, July 17th.

16. Old Business:

None.

17. Correspondence:

Incoming – None

Outgoing – None

18. Adjournment

The virtual Collaborative Meeting of the PSA 2 Executive Board and Advisory Council was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri Gabriel,
Executive Director