

**PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging  
Virtual Advisory Council Meeting**  
Friday, March 26, 2021  
10:00 AM

**MINUTES**

**A. Call to order and Flag Salute**

Meeting called to order at 10:09 AM.

**B. Roll Call (Establishment of a quorum)**

Teri Gabriel	PSA2	Present
Vacant	Lassen	-----
Lindsay Ritchie	Lassen	Present
Vacant	Lassen	-----
Kay White	Lassen	Excused
Marcia Anderson	Modoc	Present
Clinton Davis	Modoc	Excused
Debbie Mason	Modoc	Present
Vacant	Modoc	-----
Frances Cole-Boyd	Shasta	Present
Maggie McNamara	Shasta	Absent
Nancy Qirus	Shasta	Present
Staci Wadley	Shasta	Present
Heather Solus	Siskiyou	Present
Vacant	Siskiyou	-----
John Dell'Amico	Siskiyou	Present
Lydia Gil	Siskiyou	Present
Michael Cottone	Trinity	Present
Vacant	Trinity	-----
Vacant	Trinity	-----
Vacant	Trinity	-----

Quorum Established.

**C. Introduction of guests**

Noor Nijjar, Healthy Brain Initiative – Shasta County HHSA

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

M/ Staci Wadley  
S/ John Dell'Amico  
Approved.

**E. Approval of Meeting Minutes – January 29, 2021**

M/ John Dell'Amico  
S/ Staci Wadley  
Approved.

**F. Open Session / Announcements**

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

Marcia – the Tule Lake Family Resource Center will be open April 5<sup>th</sup> for walk-ins. On April 7<sup>th</sup>, a blood drive will be held at the Resource Center. They are continuing to give out the Thursday food package. They have distributed something like 3,000 pounds of vegetables.

Nancy – Trinity Virtual Health Fair – April 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> (Monday-Friday) on Zoom. There will be PSAs, as well as five feature presentations. Very excited to see this new way of reaching out to the community. One particular day will focus on seniors. Nancy will send the information to Teri.

**G. Reports:**

Chairman's Report – Clinton Davis

Teri – If you refer to the Executive Board roster in your packet, we have new members of the PSA2 Executive Board, with transition of Supervisors in a few counties. About half of the board is switching out. Jeff Hemphill from Lassen is the new Vice-Chairman and Tom Hammond is the alternate. In Shasta, Patrick Jones is new to the board. In Siskiyou, Ed Valenzuela is the new Chairman, and Nancy Ogren is the alternate. In Trinity, Liam Gogan and Jill Cox are new to the board. There is one vacancy in Trinity.

- Update on Advisory Council Activities
- Advisory Council Membership Report

Teri – In Shasta, we have two new members of the Advisory Council, Maggie McNamara and Frances Cole-Boyd. We have two applications in for vacancies in Lassen that have gone to the BOS for appointment. We have given out three applications for Siskiyou. We have three vacancies in Trinity. We have one person in Trinity who is interested.

TACC Report – Clinton Davis, Advisory Council Chairman

- Update on Recent TACC Activities

No TACC Report.

## CSL Report – Teri Gabriel

- News on CSL Representation

Both CSL members from PSA2 have resigned. We have two vacancies – one for an Assemblyman and one for a Senior Senator. I was contacted by a representative from PSA3. They are part of a NorCal rural caucus and are interested in talking to the PSA2 Advisory Council about CSL. With everything not yet opening up, there has not been a lot of activity in CSL, so we are not missing out on activity at this time. Senior Rally Day is coming up. This is a day where seniors can go and make their voices heard. It will happen virtually this year on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 9AM-2PM. Keynote speaker is Kim McCoy-Wade, Director of California Department of Aging, who will speak on the Master Plan for Aging, as well as Assemblyman Nazarian, chair of the Aging and Long-Term Care Committee.

## Nutrition Report – Nancy Quirus

- Update on CalFresh Healthy Living Program

President Biden's America Rescue Plan - 3.5B households are experiencing food insecurity due to the pandemic. The America Rescue Plan includes increased funding for CalFresh benefits, providing an additional \$28 per month, per person through September 2021. Besides reducing food insecurity, for each additional dollar of benefits, this produces \$1.79 in economic activity. In addition, this plan includes \$37M for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, which works to improve the health and nutrition of older adults. Locally, in Modoc, TEACH has initiated a partnership with First 5 Siskiyou to offer CalFresh To Go to provide outreach to older adults. Lydia – Every week there was a gentleman who came from Yreka, Mr. Getty, who did a presentation on the economic development of Siskiyou to the City Council. There will be funding for people who have their water turned off due to being in arrears to catch up their bill. There will be more food provided at the Tule Lake Family Resource Center.

## Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Report

- Update on Each County's MHSA Services Activities

MHSA funding is focused on mental health and well-being for all ages. We have seen that services for emotional support, suicide prevention, support groups very often are not focused on older adults. Advisory Council members have attended MHSA meetings. Some counties do include older adult issues. There is

an MHSA quarterly workgroup meeting in Shasta County. Next meeting is on March 30<sup>th</sup> from 10AM-11:30AM via GoToMeeting. Provides input for Shasta County's MHSA services. Please attend if you can. We will send out the information.

AB 383 (Salas) addresses mental health for older adults, and establishes a DHCS Mental Health Services Administrator to oversee services for older adults. Also develops outcome-related indicators for the purpose of assessing the status of mental health services for older adults. PSA2 Advisory Council will provide a letter of support for this legislation.

Marcia – In Modoc, Rhonda Bandy has retired. She was the MHSA contact. Teri - Camy Rightmier in Siskiyou has gone to another department in the county. Nancy – We could reach out to Assemblyman Salas (Author) Assemblyman Nazarian (Chair of the Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee) to express PSA@ Advisory Council's support of this legislation. Teri, Clinton, and Nancy will work on putting something together.

#### Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

- Update from PSA2 Outreach Committee

Teri – We have a volunteer working on our new website. I have some screenshots to share. We have links to lots of information. There will be areas to address elder abuse and prevention and links to where you can report elder abuse in each of the counties, the definition of elder abuse, caregiver services, health services, Long Term Care Ombudsman, etc. Our 800 number is there as well for Information and Assistance. We are trying to remember to update the PSA2 Facebook page so that when you send notices to us, we can convert that to a format to load on to the Facebook page and to the website when it is ready. Nancy – In the categories, will there be information about the Advisory Committee and who is on the committee? Teri – There will be information about Advisory Council members. People can contact PSA2 if they want to reach out to individual Advisory Council members.

- Update from Food Access Committee

Teri – Clinton, Staci, and Heather are on that committee. Staci – Dignity Health was able to work on some food access issues for Bieber. We were able to receive food donations via retailers associated with Feeding America. We have agreements with other agencies to pick up food on our behalf and distribute to their participants. We were able to get some food through an agreement with Dollar General in Fall River for Clinton's group

to distribute. We are also working on an agreement at the Burney location. Nancy – Has there been any outreach to Holiday Market in Trinity? Staci – I don't know that Holiday Market is connected with Feeding America. Dignity Health is only able to operate in Shasta County. Nancy – Can you provide a link to help me find out which stores are part of Feeding America? Heather – We do receive food for Siskiyou County from various retailers. Nancy – Is Modoc connected to Feeding America? Knowing who the retailers are would be a good first step for Trinity and Modoc. Heather – The first step is to find out if there is a Feeding America partner in the area (which could be TEACH). Staci – Not every food pantry is affiliated with Feeding America, because there are costs associated. Teri – We can find out if TEACH in Modoc County is associated with Feeding America.

### **Director's Report– Teri Gabriel, Executive Director**

- Update on Program Services Due to COVID-19 pandemic

Nutrition programs continue to do drive-thru distributions and delivery. We are starting to hear chatter about reopening. San Diego and San Francisco are working on reopening plans, and will share those with nutrition providers. No one is in a hurry to reopen those dining centers. Even if participants have been vaccinated, some center staff may not have been vaccinated. We will continue the conversation with nutrition providers. Staci – Do we need to work with you on that, or will there be a mandate that comes down? Teri – Department of Aging has not released any protocols yet, but discussion have started. Social distancing and masking will still be needed. At minimum, you need an okay from your public health that will come to me and will address it with the Department of Aging.

- Update on Dignity at Home Fall Prevention Program

We are still working on this program. We have informed health care providers that this program is here. The deadline to spend the funds has been extended to next March. The materials have been ordered. If you want materials, please let us know.

- Update on Trinity County Request for Proposal Process

Trinity County has some finding that was not redistributed for nutrition and transportation services on the last Request for Proposal process. There have been community groups that have inquired about applying and bringing services back to the area. We have a meeting scheduled for next week to determine the timeline for the RFP process. Nancy and Staci are listed as representatives for the RFP Review Committee.

- Other Agency Activity / Community Education Events

HICAP continue still working remotely. They have increased advertising in radio, TV, magazines and newsletters, which has produced new clients for the HICAP program. They are reaching out to seniors who are not connected to their local senior center and have reached 70 new clients. Two new HICAP counselors in Weaverville, and two in training from Tule Lake and Hayfork.

Ombudsman is making more facility visits. They hired a new Ombudsman II who is visiting more facilities using Personal Protective Equipment.

We have been communicating locally and with the state on reaching older adults who do not have access to vaccines, such as those who are homebound or who are not affiliated with a nutrition program.

Upcoming Webinar - Conversations about Dementia and Driver Safety on April 7th.

Justice in Aging – America Rescue Plan – There will be additional funding for programs funded through PSA2, including Ombudsman and nutrition programs. Nutrition programs will also receive CARES Act funding.

Mitigating Gender and Racial Bias – Tule Lake Resource Center and Siskiyou Behavioral Health Services – Virtual – on Wednesdays.

Brain Health – Healthy Brain Awareness Lunch and Learn (Virtual) – March 31<sup>st</sup> – City of Shasta Lake Visitor Center from 12-1. Presented by Shining Care ([shiningcare.org](http://shiningcare.org)).

Planning for Elder Abuse Awareness Month in June. We will make sure that each of the five counties has the yard signs. The Ombudsman program will expand into the other counties with signs on buses and bus stops.

Shining Care is hosting a drive-thru event.

## **H. Report on FY 20/21 Area Plan Goals & Objectives Activities**

Anyone who has worked on any of the objectives for FY20/21, please use the Activity Report in your packet and send them to Mike Cottone.

## **I. Approval of FY 21/22 Area Plan Goals & Objectives**

- Addition of Advance Health Care Directives and End of Life Planning Resource Distribution, Addition of Fall Prevention Resource Distribution & Update to Transportation Objectives

The Advisory Council indicated that under Goal 2 we are adding new objectives (U & V). The Area Plan update is due to the Department of Aging by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

- U. With the support of the PSA 2 AAA Staff, the Advisory Council will make efforts to promote and distribute fall prevention education materials. This objective compliments the Dignity at Home Fall Prevention Program initiated in FY 2020/2021 to provide assistive devices to a means-tested adult and disabled population at risk for falls. Council members will assist with identification of interested community partners in the PSA 2 area, then coordinate with the PSA 2 executive office and assist with fall prevention material distribution to our older adult population. Fall prevention outreach will be promoted annually, during Fall Prevention Awareness Week in September, to support on-going mobility of older adults and their maintenance of independence.
- V. With support of the PSA 2 staff, the Advisory Council will assist with the circulation of Estate Planning and Advanced Healthcare Directive Materials in each county to educate the community on the importance of end of life planning for older adults. Efforts will include communication with local organizations to promote estate and end of life planning to avoid potential elder financial abuse.

Goal 3 – Transportation – was also updated. Related to existing objectives.

- A. Advisory Council representatives will encourage California Senior Legislature (CSL) members to lobby on transportation issues for the benefit of the PSA 2 region and the older and disabled adults it serves. CSL members are also encouraged to conduct other legislative efforts to advocate on transportation issues.
- B. In an effort to improve coordination in transportation services, PSA 2 AAA Advisory Council members will continue to participate in the California Association for Coordinated Transportation (CalACT) to enhance senior transportation options in PSA 2's communities. In addition, Advisory Council members will continue to educate community stakeholders on transportation issues and needs.
- C. Advisory Council members will advocate and educate local legislators and stakeholders on the need to increase transportation resources and promote mobility management.
- D. In an effort to enhance collaborative coordination, the Advisory Council will identify resources in the community in support of educating older adults and people with disabilities on available transportation services.

- E. To advance mobility management, a representative of the Advisory Council will report to the council on issues and needs presented in the Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee (SSTAC). Matters related to Transportation services will be shared with Advisory Council, PSA 2 Service Providers and the Community. This representative will also inform the council on progress toward emerging transportation services which would benefit older and disabled adults (inter-county transport, Sunday bus service, etc.).

Nancy - Goal 2, Objective B is something that the Advisory Council has not been educated on. There is a need for us to be brought up to speed on transportation issues, needs, highlights. Maybe we can include something on the agenda. This could be reported on when we report out on Goals and Objectives on the agenda (Report on FY 20/21 Area Plan Goals & Objectives Activities).

Lydia – Southern Cascade Transportation is providing transportation at no cost for Partnership Healthplan of California (PHC) (Medi-Cal) members. They should get some kind of funding to provide transportation for people who do not have Partnership, but are low income.

Teri – We did have a public hearing on Tuesday, and had four members of the public participate, as well as program staff. The Area Plan Update asks us to address any issues that were discussed or raised at the public hearing, and add those to the Area Plan. One use that was raised is concerning the Digital Divide. Due to the pandemic, awareness of the lack of internet access and computing devices in order for older adults to stay connected and socially engaged with the community. Residents in facilities were not able to stay in contact with their families. Department of Aging is stepping up on this issue. There was an opportunity for Department of Aging to receive Google Home devices for older adults. The downside is that these devices require internet access at the location where they will be used. Department of Aging is working with Apple to receive iPads for every Area Agency on Agency. These will come with a data plan that is good for two years. We don't have details yet as they are still being worked out. Frances – People on SSI can get Wi-Fi for \$10 per month. Teri – Legislators are pushing for broadband access for everyone.

Teri – Another issue raised at public hearing was reopening of senior centers. An individual from Lassen County asked when congregate meal service will be restarted. We are waiting on guidance from the state.

Teri – We heard from an individual from Trinity County who may be joining us next meeting. She is involved in the Village to Village concept, so we should hear more on this.

Teri - Any work that you are doing on Area Plan Goals and Objectives can be reported under Report on FY 20/21 Area Plan Goals & Objectives Activities, and also reported using the Activity Report form in your packet and emailing or faxing to the Secretary. California Phones (California Telephone Access Program) has



training available to teach older adults how to use smartphones. The senior must have a cell phone and a service plan.

M/ Mike Cottone

S/ John Dell'Amico

To add Advance Health Care Directives and End of Life Planning Resource Distribution, Fall Prevention Resource Distribution to Goal 2, and the five new Transportation Objectives to Goal 3 of the Area Plan.

Approved.

Nancy – Please add me to Goal 2, Objective U (Fall Prevention). Mike – Please add me to Goal 2, Objectives U and V. Frances – Please add me to Goal 2, Objective V.

#### **J. Discussion on Advisory Council's Year End Report to Executive Board**

The reason we need the Activity Reports is because the Secretary uses these reports of the activities of the Advisory Council to compile the Year End Report for presentation to the Executive Board. Once per year, the Advisory Council meets with the Executive Board in June, during Elder Abuse Awareness Month, and that report is presented from the Advisory Council to the Executive Board during this meeting. Throughout the year, Advisory Council members can report these activities to the Secretary using the Activity Report. For example, if Nancy works toward Fall Prevention objectives, she can report those activities on the Activity Report to Mike, to say what she did and the time she spent on it. The Advisory Council will decide who will present those activities to the Executive Board. This is our opportunity to let the board know what the Advisory Council has done and what we see as priorities in our communities. Advisory Council members are welcome to attend Executive Board meetings. The Chairman of the Advisory Council does attend the Executive Board meetings.

That meeting is in June, so we have the April and May meetings to wrap up that report and get the Activity Reports turned in. At the May meeting, we will review the draft report. Nancy – Between now and our April meeting would be an ideal time to get those Activity Reports in to Mike. Teri – There is a separate report for successes and challenges. Nancy – We could have a prerecorded PSA on Fall Prevention to present at various forums.

#### **K. Correspondence:**

Incoming: Resignation Message from Kit Porritt

Outgoing: Letters to Governor Newsom in support of Kay White for Commission on Aging

#### **L. Adjournment**

Adjourned at 12:06 PM.

Next Virtual Meeting – Friday, April 30, 2021