



VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 2015

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Center
646 County Square Drive, Ventura (805) 477-7300

AGENDA

- | | | | | |
|-----------|----|--|--|----------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. | 1. | Call to Order and Agenda Review | | Nick
Fotheringham |
| | 2. | Pledge of Allegiance | | Nick
Fotheringham |
| | 3. | Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of June 10, 2015 | | Nick
Fotheringham |
| | 4. | Public Comments | | |

Procedure: The public is welcome to comments. All comments not related to items on the agenda may be made at the beginning of the meeting only.

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|--|-----|--|--|----------------------|
| | 5. | Consent Agenda Items | | Nick
Fotheringham |
| | 5.1 | Legislative Committee Report from June 10, 2015 | | |
| | 5.2 | Housing and Transportation (Livable Communities Committee) Report from June 10, 2015 | | |
| | 5.3 | Health Issues Committee Report from June 16, 2015 | | |
| | 5.4 | Senior Nutrition Committee Report from June 22, 2015 | | |
| | 5.5 | Optimal Aging Committee Report from June 24, 2015 | | |

DISCUSSION ITEMS/PRESENTATION/MOTION

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|---|--|--|
| 9:15 a.m. | 6.1 | VCAAA Nominating Committee Report and Election of Five (5) Special Population Seats for FY 2015-2017. | | Rose
Gossom |
| | 6.2 | Outreach Committee Speakers' Bureau | | Marty Kaplan |
| | 6.3 | Public Housing Overview | | Stephanie
Spamanato,
Letty Ortiz |

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- | | | | | |
|--|----|---|--|---------------------------------|
| | 7. | Advisory Council Meeting Schedule for FY 2015-2016 | | Victoria Jump |
| | 8. | California Senior Legislature/Triple A Council of California (CSL /TACC) Update | | Glasmeier/
Hartmann/
Witt |

- | | | | |
|----------|-----|---|----------------------|
| | 9. | Committee Membership List for FY 2015-2016 | Victoria Jump |
| | 10. | California Commission on Aging AgeWatch for June 2015 | Nick
Fotheringham |
| | 11. | Comments from the Chair | Nick
Fotheringham |
| | 12. | Other Business | Nick
Fotheringham |
| 10:30 am | 13. | Adjournment * | Nick
Fotheringham |

*Strategic Planning Session to follow. Lunch will be served.

The next meeting will be:

September 9, 2015 (9:00 am – 10:30 am)
Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Center
646 County Square Drive, Ventura County

Individuals who require accommodations for their disabilities (including interpreters and alternate formats) are requested to contact the Area Agency on Aging staff at (805) 477-7300 at least five days prior to the meeting.

VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Advisory Council Center
646 County Square Drive, Suite 100
Ventura, CA 93003
June 10, 2015

Advisory Council Members Present

Paul Boog (Port Hueneme COA)	Marty Kaplan (Supervisory Appointee)
Smita Dandekar (Supervisory Appointee)	Suz Montgomery (Ventura COA)
Jay Evans (Camarillo COA)	Ginny Rockefeller (Ojai COA)
Sandra Fide (Moorpark COA)	Mel Silberberg (Supervisory Appointee)
Rosemary Flores-Gordon (Service Provider)	Neill Spector (Simi Valley COA)
Nick Fotheringham (Thousand Oaks COA)	Sylvia Stein (Service Provider)
June Glasmeier (CSL)	Vicki Tripoli (Moorpark COA)
Rose Gossom (Supervisory Appointee)	Donald Todd (Special Population)
Lawrence Hartmann (CSL)	Bill Witt (CSL)
Nancy Healy (Thousand Oaks COA)	

Advisory Council Members Absent

Lori Harasta (Ventura COA)
Lisa Hayden (Supervisory Appointee)
Antoinette Olson (Simi Valley COA)
Karen King (Camarillo COA)
Sue Tatangelo (Special Population)

VCAAA Staff Present

Marleen Canniff	Elizabeth Renteria
Victoria Jump	Christine Voth
Monique Nowlin	Brian Murphy

Guests

Cleo Anderson	Mike Culver
Pat Esseff	Marcy Sherbock
Phil Chandler	Jody Tompkins
Sherrilyn Palladino	Ricardo Torres
Lisa Nagy	Stephanie Spamanato
Blair Craddock	Ricky Satnam Sood

1. **Call to Order and Review of Agenda** - The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Nick Fotheringham (Thousand Oaks COA).

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Nick Fotheringham led the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was present.
3. **Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Meeting Minutes** - The minutes of the May 13, 2015, meeting were approved. (Boog/Todd/Passed)

4. **Public Comments** –

Christine Voth – Christine notified the council about the June 17th and 18th Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) open house to help plan the future of Southern California. She provided a handout for the dates, times and location of the event.

Larry Hartmann – thanked staff for putting on the Older Americans Month movie night which he and his wife enjoyed.

Sylvia Stein - Sylvia thanked everyone for their support for making calls and writing letters encouraging additional funding for the Ombudsman Program. The bill has passed the assembly and senate.

5. **Consent Agenda Items** – the consent agenda containing the Legislative Committee Report from May 13, 2015, Outreach Committee Report from May 26, 2015, Health Issues Committee Report from May 19, 2015, Senior Nutrition Committee Report from May 18, 2015, Optimal Aging Committee Report from May 27, 2015, and Livable Communities Report From May 13, 2015, were accepted. (Evans/Todd/Passed). June Glasmeier abstained from voting.

6. **Discussion Items/Presentation/Motion**

- 6.1 **Recommendation and Approval of Grant Award in the Cumulative Amount of \$200,000 to the Camarillo Health Care District for the Senior Helpline (Title IIIB) and \$270,000 to Catholic Charities to Establish the Santa Clara Valley Family Caregiver Center (Title IIIE) for a period of up to four (4) Year Commencing FY 2015-2016.** Advisory Council approved the task force recommendations (Evans/Gossom/Passed. There were no abstentions.
- 6.2 **Farmers Market Coupon Program for FY 2015-2016.** Patti Jaeger, VCAAA Dietitian, explained the program and asked for Advisory Council volunteers to work at the certified farmers' markets and hand out the tickets. Discussed was eligibility for the booklets (60 and over and low income), how long the coupons were good for (until November 30, 2015) and our redemption rate (currently around 87%). Several members volunteered to work at the certified farmers' markets.

- 6.3 **VCAAA Nominating Committee Report and Election of Advisory Council Officers for FY 2015-2016 and One Service Provider for FY 2015-2017.** Committee Chair Marty Kaplan conducted the election. For the Service Provider Seat Rosemary Flores-Gordon was reelected to another two year term. There were no nominations for the floor. (Evans/Boog/Passed). Rosemary Flores-Gordon abstained from voting.

For the Election of Advisory Council Officers for FY 2015-2016, the slate as presented (Chair – Nick Fotheringham, Vice-Chair – Toni Olson and Secretary) Rosemary Flores-Gordon) recommended by the nominating committee was accepted. There were no nominations from the floor. (Evans/Boog/Passed). Rosemary Flores Gordon and Nick Fotheringham abstained from voting.

- 6.4 **VCAAA Program Update.** VCAAA staff provided an update of programs that the VCAAA launched in FY 2015-2016 to include Fall Prevention, Reverse Mortgage Counseling, Home share and Housing + (pronounced housing plus). AC members asked a lot of great questions about each of the programs and asked that someone from public housing present at the July meeting.

7. **Advisory Council Meeting Schedule.** The meeting schedule for FY 2015-2016 was included for informational purposes.

8. **CSL/TACC Update** – June Glasmeier provided a written report of her May 2015 TACC meeting. CSL members discussed there not being an annual session in Sacramento in October and doing the top proposal voted via mail.

9. **Committee Membership Selection for FY 2015-2016.** Members were asked to select the committees that they wanted to be a member of and provide it to VCAAA staff by June 30, 2015.

10. **California Commission on Aging AgeWatch for May 2015.** Included for informational purposes.

11. **Comments from the Chair** – Nick Fotheringham had no comments.

12. **Other Business** –

Nancy Healy invited everyone to the June 29, 2015 Village to Village network discussion at the Thousand Oaks Library Community Room from 4-6 pm. They are seeing if there is enough community support and interest in establishing a Village program in thousand Oaks.

13. **Adjournment** – the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am (Todd/Boog/Passed).

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TO: VCAA Advisory Council Members
FROM: Bill Witt, Chair
DATE: June 10, 2015
SUBJECT: **Legislative Committee Report from June 10, 2015**

Legislative Committee Members Present

William (Bill) Witt (CSL) - Chair
Nancy Healy (Thousand Oaks COA)
Larry Hartmann (CSL)
Sylvia Taylor Stein (Service Provider)
Neill Spector (Simi Valley COA)
Nick Fotheringham (Thousand Oaks COA)
June Glasmeier (CSL)
Donald Todd (Veteran Special Population Seat)
Sandra Fide (Moorpark COA)

Legislative Committee Members Absent

Jay Evans (Camarillo COA)
Mel Silberberg (Supervisorial Appointee)
Paul Boog (Port Hueneme COA)
Sue Tatangelo (Family Caregiver Special Population Seat)

VCAA Staff Present

Monique Nowlin

Guests

Maricela Morales, CAUSE Co-Founder
Blair Craddock, Camarillo Health Care District
Marcy Sherbok

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m. by Chair, Bill Witt. A quorum was present.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – Bill introduced Marcy Sherbok. Ms. Sherbok is vying for the LGBT seat on the Advisory Council.
3. **Public Comments** – Blair Craddock provided a brief update on the activities of the Ventura County Evidence-Based Health Promotion Coalition and what transpired on the last Regional Coalition call regarding the shift in the landscape regarding LTSS (Long Term Services and Support).
4. **Special Guest – Maricela Morales, CAUSE Co-Founder** – Sylvia provided the Committee with a brief biography on Ms. Morales that included highlighting Ms.

Morales' education at Stanford University and some of her career highlights with the City of Port Hueneme. Ms. Morales then presented members of the Committee with the CAUSE 2014 Community Report and discussed the purpose of CAUSE and what they are striving to achieve in the community among vulnerable populations, including the working poor. In addition, Ms. Morales distributed a communication piece on "Make It Fair", the movement dedicated to closing the commercial property tax loopholes and asked for the Committee's support in this movement as a body and/or as individuals. Ms. Morales also discussed the Living Wage Ordinance and tied her presence there and her goals to senior issues by stating that the work of CAUSE can help Senior issues because they are addressing issues that contribute to being low income at the forefront with the younger population which theoretically will reduce the population of low income seniors.

5. **Featured Legislative Committee Members – Donald Todd and Nancy Healy** – Donald Todd graduated from Burbank High in 1965 and went on to serve in the military and is now a proud Vietnam-era Vet. Upon discharge and after retiring with full military benefits from the California Air National Guard, Donald went on to work in retail management for 25 years before going back to college and becoming a Substance Abuse Counselor part time for 10 additional years. Donald is dedicated to being an advocate for veterans through his volunteerism with organizations like the Veteran's Court with the Military Collaborative and as the Veteran's representative on the Advisory Council. His ultimate goal is to ensure the no veteran get treated in the negative way he did when he first returned stateside from service.

Nancy Healy has been a resident of Thousand Oaks for approximately 26 years and worked the majority of her career in financial services as one the Vice Presidents of Countrywide. Nancy has two wonderful children who are both attorneys. After suffering a heart attack in her office, Nancy re-evaluated her work life and decided to retire and began dedicating her time to volunteering. Nancy began her volunteerism with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). She became aware of an opportunity to serve as an Ombudsman and trained with their program and has been serving as an Ombudsman volunteer for several years and continues to serve the seniors in Ventura County with her service on the Advisory Council as well.

6. **Update on Pending Legislation in Sacramento Affecting Seniors** – Tabled due to time constraints.
7. **Other Committee Involvement/Notification** – There was no discussion regarding other Committee involvement.
8. **Next Meeting Date** – July 8, 2015 meeting canceled due to Strategic Planning event. Next meeting is September 9, 2015.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members

FROM: Mel Silberberg, chair

DATE: June 10, 2015

SUBJECT: Livable Communities Report from June 10, 2015

Committee Members Present (3)

Jay Evans (Camarillo COA)

Rose Gossom (Supervisorial Appointee)

Mel Silberberg (Supervisorial Appointee)

VCAAA Staff Present

Elizabeth Renteria, Public Outreach Coordinator

Deborah Roberts, HomeShare Staff

Beth Shephard, Transportation Coordinator

Christine Voth, Manager, Business Strategy & Strategic Planning

Guests

Mike Culver, Director of Operations, Mobility Management Partners (MMP)

Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 11:02 AM by Mel Silberberg, Chair. With all Advisory Council committee members being present, there was a quorum.

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Approval of minutes from last meeting** (J. Evans/M. Silberberg)
3. **Public Comments.** None
4. **Report: Ventura County Civic Alliance (VCCA) State of the Region Report 2015.** Christine Voth reported on her attendance at the release event for the report and community briefing held on May 18, 2015. She pointed out that the document contains useful statistics and information relative to this committee, and to the forthcoming VCAAA Strategic Master Plan. Christine shared a copy of the report with the meeting attendees. A copy of the document may be downloaded for free at: <http://www.vccf.org/programs/civicalliance/SotR.shtml>

Mel asked what is done with the information in the document. It was felt that many organizations and units of government use it as a tool for improving life in Ventura County. When asked about the purpose of VCCA, she read, "*The Ventura County*

Civic Alliance is a coalition of civic leaders with a shared commitment to bringing economic, environmental and social equity interests of our region together to address priority community issues, increase civic engagement and foster community leadership. The Alliance is an initiative of the Ventura County Community Foundation."

Christine also distributed the brochure, *Ventura County's Most Livable Communities-Building Today for Better Future*, which was published by the Ventura County Community Foundation in 2009. The brochure lists the 10 tenants of the livable community and gives local examples.

5. **Report: County of Ventura General Plan.** Beth Shephard and Mel Silberberg attended focus groups regarding the update of the General Plan. Mel felt there was nothing of substance, and said the priority seems to be aware of topics such as preserving open space; and, affordable housing for seniors was not on their radar. On behalf of this committee, Mel submitted a letter (see May agenda packet for this committee), encouraging them to focus on the needs of the aging community, including Universal Design and affordable housing. Mel questioned what will be done with the letter. Mel emphasized that senior needs must be included in County plans and documents.
6. **Report: Meeting with County Planners Group** – Continued from the May meeting. This is an informal group that consists of planners from the County and local cities. Victoria Jump and Monique Nowlin recently attended one of their sack lunch meetings in Camarillo, and made all presentation. The result is that we now have a positive relationship with planners in each of the cities and at the County.
7. **Report: VCAAA Transportation Program** – Beth Shephard distributed the ElderHelp Transportation Program report for May 2015. She reminded everyone that funding for Medi-Rides has been spent for the current fiscal year; thus, rides will not be available until July 1. The report shows statistics for the month of May: transportation tickets provided (1,800), unduplicated individuals served (115) and total cost (\$4,780). Jay Evans inquired about the guidelines for the monthly spending of spending Medi-Ride dollars. Beth said she would need to revisit the guidelines; and this may be something the Advisory Council/Livable Communities Committee will want to review.

Mel requested that future reports contain*:

- (1) the amount spent for the preceding month and year-to-date costs;
- (2) the average number of rides awarded per Medi-Ride client.

Mike Culver reminded the group that Mobility Management Partners might be an alternative for some clients if they can identify a driver (such as a friend, neighbor, etc.) to provide the transportation. The process for a person to become certified to use the program usually takes about a month because the application must be reviewed by committee. He recognizes this may not be possible for many clients, but might be an alternative for some if they knew about the program.

8. **Report: VCAAA HomeShare Program** – Deborah Roberts presented HomeShare’s report for May. Jay Evans requested that future reports contain¹:
- (1) the number of providers not yet matched, and
 - (2) the number of seekers not yet matched. Both numbers would be as of the last day of the preceding month.

Jay asked what can be done to grow the program and increase the number of providers. Beth said at present, the true need is for more qualified seekers because only 30% of seekers do not have barriers to placement, and of those individuals, there is a compatibility issue. She said staff works very hard to facilitate a good match. Suggestions for attracting more providers:

- (1) Find Ventura County seniors who are behind in their mortgage payments and/or back taxes (re the National Council on Aging referrals of such seniors to HICAP) to see if any of them would be interested in becoming HomeShare providers.
- (2) Reach out to financial institutions and let them know about HomeShare.
- (3) Reach out to County of Ventura employees to advise them about the program.

9. **Event: Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)** – Christine reported this will be an opportunity for interested parties to provide input to SCAG on traffic and congestion, housing, air quality and green spaces, public health and the economy. The event will be held at the Camarillo Airport on June 16 and 17. VCAAA staff will attend this meeting.

10. **Report: History of Age Friendly Portland (Oregon) Action Plan** - Christine provided copies of two action areas in the plan: Housing and Transportation. Background information was provided on each area along with recommended Action Items. This is an excellent example of what can be done in a community.

11. **Discussion:**

- Is Ventura County age-friendly for older adults who want to age-in place?
- What is an age-friendly community?
- What are Ventura County’s strengths and weaknesses for aging-in-place?
- What can this committee do to make Ventura County more ‘livable’?

¹ Regarding the monthly reports for Transportation and HomeShare, Christine stated she would work with VCAAA management/line staff on developing the categories that need to be tracked and included in future reports.

Christine provided handouts on the *AARP Livability Index, Age-Friendly Checklists for Housing and Transportation*²; and *Livable Community Indicators for Sustainable Aging in Place*³.

Mel said it appears planners pay attention to the hot items such as the need to maintain open space. It was agreed that more attention needs to be paid to making developments (affordable and all other housing) more senior friendly. High density building is fine provided there is accessibility for seniors and persons with disabilities. Mel asked if cities understand the term "livable community." Jay thinks they do. The question is how do we work within already built cities and insert the factors needed to enable a city to score high as a livable community. Mel suggested that attendees look at all the materials handed out today and be prepared to discuss them in September he said we should be well primed to move forward.

12. **For Discussion: Status of Committee Goals and Objectives; and objectives to be included in VCAAA's four-year Master Strategic Plan, 2016-2020.** (Handout) - Table to September meeting.
13. **Other Committee Involvement/Notification – if any:**
 - a. Health Issues Committee
 - b. Legislative Committee
 - c. Optimal Aging Committee
 - d. Outreach Committee
 - e. Senior Nutrition Committee
14. **Next Meeting Date – July 8, 2015**

Before the close of the meeting, Mel asked when it would be appropriate to elect a new chair for this committee. After discussion, it was requested that the election of a new chair be on the agenda for the September meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:10 PM.

² Excerpted from *Global Friendly Cities-A Guide* by the World Health Organization

³ Excerpted from document of same name by Stanford Center on Longevity and Met Life Mature Market Institute.

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members

FROM: Ginny Rockefeller, Chair

DATE: June 16, 2015

SUBJECT: Health Issues Committee Meeting Report from June 16, 2015

Committee Members Present (4)

Jay Evans (City of Camarillo)

Lori Harasta (Ventura COA)

Ginny Rockefeller (City of Ojai)

Sue Tatangelo (Family Caregiver Representative)

Health Issues Committee Members Absent (3)

Smita Dandekar (Supervisorial Appointee)

Lisa Hayden (Supervisorial Appointee)

Rosemary Flores Gordon (Service Provider representative)

VCAAA Staff Present (4)

Patti Jaeger, Registered Dietitian

Victoria Jump, Director

Elizabeth Renteria, Outreach Coordinator

Christine Voth, Manager, Business Strategy and Strategic Planning

Guests (3)

Blair Craddock, Camarillo Health Care District

Diane Emerick, County of Ventura, Public Health

Steve Lehman, Manager, SCAN Health and Wellness Center, Ventura

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Minutes approved from meeting on May 19, 2015** (J. Evans/S. Tatangelo)
- 3. Public comments.** Steve Lehman shared information and distributed a flyer about a new evidence-based class, *Tai Chi Rehabilitation*, which will be presented at the SCAN Health and Wellness Center. Camille Torgeson will teach the class. The class targets persons recovering from an illness or surgery. A person does not need to be a member of SCAN to take the class. Steve also shared information about a balance screening

that will be conducted on the afternoon of June 17. Spaces are still available for interested persons.

4. **Worksheet for Committee Goals and Objectives:**

- a. **Goal #1. Updates on evidence-based exercise classes and facilitator training; flyer and Optimal Living Club.** Blair Craddock distributed two updated flyers for the classes and provided an update on the scheduling of the classes. She has talked to several people/instructors regarding venues and scheduling of classes. Victoria Jump expressed appreciation to Blair for all the hard work she has done to coordinate the classes, develop the flyers and track the data. If anyone has an idea for a venue, please advise Blair. Lori Harasta will ask Hans Hormann, director of the Ventura Avenue Adult Center, about using space in that facility.

Victoria would like to have impact quotes from persons who have taken the class, such as comments from participants about improvements in health and/or function that they have noticed since taking the class. Sue Tatangelo said she will bring some participant quotes/feedback to the next meeting.

- b. **Goal #2 and #3. Elder Economic Index (EEI); People 65+ Living Below Poverty Level in Ventura County (LBPL); and 2015 SocioNeeds Index (SNI).** Attendees reviewed both tables and asked questions. Victoria Jump said she would like to give priority to providing evidence-based fitness classes in those zip code areas where the poverty level is high for persons aged 65+ and the Health Rank⁴ is high. The index shows that these communities meet that criteria: Fillmore (93015), east Oxnard (93030) and College Park area of Oxnard (93033), Port Hueneme (93041), Santa Paula (93060) and western/downtown Ventura (93001).

- c. **Goal #4. Review latest Senior Nutrition Placement and update on FOOD Share's food truck.** Patti Jaeger showed the newest placemat to the group, which is in process of being distributed. A Spanish version will be distributed to those meal sites that requested them. VCAAA intends to distribute twelve placemats per year to the congregate meal sites, home delivered meal recipients and Senior Share (Brown Bag) recipients. It was noted that the exercise models on the placemats are VCAAA staff members Rosemary Hernandez and Charlie Pember.

The group agreed that the placemat provides excellent information and is attractive. Patti reported that consumer feedback has been very positive. She added there has been an increase in the number of seniors wanting nutrition counseling, which she feels is a result of featuring this service on the placemat. Victoria said the placemat project

⁴ Health Rank is derived from the 2015 SocioNeeds Index created by the Healthy Community Institute. The index measures 100+ social, health and economic factors in a community and assigns a score. Scores range from 1 (lowest in need) to 5 (in greatest need). Note that the health rank pertains to persons of all ages (not just older adults).

was undertaken to address the issue of food insecurity and provide nutrition education. Steve Lehman remarked the placemat could be “taken to the next level” wherein the private sector may want to utilize it. He asked if it was being shared throughout the state. Victoria said no, she is waiting until the Spanish version is available; and, she would prefer to present it as a completed project. Ginny Rockefeller remarked, “This proves that committees work!”

Patti Jaeger provided an update on SNAP-Ed. She said that 25 more sites have been added based on census data and/or congregate meal participants self-reporting that they are low income. To be a SNAP-Ed site, 51% the congregate meal participants must self-report as being low income. VCAA provides SNAP-Ed to Cal-Fresh (food stamp) eligible persons aged 60 and older, and Public Health service persons under the age of 60. Sue Tatangelo noted the importance of low-income congregate meal participants reporting (on the Senior Nutrition intake form) the correct income level versus selecting “not stated.”

Regarding the FOOD Share’s new food truck, Christine Voth said she would follow up with Susan Haverland to check on the current status of the truck. Patti has seen the truck and reports it is a “huge, beautiful truck with a state-of-the-art kitchen.” She said that FOOD Share plans to hire a chef to do cooking demonstrations, and fresh produce will be distributed. The truck will appear in communities that are designated low income per the US Census. Ginny said it would be helpful to have a schedule of when and where the truck will be.

- d. **Goal #5. Follow-up discussion on Second Patient Syndrome.** As a follow-up to the May meeting, Diane Emerick reported her intern will start tomorrow. At the May meeting, there was discussion about whether people understood the phrase, *Second Patient Syndrome*. Sue Tatangelo conducted some Internet research on the term. As a result of her research, she recommends the committee use the phrase, Caregiver Second Patient Syndrome, rather than just Second Patient Syndrome.
5. **Faith based event in the future.** This item was tabled. Lori Harasta will contact Teri Helton (who is interested in presenting an event) and advise her this item will be addressed when she is next able to attend a Health Issues Committee meeting.
6. **Prioritizing Health Issues Committee issues, goals and objectives for VCAA’s Master Strategic Plan for 2016-2020, and beyond.** Christine gave of the brief overview of process of developing the master strategic plan. She asked members to think about

the priorities for health issues that they would like to have included in the plan. This topic will be addressed at a future meeting.

7. **Other Committee Involvement/Notification, if any:**
 - **Optimal Aging Committee.** This committee has added items for inclusion in the Optimal Living Club kit.
8. **Information Items:**
 - a. **Silver Sneakers Program.** In response to a request made at the May meeting, information was shared about the program and the locations where the program is available in Ventura County. Lori Harasta commented that the Center for Medicare/Medicaid (CMS) needs to be educated on the importance of paying for more programs like this one. Sue Tatangelo remarked that demonstration projects are being paid for by insurance companies. Steve Lehman said there are many excellent programs available despite them not having the designation of being evidence-based.
 - b. **California Health Care Almanac 2015.** Staff distributed a handout regarding this booklet, including the web link to view/download it. The report, developed by the California Health Care Foundation, shows 11.4 million California adults have at least one chronic condition.
9. Next Meeting Date: July 21, 2015, from 1 PM to 2:30 PM
10. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members
FROM: Toni Olsen, Chairperson
DATE: June 22, 2015
SUBJECT: SENIOR NUTRITION COMMITTEE REPORT

Senior Nutrition Committee Members Present

Jay Evans (Camarillo COA)
Rose Gossom (Supervisory Appointee)
Toni Olson (Simi Valley COA) - Chairperson
Vicki Tripoli (Moorpark COA)

Senior Nutrition Committee Members Absent

Donald Todd (Veterans Representative)

VCAAA Staff Present

Marleen Canniff
Patti Jaeger, R.D.
Brian Murphy
Christine Voth

Guests – S.N.A.C. Board Officers: Gloria Smith, President; Terry Wolf, Treasurer

1. **Call to Order** - Chairperson Toni Olson called to order the meeting at 10 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

2. **Public Comments** - None

3. **Approval of Minutes from the 5/18/2015 Meetings** - The motion to approve the minutes from the above prior meeting was made by Rose Gossom, seconded by Vicki Tripoli, and was passed unanimously.

4. **Meals Served Count and Cost Per Meal through May 31, 2015** - Meal count is at **106%** of contracted through the end of May, which means **169,210** have been served to date with 16,318 of that amount served in May. Jordano's-supplied meal count is 16,194 for April, and the non-Jordano's meal count is about 632. April cost per meal for Jordano's-supplied food is \$3.59, with a total average YTD cost per meal at **\$3.90**. Port Hueneme is lowest at 94%, and Simi Valley is at 115% of total (congregate and home-delivered meals) contracted year to date and Santa Paula at 116%.

5. **S.N.A.C. Update** - The S.N.A.C. Thrift Shop, located on Old Ventura Boulevard in Camarillo, is doing exceptionally well with a new store manager. Four new volunteers are working at the Thrift Shop, and the nonprofit has three new board members, bring the board to a total of nine members. Discussion ensued about S.N.A.C. possibly having a presence at the Ventura County Fair this summer.
6. **Update on Conejo Recreation and Parks District Café-Style Option** - A vendor contract is slated to commence on July 1, 2015, with \$71,000 funding for the café-style option at Conejo Recreation and Parks District (CRPD). The contract amount total is based on the current funding allocated to that meal site. VCAAA will be responsible for collecting the program income/donations and for collecting data for the program clientele.

VCAAA will reimburse CRPD on per-meal basis at \$7.00 per meal. Preprinted and numbered meal tickets will be used in the program. CRPD will purchase the food directly through Jordano's and pay Jordano's directly. Senior Concerns will continue to provide meal preparation services for the program.

7. **HELP of Ojai Program Funding** - In response to HELP of Ojai's request for additional funding, staff brought information to the SNP Committee regarding its senior attendance on the days the meal site serves made-from-scratch meals as opposed to the days it serves Jordano's meals. HELP of Ojai serves an average of 71 meals on the Thursdays that made-from-scratch meals are served compared with an average of 24 Jordano's meals served on other days of the week. Jordano's meals cost about \$3.97 per meal, and HELP of Ojai is purchasing food locally to provide its Thursday made-from-scratch meals. HELP of Ojai is reimbursed for this locally purchased food, but only if there is funding left in its budget.

Through the end of April 2015, HELP of Ojai had expended all of its grant funding; however, it is currently able to utilize a funding increase resulting from participation in the senior nutrition incentive program, which allows for additional funding of \$2 per meal for meals served in excess of the YTD contracted meal count. Contracted meals for the eleven months through May 31, 2015, equaled 15,125 and actual meals served equaled 16,647 (10.1% over contracted amount), which resulted in 1,522 additional meals at \$2.00 per meal, which equals \$3,044 in additional funding.

HELP of Ojai might develop an interest to model its site after Conejo Recreation and Parks District's vendor café arrangement, which might offer more flexibility.

8. FY15-16 Funding Allocations and Simi Valley's Request to Serve Additional 6,800 Home Delivered Meals (HDM) - Staff brought a detailed list of city funding outside of matching funds that was allocated for Senior Nutrition Programs independent of VCAAA funding for additional information. The data reveals that most cities are giving much more than the required matching funding for SNP sites. In Fiscal Year 2014-15, the following cities allocated funding – outside of matching funds – to their SNP meal sites:

- City of Camarillo – \$37,000 to the Camarillo Health Care District's SNP site
- City of Fillmore – \$13,350
- City of Port Hueneme – \$9,828
- City of Moorpark – \$2,882
- City of Santa Paula – \$1,329

Other sites may be receiving city funding; however, that revenue is not visible in those cities' budgets. This list does not reflect other donations or sources of income for each meal site.

Regarding Simi Valley's request for more funds, the only way it can receive more VCAAA grant funding for its requested new route for 24 to 30 recipients is to take away funding from other sites; therefore, HDM services cannot be increased because they are currently not sustainable.

Receivable: Staff will work with Simi Valley to learn more about immediate needs at the site and to discuss possible plans at the site for more efficient routing processes.

9. Other Committee Involvement/Notification

Housing and Transportation Committee has changed its name to Livable Communities Committee (LCC).

Farmers' Market coupons are set to be distributed to eight certified Farmers' Markets at the following cities through the month of July: two Farmers' Markets in Camarillo, two in Ventura, one in Oxnard, one in Simi Valley, and one in Ojai.

Senior Nutrition Program menus are now available in English and Spanish to be distributed to Congregate Meal Sites, Home-Delivered Meal recipients, and for Senior Share programming (formerly the Brown Bag program). Because of an increase in price, beginning July 1, 2015, the Camarillo SNP meal site will be transitioning from using a catering service to ordering directly from Jordano's, cooking, and serving its own meals.

10. Other Business - VCAAA will be sending out a Request for Proposal (RFP) in about six months (possibly in January 2016) for Senior Nutrition Programming, as each SNP four-year grant will end on June 30, 2016. In preparation for this RFP, a suggestion was made to make this a standing item on the next several SNP Committee Meeting agendas to discuss a future funding formula and any ideas to make the Senior Nutrition Program as effective and efficient as possible.

11. Future Meeting Schedule - The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, July 20, 2015, at 10 a.m.**

Future meetings are scheduled for the third Monday of each month (excluding August and December) at 10 a.m. in the in the Advisory Council Room 148.

September 21, 2015

October 19, 2015

November 23, 2015

January 18, 2016

February 15, 2016

March 21, 2016

April 18, 2016

May 16, 2016

June 20, 2016

12. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members

FROM: Sylvia Taylor Stein, Chair

DATE: June 24, 2015

SUBJECT: Optimal Aging Committee Meeting Report from June 24, 2015

Members Present (5)

Lori Harasta (Ventura COA)

Toni Olson (City of Simi Valley)

Ginny Rockefeller (City of Ojai)

Sue Tatangelo (Family Caregiver Representative)

Sylvia Taylor Stein (Service Provider Representative)

Members Absent (2)

Marty Kaplan (Supervisory Appointee)

Donald Todd (Veterans Representative)

VCAAA Staff Present (4)

Marleen Canniff, Grants Administrator

Victoria Jump, Agency Director

Elizabeth Renteria, Outreach Coordinator

Christine Voth, Manager, Business Strategy and Strategic Planning

Guests (1)

Joyce Pinkard

1. Welcome and Introductions. Former Advisory Council member, Joyce Pinkard, was welcomed to her first meeting of this committee.
2. Minutes were approved meeting held on May 27, 2015 (S. Tatangelo/G. Rockefeller)
3. **Public Comments.**
 - Sylvia Taylor Stein announced the Long Term Care Ombudsman will be holding a Casino Night at the Camarillo Airport on September 19, 2015. Tickets may be purchased online. The cost for a ticket in advance is \$40.
 - Lori Harasta announced a Fall Prevention event for Spanish speakers on June 27, at Oxnard Family Circle Adult Day Care in north Oxnard. A similar event for English speakers will be held on September 18. Location to be announced.
 - Re: AARP Livability Indices for cities in Ventura County. Christine Voth stated this information will be in the July agenda packet.
4. **VCAAA's E-Magazine.** The committee has been asked by Victoria Jump to develop criteria for nominating an older adult to be featured in the VCAAA E-Magazine. The Optimal Aging Committee has been requested to undertake this task because persons featured in the E-Magazine should be role models for optimal aging. Elizabeth Renteria provided an overview of VCAAA's E-Magazine. It has multiple components: a written

article, a video, a cover shot, and posting of the article, photo and video on VCAAA's website (under the links News Center then Overview). It was noted that Joyce Pinkard was the most recent 'optimal ager' to be featured in the magazine. To date, five persons have been featured and were selected by staff. Elizabeth said the next candidate will be a Latino male from the 126-Corridor (Santa Paula- Fillmore-Piru). These qualities are being sought to provide a balance to the persons featured thus far.

There was discussion of qualities and characteristics that represent optimal aging. Volunteerism is a high priority, and it is important to look for "unsung heroes" versus high profile achievers. Victoria Jump said nominees must be aged 60 or older. She reminded the committee that the focus needs to be on good health and good living, since that is the name of the magazine.

Ginny Rockefeller shared information about the Living Treasure program in Ojai, which honors an individual who is considered to be a living treasure. That person gets to ride in Ojai's Fourth of July parade. Ginny will get more information about this program and forward it to Christine Voth.

Sue Tatangelo recommended that the nomination form might include a requirement for the nominee to provide references. It was also suggested that letters of support be submitted from organization(s) where the volunteer provides service. Sylvia Taylor Stein said the James Irvine Foundation Leadership award has criteria that may be useful. She will forward information about the award to Christine. Christine will develop a mockup of the criteria and application for the July meeting.

5. **VCAAA website link for Optimal Aging.** Christine distributed a draft of the resources gathered to-date, which is work in progress.
6. **Intergenerational Story Telling Competition.** There was discussion about doing an intergenerational project to enlighten perceptions on aging. It would involve school-aged youths (elementary, middle school, high school and college) telling the story of positive aging via a two-minute video. Videos could be done on smart phones and emailed to VCAAA.

Christine asked if anyone knows persons in the educational community who might be contacted to participate in this project. Sue Tatangelo said students from Pacifica High School (Oxnard) videotaped an event at the Camarillo Health Care District, and did a good job. Elizabeth Renteria has contacts at Oxnard High School. Marleen Canniff has contacts at the Santa Paula School dist. Lori Harasta has contacts at Ventura Adult Continuing Ed and CAPS5. Nordhoff High (Ojai) and Foothill Tech (Ventura) were suggested as possibilities. Toni Olson stated in years gone by, students from Moorpark College videotaped interviews of seniors, and did posters, which were featured at the Simi Valley

⁵ Community Access Partners of San Buenaventura is a private non-profit PEG Media Center that manages the public, educational and government access television channels in Ventura. CAPS provides equipment, studio and editing facilities, and training classes for the benefit of the residents of Ventura.

Senior Center. Sylvia said a resource for interview questions might be the book, Grandma and Me. She will check into that.

Victoria jump recommended offering the program to several schools with the hopes that at least one will agree to participate. There could be multiple categories of winners. Each winner would receive a trophy and bragging rights. She said award categories could also be in different languages: English, Spanish and other languages. Ideas for interview topics included: living in the depression, the St. Francis Dan disaster, immigration, the radical 60s, the war eras, or simply, personal memories of growing up.

The committee will continue discussion of this project at the next meeting.

7. **Embracing Aging Initiative, York County, Pennsylvania.** Christine Voth shared a handout about this program, which is funded by the community foundation in York County, Pennsylvania. York County was recently featured in a National Association of Area Agencies on Aging webinar as a best practice in optimal aging. Significant effort was made to re-educate the residents of York County about aging, which among other things, included a clever advertising campaign geared at changing attitudes toward aging. For more information go to: <http://www.yccf.org/aging.asp>

8. Informational:

- a. OAC meeting schedule for FY 2015-2016. Sylvia will not be at the July meeting. Sue Tatangelo volunteered to be the acting chair for the next meeting
- b. SocioNeeds Index, Ventura County.

9. Other Committee Involvement/Notification, if any:

- a. Health Issues Committee. Ginny Rockefeller shared information about a presentation she recently made to the Ojai City Council as the city's representative to the VCAAA Advisory Council.

10. **Next meeting:** Wednesday, July 22, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM.

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To: Advisory Council Members
From: Marty Kaplan, Committee Chair
Date: June 10, 2015
Subject: **VCAAA Nominating Committee Report and Election of (5) Special Population Seats for FY 2015-2017.**

Nominating Committee Members Present

Marty Kaplan (Supervisory)
Paul Boog (Port Hueneme COA)
Rose Gossom (Supervisory)

VCAAA Staff Present

Victoria Jump

Committee members discussed the applications received through June 4, 2015 for the special population seats (Persons with Disabilities, Behavioral Health and LGBT). Advisory Council policies and procedures require that when more than one person applies for a seat the full advisory council be provided at least two names for consideration. For the Behavioral Health Seat and Persons with Disabilities seat there was more than one qualified applicant.

The committee discussed the expectations for the special population seats and felt elected special population representatives needed to have a broad interaction with the special population, not a specific subset of the population. They were also expected to maintain connections with the special population and bring forwarded any issues or items of interest to the full advisory council.

The questions provided to the nominees in advance of the Advisory Council meeting are as follows:

1. How and what kind of interactions and relationships do you have with the special population you are seeking to represent on the Advisory Council?
2. How have you advocated in the past for the needs and interests of this special population?
3. As a representative of this special population what would you uniquely do as a member of the Advisory Council?

Recommendation

- A. Committee members discussed the applications received through June 4, 2015 for the special population seats (Persons with Disabilities, Behavioral Health and LGBT) and is recommending that the following slate be presented for the Special Populations Advisory Council Seats.
 - 1. LGBT:
 - a. Marcy Sherbock
 - 2. Behavioral Health:
 - a. Cleo Anderson
 - b. Melanie Farber
 - 3. People with Disabilities:
 - a. Danielle Anderson
 - b. Joseph Kirby

- B. The committee is recommending that Sue Tatangelo be reelected to another two year term to represent the family caregivers and Donald Todd to be reelected to another two year term to represent the interests of military veterans. Both have successfully completed their first term and are eligible to be reappointed to another two year term (FY 2015-2017).



**VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

Date	Advisory Council	Outreach	Leg.	Livable Comm.*	Health Issues	Senior Nut.	Opt. Aging
July 2015	July 8 9-11 am	July 28 9-10:30 am	July 8 11-12	July 8 ^z	July 21 1-2:30 pm	July 20 10-11:30 am	July 22 1-2 pm
August 2015	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Sept 2015	Sept 9 9-11 am	Sept 29 9-10:30 am	Sept 9 11-12	Sept 9 11-12	Sept 15 1-2:30 pm	Sept 21 10-11:30 am	Sept 23 1-2 pm
Oct 2015	None	October 27 9-10:30 am	None	Oct 7 11 – 12	Oct 20 1-2:30 pm	Oct 19 10-11:30 am	Oct 28 1-2 pm
Nov 2015	Nov 12** 9-11 am	Nov 24 9-10:30 am	Nov 12** 11-12	Nov 12** 11-12	Nov 17 1-2:30pm	Nov 23 10-11:30 am	None
Dec 2015	None	None	None	None	None	None	Dec 1 1-2 pm
Jan 2016	Jan 13 9-11 am	Jan 26 9-10:30 am	Jan 13 11-12	Jan 13 11-12	Jan 19 1-2:30 pm	Jan 18 10-11:30 am	Jan 27 1-2 pm
Feb 2016	None	Feb 23 9-10:30 am	None	None	Feb 16 1-2:30 pm	Feb 15 10-11:30 am	Feb 24 1-2 pm
March 2016	March 9 9-11 am	March 29 9-10:30 am	March 9 11-12	March 9 11-12	March 15 1-2:30 pm	March 21 10-11:30 am	March 23 1-2 pm
April 2016	None	April 26 9-10:30 am	None	None	April 19 1-2:30 pm	April 18 10-11:30 am	April 27 1-2 pm
May 2016	May 11 9-11 am	May 31 9-10:30 am	May 11 11-12	May 11 11-12	May 17 1-2:30 pm	May 16 10-11:30 am	May 25 1-2 pm
June 2016	June 8 9-11 am	June 28 9-10:30 am	June 8 11-12	June 8 11-12	June 21 1-2:30 pm	June 20 10-11:30 am	June 22 1-2 pm

*Housing and Transportation Committee - name change

**Due to holiday - meeting is on a Thursday.

July 27, 2015 – New Member Orientation from 1-2:30 pm

Note: all meetings to be held at the VCAA, unless otherwise noted.

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FY 2014-2015 Advisory Council Committee Membership List

Council Representation	Appointee	Outreach	Liv. Com	Health	Leg.	SNP	PAC	Opt.Ag.	By-Laws
Board of Supervisors	Smita Dandekar			X			X		
Board of Supervisors	Vacant								
Board of Supervisors	Lisa Hayden								
Board of Supervisors	Marty Kaplan	X						X	
Board of Supervisors	Mel Silberberg		X						
Board of Supervisors	Rose Gossom								
California Senior Legislature	June Glasmeier				X				
California Senior Legislature	Lawrence Hartmann				X				
California Senior Legislature	Bill Witt				X				
City of Camarillo	Jay Evans								
City of Camarillo	Robert Taylor								
City of Fillmore	Vacant								
City of Fillmore	Vacant								
City of Moorpark	Sandra Fide				X				
City of Moorpark	Vicki Tripoli					X			X
City of Ojai	Ginny Rockefeller			X			X	X	
City of Ojai	Vacant								
City of Oxnard	Alice Sweetland							X	
City of Oxnard	Kay Brainard								
City of Port Hueneme	Paul Boog	X			X				
City of Port Hueneme	Vacant								
City of Santa Paula	Vacant								
City of Santa Paula	Vacant								
City of Simi Valley	Neill Spector				X	X			
City of Simi Valley	Antoinette Olson		X			X		X	
City of Ventura	Suz Montgomery		X						
City of Ventura	Lori Harasta								
City of Thousand Oaks	Nancy Healy								
City of Thousand Oaks	Nick Fotheringham		X				X		
Service Provider	Rosemary Flores-Gordon	X		X					
Service Provider	Sylvia Taylor Stein				X			X	
Special Population Seat	Disability Rep - vacant								
Special Population Seat	Sue Tatangelo			X	X			X	X
Special Population Seat	Donald Todd Sr.				X	X		X	
Special Population Seat	Behavioral Health - Vac.								
Special Population Seat	LGBT – vacant								

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CCoA
California Commission on Aging

AGEWATCH

California names June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month in the state

Advocates for seniors are holding special events and educational opportunities this month to heighten awareness of elder abuse during California's **Elder Abuse Awareness Month** recognition. Approved by the State Legislature this week, Assembly Concurrent Resolution 71 was introduced by Assemblymember Bill Dodd of Napa with joint sponsorship of the California Commission on Aging and the California Elder Justice Coalition. ACR 71 was approved by the Assembly on June 8 and moved to the Senate for vote.

California serves an estimated 15% of the nation's Adult Protective Service (APS) clients, with as many 10,000 reports of elder and dependent adult abuse received every month by APS programs across the state. Approximately one in nine older adults has been abused, neglected or exploited in the past year.

Current estimates suggest that only one in 14 cases of elder and vulnerable adult abuse is reported, including fewer than one in 25 incidents of financial abuse, due to victims' feelings of shame, hopelessness, intimidation or fear.

Elderly and dependent adult victims of abuse face a greater risk of impacting the social service system. Elder Financial Abuse Victims often become nursing home

residents that are dependent upon Medi-Cal, exacting a heavy toll on public resources. Often these victims have a mortality rate three times that of the general public and are 300 percent more likely to die a premature death.

Traditionally recognized each May, California advocates opted to recognize EAA Month in June to correspond with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, which is June 15th. To read California's Elder Abuse Awareness Month resolution, visit http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/15-16/bill/asnr/ab_0051-0100/acr_71_bill_20150514_introduced.htm. To learn more about World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, visit <http://www.acl.gov/newsroom/observances/WEAAD/index.aspx>.

AGE WATCH is an occasional publication of the California Commission on Aging (CCoA) intended to inform, educate, and advocate. The CCoA is an independent state agency established in 1973 to serve as the principal state advocate on behalf of older Californians. The CCoA office is located at 1300 National Drive, Suite 173, Sacramento, CA 95834.



Budget Conference Committee approves increases for Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Caregiver Resource Centers; repeals 7% IHSS hours cut

The Joint Legislative Budget Conference Committee met Tuesday, acting on a number of requests to increase budget allocations for Health and Human Service programs serving primarily the aged and persons with disabilities. Chaired by Senator Mark Leno (San Francisco), the Conference Committee makes the final determination on budget recommendations that were not include in both houses' version of the 2015-2016 budget.

One of the most notable decisions was the Conferees' approval of \$6.4 million to increase funding for Long-Term Care Ombudsman programs across the state. Consisting of \$1.4 million from the skilled nursing home licensing and certification fee account and \$5 million in General Fund dollars, the increase fulfills the California Long-Term Care Ombudsman Association's long-term goal of bringing program funding back to pre-recession levels.

Other increases approved by the Conference Committee include an \$3.8 million to partially restore Caregiver Resource Center funding cut in 2009, adequate funding to cover In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) overtime along with restoring 7% that was cut in IHSS provider hours through the 2014-2015 budget. The Committee made a partial concession on requests to increase SSI/SSP grants, proposing a \$10 monthly increase for individual recipients beginning in 2016, as well as restoring cost of living adjustments to the state portion of the grant in 2020.

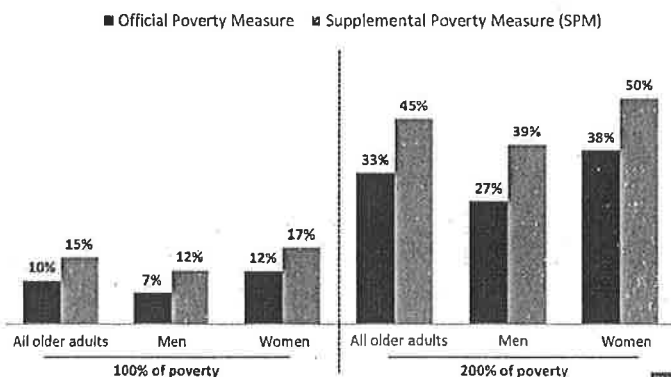
Advocates hoping for an increase in Adult Protective Services training funds, restoration of funding for home and community-based services and restoration of Medi-Cal optional benefits eliminated in 2009 will have to redouble their efforts for the next budget year.

Information from CDCAN REPORT (JUN 9 2015): Budget Conference Committee Approves Many Increases But Less Than What Advocates Pushed For - Governor Likely To Oppose

New research finds nearly half of senior incomes fall beneath the Supplemental Poverty Measure

Figure 3

The 2013 poverty rate was higher among women than men ages 65 and older, under both the official measure and the SPM



SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of Current Population Survey, 2014 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.



A new report from the Kaiser Family Foundation finds approximately 45% of adults age 65 and older live below the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM). Published this week, the research finds that poverty rates increase with age, with 36% of those age 65 to 69 living in poverty, increasing to 57% of those age 80 and older.

The findings match increases shown under the official poverty level, which is widely believed to underestimate the true costs of basic living expenses. Under both measures, poverty levels are also higher for women, those in poor health, and for Hispanics and blacks.

The SPM was developed by the U.S. Census Bureau to more accurately reflect the cost of living based on regional trends, current basic living expenses, available public benefits and other factors. To read the KFF brief or the full report, visit <http://kff.org/report-section/poverty-among-seniors-issue-brief/> Cubanski, Casillas and Damico. *Poverty Among Seniors: An Updated Analysis of National and State Level Poverty Rates Under the Official and Supplemental Poverty Measures*. Kaiser Family Foundation, Jun 10, 2015.

*Ageism: a hot topic...*How do we change Americans' view of aging?

A new report from the Frameworks Institute considers the cultural understandings and assumptions Americans share about aging. *Gauging Aging: Mapping the Gaps Between Expert and Public Understandings of Aging in America* reveals that efforts to meet the needs of an expanding aging population are hampered by “a set of decidedly negative and deterministic models about the aging process, as well as powerful understandings that contribute to an overall sense of fatalism about what can be done.” The findings are intended to help develop a communications strategy that leads to a more productive view of the aging process, and ultimately, to public policy that better responds to older adults and their needs.

To read the full report, visit http://www.afar.org/docs/Gauging_Aging.pdf

Information from The Frameworks Institute at <http://www.frameworksinstitute.org/>.



Competency assessments being considered for older physicians

A new report from the American Medical Association is recommending competency assessments of the nation's physicians over age 75. A similar policy in place at the Stanford Health Center has drawn an outcry from senior physicians employed at the prestigious facility, who assert there is no evidence that age impairs their clinical abilities. Profiled this week in the San Jose Mercury news, the Stanford doctors believe “their decades of experience make them more confident and compassionate,” and express their own concerns about younger doctors.

According to the AMA, the number of physicians age 65 and over now totals 240,000 – one-quarter of the nation's doctors. In response, the practice of assessing older doctors is growing across the nation, including here in California, where guidelines for age-based physician screening were published this spring. National AMA delegates will vote on the proposed screening policy this week. To read the full article, visit http://www.mercurynews.com/california/ci_28277796/stanford-doctors-fight-age-related-test-fitness.

Excerpted from San Jose Mercury News, June 9, 2015. “Stanford doctors fight age-related test of fitness to practice”

We've Come Too Far to be Treated This Way

Seniors and Aging in Society Today was the theme of a recent event jointly sponsored by the Palm Springs Human Rights Commission (HRC) and the Riverside Office on Aging. Panelists Michele Haddock of the Riverside Office on Aging and Sandi Fitzpatrick (CCoA) discussed the impacts of ageism and its effects on public policy.

Pictured at left are (L - R) Kimberly Barraza, Office of Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia; Dee Dee Wilson-Barton, Chair, Palm Springs HRC; Jack Newby, HRC; Suzanne Severin of HRC, Fitzpatrick and Haddock.

California Commission on Aging

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Rancho Mirage

Increase Victim Services

Guest editorial

By Molly Davies, Vice President of Elder Abuse Prevention
and Ombudsman Services at WISE & Healthy Aging



Services for elder abuse survivors are akin to an unfinished haphazardly executed quilt. Some squares made of fine silk, others threadbare cotton, and still so many others with squares missing completely. Services are unique to each community and vary greatly even within a single county. When I think about services for survivors of elder abuse I am struck by two things; how anemic the range of services are, and that the needs of survivors are a confluence of aging network services (e.g. meals and case management) and those that would be viewed as more traditional victim services (e.g. shelter and counseling).

For survivors of financial exploitation, neglect, physical, and sexual abuse, a good outcome is often seen in the context of success for a member of the elder justice intervention network and not from the survivor's perspective. It is shocking that survivors of every type of elder abuse are not provided access to counseling services to process the feelings associated with being victimized.

Service Needs. The survivor must be at the center of service creation and delivery; every community must have emergency shelters that accommodate the needs of older adults, including wheel chair access and assistance with activities of daily living; access to and reimbursement sources for individual and group counseling services for survivors; legal services to assist with restraining orders, to change powers of attorney, to assist with debt recovery, and pro-per conservatorship clinics; research on the effectiveness of interventions; elder courts; case managers co-located at police stations to provide desperately needed social services to victims; benefits enrollment centers to conduct benefits checkups and apply for food stamps, and other entitlements; door through door transportation services; low to no cost personal money management to pay bills; resources to help pay for one time veterinary bills or sheltering for pets; peer support programs for those who are at continued risk for being scammed, and relocation costs.

Opportunities for Change: The (federal) Crime Victim Fund was increased earlier this year to \$2.6 billion, that is a 350% increase from past funding levels, and it will take the voices of survivors, their families, service providers, legislators and policy makers to advocate for resources to be allocated to services so desperately needed by elder abuse survivors.

Excerpted with permission from the National Center on Elder Abuse, *NCEA WEAAD Blog Series (Week 9) Victim Services*. <http://archive.aweber.com/awlist3672583>

AGEWATCH

June 2015

Upcoming Events

June 15, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Event listings at <http://www.acl.gov/NewsRoom/Observances/WEAAD/Events/Event-Lookup.aspx>

June 16 - 17, 2015 – California Commission on Aging, Gary and Mary West Senior Wellness Center, San Diego. www.ccoa.ca.gov for agenda and information.

June 17, 2015. *Fleeced: Speaking Out Against Senior Financial Abuse*. 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Arden-Dimick Library, Sacramento. Elder Financial Protection Network at 415-956-5556

California Commission on Aging staff:
Sandra Fitzpatrick, M.A., Executive Director
Carol Sewell, Legislative Director
Marcella Villanueva, Administrative Assistant