

VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING



September 9, 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 July 8, 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.
5. Consent Agenda Items Nick Fotheringham
 - 5.1 Outreach Committee Report from July 28, 2015
 - 5.2 Health Issues Committee Report from July 21, 2015
 - 5.3 Senior Nutrition Committee Report from July 20, 2015
 - 5.4 Optimal Aging Committee Report from July 22, 2015
- DISCUSSION ITEMS/PRESENTATION/MOTION**
- 9:15 a.m
- 6.1 November 2015 Senior Summit Supervisor Linda Parks
 - 6.2 FY 2014-2015 Program Performance* Nick Fotheringham
 - 6.3 FY 2016-2032 Strategic Plan Discussion Staff
- INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
7. Advisory Council Meeting Schedule for FY 2015-2016 Victoria Jump
 8. Other Committee Meetings: June Glasmeier
 - a. California Senior Legislature Update
 - b. Triple A Council of California Update
 - c. Assembly Member Jacqui Irwin's Senior Advisory Committee Update

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

*materials will be provided at the meeting and be posted on the website

The next meeting will be:

Thursday November 12, 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
July 8, 2015

Advisory Council Members Present

Paul Boog (Port Hueneme COA)	Antoinette Olson (Simi Valley COA)
Kay Brainard (Oxnard COA)	Ginny Rockefeller (Ojai COA)
Jay Evans (Camarillo COA)	Mel Silberberg (Supervisory Appointee)
Sandra Fide (Moorpark COA)	Neill Spector (Simi Valley COA)
Rosemary Flores-Gordon (Service Provider)	Sylvia Stein (Service Provider)
Nick Fotheringham (Thousand Oaks COA)	Alice Sweetland (Oxnard COA)
June Glasmeier (CSL)	Sue Tatangelo (Special Population)
Rose Gossom (Supervisory Appointee)	Robert Taylor (Camarillo COA)
Lori Harasta (Ventura COA)	Vicki Tripoli (Moorpark COA)
Nancy Healy (Thousand Oaks COA)	Bill Witt (CSL)

Advisory Council Members Absent

Smita Dandekar (Supervisory Appointee)
Lawrence Hartmann (CSL)
Lisa Hayden (Supervisory Appointee)
Marty Kaplan (Supervisory Appointee)
Suz Montgomery (Ventura COA)
Donald Todd (Special Population)

VCAAA Staff Present

Marleen Canniff	Elizabeth Renteria
Victoria Jump	Katharine Raley
Monique Nowlin	

Guests

Jenica Polokow	Martha Shapiro
Blair Craddock	Steve Lehmann
Renee Rakestraw	Mary Sherbok
Cleo Anderson	Stephanie Spamanato
Marie Jones	Letty Ortiz
Dani Anderson	

- 1. Call to Order and Review of Agenda** - The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chair Nick Fotheringham (Thousand Oaks COA). Nick welcomed the new members to the council.

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 June 10, 2015, meeting were approved. (Boog/Silberberg/Passed)

4. **Public Comments** –

Steve Lehmann – Steve mentioned that SCAN Independence at Home has launched a new program called Tai Chi for Rehab. Classes are being taught in Camarillo and Ventura. He handed out brochures for those interested,

Martha Shapiro – Martha mentioned that the Camarillo Health Care District would be holding a White House Conference on Aging listening session at the Health Care District on July 13 from 7 am to 2:30 pm.

Renee Rakestraw – Renee announced that the City of Oxnard is a host city for the Special Olympics World Games being held in Los Angeles July 21-23. They are looking for volunteers.

Nancy Healy – Nancy mentioned that the Thousand Oaks Council on Aging recently held a large event to talk about the Village to Village concept and feasibility of starting a program in the Thousand Oaks area.

5. **Consent Agenda Items** – the consent agenda containing the Legislative Committee Report from June 10, 2015, Outreach Committee Report from May 26, 2015, Livable Communities Report from June 10, 2015, Health Issues Committee Report from June 16, 2015, Senior Nutrition Committee Report from June 22, 2015 and the Optimal Aging Committee Report from June 24, 2015, were accepted. (Olson/Boog/Passed). Mel Silberberg commented on the Livable Community report noting that livability needs to be factored into decision making and that the advisory council needs to keep an eye on it.

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

- 6.1 **VCAAA Nominating Committee Report and Election of Five (5) Special Population Seats for FY 2015-2017.** The Advisory Council held an election in accordance with the by-laws and elected the following people to the following special population seats for the term FY 2015-2016 and FY 2016-2017.

1. Persons with Disabilities – Danielle Anderson
2. LGBT - Marcy Sherbok
3. Behavioral Health – Cleo Anderson
4. Family Caregiver – Sue Tatangelo
5. Veterans – Donald Todd

6.2 **Outreach Committee Speakers Bureau.** Elizabeth Renteria mentioned that the committee is looking to the Advisory Council for topics they are willing to speak to the public about. A survey and return envelope were provided to all advisory council members.

6.3 **Public Housing Overview.** Stephanie Spamanto and Letty Ortiz with the San Buenaventura Housing Authority provided information on public housing due to a request from Advisory Council members in a prior meeting. There is a 6 year waiting list for public housing and an 8 year waiting list for section 8 vouchers. Stephanie also educated the council about their current rental assistance demonstration project that is updating the units and converting them from public housing to project based vouchers. The Area Agency on Aging provides case management for seniors and adults with disabilities in public housing.

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

8. **CSL/TACC Update.** There was no update.

9. **Committee Membership Selection for FY 2015-2016.** Included for informational purposes.

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

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

12. **Other Business** –

Nick Fotheringham - mentioned the issues that staff was having with the postal service delivering the Advisory Council packets to members before the meetings. Council members agreed that an emailed packet prior to the meeting and being provided a paper copy at the meeting was sufficient. The change will be effective with the September 2015 meeting.

Sylvia Taylor Stein – she mentioned that the Long Term Care Ombudsman would be having Casino Night and Poker Tournament fundraiser September 19, 2015 at the Camarillo Airport. Flyers were provided.

13. **Adjournment** – the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

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TO: VCAA Advisory Council Members
FROM: Marty Kaplan, Committee Chair
DATE: July 28, 2015
SUBJECT: Outreach Committee Report from July 28, 2015

Committee Members Present

Marty Kaplan (Supervisory Appointee)
Rose Gossom (Supervisory Appointee)
Lori Harasta (Ventura)
Kay Brainard (Oxnard)

Committee Members Absent

Paul Boog (Port Hueneme)
Robert Taylor (Camarillo)
Rosemary Flores-Gordon (Service Provider)

VCAA Staff Present

Monique Nowlin
Marleen Canniff
Beth Shephard

Guests

None

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Marty Kaplan, Committee Chair. A quorum was present.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – None.
3. **Public Comments** – No public comments.
4. **Review and Discuss the Speakers Bureau Survey** - Discussion was held and staff communicated that there was not a whole lot of interest generated by the survey. Chair Marty stated he would reach out the Advisory Council members at the September meeting.
5. **Review Final Agency Postcard and Pamphlet** - Discussion was held and minor suggestions were offered to finalize the postcard. It is the Committee's pleasure that the updated postcard be available for distribution at the next Advisory Council Meeting. The Pamphlet changes will be held and presented to the Outreach Committee at the September meeting.
6. **Other Committee Involvement/Notification** – There was discussion that there should be collaboration with Optimal Aging Committee.

7. **Next Meeting Schedule** – September 29, 2015, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

8. **Adjournment:** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m. by the Chair, Marty Kaplan.

TO: VCAA Advisory Council Members
FROM: Ginny Rockefeller, Chair
DATE: July 21, 2015
SUBJECT: **Health Issues Committee Meeting Report from July 21, 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 (Supervisory Appointee)
Lisa Hayden (Supervisory Appointee)
Rosemary Flores Gordon (Service Provider representative)

VCAA 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 Rank¹ 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 was undertaken to address the issue of food insecurity and provide nutrition education. She shared that the Board of Supervisors would like to use the placemat as one of its "moments of inspiration" at a future board meeting.

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.

¹ 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).

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.

VCAAA 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 VCAAA'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: September 15, 2015,** from 1 PM to 2:30 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members
FROM: Toni Olson, Chairperson
DATE: July 20, 2015
SUBJECT: **Senior Nutrition Committee Report from July 20, 2015**

Senior Nutrition Committee Members Present

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

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
Robert Martin, Senior Services Assistant Manager at Simi Valley Senior Center
Paul Boog (Port Hueneme COA)

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Toni Olson called to order the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

2. Public Comments

Farmers' Market Coupons: Distribution of Farmers' Market coupons has begun. With long lines and many more seniors than available coupons, many seniors have been turned away. The Director of the Farmers' Market in Simi Valley saw how many seniors the coupons brought to the market and wants to give Simi Valley a permanent spot at the Farmers' Market with special projects to attract the senior population to the market on a more permanent basis. VCAAA still needs a volunteer to distribute coupons at the Midtown Ventura Farmers' Market.

Recalled Food Item at Senior Nutrition Program Sites: The Italian Blend frozen vegetables at a number of VCAAA SNP meal sites has been recalled. All meal sites involved pulled these vegetables from their food storage, and no seniors reported any illness.

S.192 - Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2015 Passed through Senate: Most of the funding for VCAAA's grant-funded programming comes from the Older Americans Act (OAA). This updated bill preserves authorized funding levels to ensure the ability to make key investments through 2018. Part of its intent specific to senior nutrition is to encourage the use of locally grown foods in meal preparations to help keep seniors healthy and independent.

3. Approval of Minutes from the 6/22/2015 Meetings

The motion to approve the minutes from the above prior meeting was made by Jay, seconded by Rose, and was passed unanimously.

4. Meals Served Count and Cost Per Meal through June 30, 2015

The meal count is at **107%** of contracted amount through the end of June, which means **186,234** meals were served throughout fiscal year 2014-15, with 17,004 of that amount served in June. Jordano's-supplied meal count is 16,021 for the month, and the non-Jordano's meal count is 983. The cost per meal for Jordano's-supplied food in June is \$3.59, with a total average YTD cost per meal at **\$3.86**, meaning cost of meals have remained fairly consistent year after year. Port Hueneme (home-delivered meals only) served the lowest contractual percentage through fiscal year 2014-15 at 94%, and Simi Valley (congregate and home-delivered meals) and Santa Paula (congregate only) had the highest total contracted year to date with Simi Valley at 115% and Santa Paula at 122%.

5. Senior Nutrition Action Council S.N.A.C. Update

The Governing Board at the Senior Nutrition Action Council (S.N.A.C.) continues to grow, and the number of S.N.A.C. Thrift Shop volunteers have grown as well. About 1,000 updated brochures have been distributed to key organizations and are on display at the Thrift Shop.

6. Presentation on City of Simi Valley's Operations & Needs to Provide 6,800 Additional Meals in FY15-16

Simi Valley Senior Center's Senior Services Assistant Manager Robert Martin presented information about the operations and needs of Simi Valley's Senior Nutrition Program. A total of three full-time staff and 47 volunteers work in the kitchen, congregate meal area and the home-delivered meal program – meaning 94% of total personnel for the Senior Nutrition Program at Simi Valley are volunteers.

For efficiency, Simi Valley streamlines the reporting process to save time by using Excel to populate many forms by inputting data into only one area. It also has a daily-monthly reporting system for better accuracy. All food that is placed in and out of the refrigerator is documented to be sure food is rotated and used to ensure what is ordered is needed.

Simi Valley has 151 clients in its home-delivered meal program, with five hot-food routes and two frozen meal routes. Meals-on-Wheels staff and volunteers are planning ways to make the routes more efficient, working with Mobility Management Partners (MMP). Simi Valley also has programming that enhances the meal programming, such as volunteers making quilted placemats for birthdays of home-delivered meal recipients.

Simi Valley and many other SNP meal sites agree that although the steam trays for several popular items claim to serve 14 meals, they actually serve only 9 or 10. Meals heavy in gravy along with smaller serving sizes – from 3 ounces of meat to 2 ounces – likely account for this discrepancy.

7. Update on Conejo Recreation and Parks District Café-Style Operations

Conejo Recreation and Park District (CRPD) is purchasing food directly from Jordano's and paying upfront for program costs based on available grant-funded amount of approximately \$29,000. This calculates to a reimbursement rate of about \$7 per meal, not to exceed \$71,000 for services throughout the year.

Due to restrictions that vendors have in certain program functions, this café-style program works as such: Senior Concerns has a subcontract with CRPD for the catering portion of the meal program, which includes providing the cook. VCAAA has volunteers from the Conejo Senior Volunteer Program (CSVP) working at the Goebel Adult Community Center. Each senior participant fills out an intake form for the new fiscal year. Each senior then signs next to their name on the daily roster and receives a meal ticket. CRPD invoices VCAAA and attaches used meal tickets to match invoicing in order to be reimbursed for meals served.

A recent article that ran in the Thousand Oaks Acorn Newspaper makes at least three inaccurate accounts about this program: 1) the article incorrectly refers to Conejo Recreation and Park District's Senior Nutrition Program as a "free" daily lunch program, which is not accurate. 2) The article also refers to the lunches as "Lean Cuisine meals," which is not the case. The meals that are served are purchased from Jordano's and include a serving of vegetable, fruit, bread and dairy – all of which are combined to meet the SNP meal nutritional requirements. 3) The article indicates that CRPD will receive \$7 from the County for every free lunch served. However, while the SNP funds are passed through the County, the program is funded by federal (mainly) and state funds.

Simi Valley has indicated that the café program could be an option for its site, as it researches new ideas to best serve its seniors.

8. Future Funding Formula for Coming Request for Proposal (RFP)

By discussing how the sites operate and what their needs are, the committee can try to get a better understanding of different cost factors, such as the daily delivery of home-delivered meals versus the once-a-week delivery of frozen meals. The Committee also discussed gathering information so as to understand the benefits to the seniors that go beyond just cost, such as the social, health and safety factors involved with having a person visit each day with a hot meal. Any proposed changes to the funding formula for the new request for proposal should be based on decisions that take these and other similar factors into consideration.

An idea was discussed that would partner Simi Valley and Moorpark by consolidating their Senior Nutrition Programs into one, to avail of economies of scale.

Further discussion included giving advanced notice to all Senior Nutrition Program grantees about the upcoming discussion of funding formula changes and inviting representatives at other sites to present operations and needs to the committee to help the committee become fully informed.

9. Other Committee Involvement/Notification

None

10. Other Business

VCAAA has spoken with a Senior Nutrition Program representative from the Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging. LA County's AAA is responsible for serving about 2 million meals per year using about 20 contractors, 16 of which contract for the home-delivered meal program. Some of those contractors are likely serving upwards of 100,000 meals a year. LA County is currently trying to develop a unit cost, which is currently between \$4.60 and \$5.65 per meal, depending on the contractor. LA County requires that only hot meals be served throughout the program, whether congregate or home-delivered meals.

VCAAA will continue to be in touch with LA County to exchange ideas, with the goal of benefiting SNP programming in both regions.

11. Future Meeting Schedule

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, September 21, 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.

October 19, 2015
November 23, 2015
January 11, 2016
February 22, 2016
March 21, 2016
April 18, 2016
May 16, 2016
June 20, 2016

12. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members
FROM: Sylvia Taylor Stein, Chair
DATE: July 22, 2015
SUBJECT: **Optimal Aging Committee Meeting Report from July 22, 2015**

Members Present (5)

Lori Harasta (Ventura COA)
Marty Kaplan (Supervisory Appointee)
Toni Olson (City of Simi Valley)
Ginny Rockefeller (City of Ojai)
Alice Sweetland, (City of Oxnard)

Members Absent (3)

Sue Tatangelo (Family Caregiver Representative)
Sylvia Taylor Stein (Service Provider Representative)
Donald Todd (Veterans Representative)

Non-Voting Members Present (1)

Joyce Pinkard (former member of Advisory Council)

VCAAA Staff Present (2)

Elizabeth Renteria, Outreach Coordinator
Christine Voth, Manager, Business Strategy and Strategic Planning

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** New Advisory Council member, Alice Sweetland, was welcomed to her first meeting of this committee.
2. **Minutes were approved meeting held on June 24, 2015** (Olson/Harasta)
3. **Public Comments - None**
4. **VCAAA's E-Magazine.** Elizabeth Renteria gave an overview of the E-Magazine to help acquaint the newest committee member, Alice Sweetland, with the project.

Christine Voth distributed a worksheet for the committee to discuss and make recommendations relative to the selection of a person to be featured in VCAAA's E magazine. The worksheet included sections on the purpose, who can submit nominations, criteria for nominees, possible questions for inclusion on the nomination form, notes of things to consider for inclusion in the application, discussion of whether recipients might be honored in other ways (in addition to being featured in the E- magazine), who will be responsible for reviewing the nomination forms, and who will make the final decision.

As promised, Ginny Rockefeller shared written materials on the Rotary Clubs of Ojai "Living Treasures" award. That application includes the "Rotary Four-Way

Test": (1) Is it the truth? (2) Is it fair to all concerned? (3) Will it build goodwill and better friendships? and (4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

The committee reviewed the Rotary Club materials and worksheet distributed by Christine. Each section in the worksheet was thoroughly discussed. The committee decided to approve the final criteria and application form at its next meeting on September 23, 2015. To make this happen, Christine Voth will draft the criteria and application and will email it to the members in advance of the September meeting.

5. **Intergenerational Story Telling Competition.** Due to time limitations, this item was tabled for discussion at the September 2015 meeting.

9. **Other Committee Involvement/Notification, if any:**
 - a. **Outreach Committee.** Marty Kaplan reported that the Speakers Bureau has been reinstated. He said the Optimal Aging Committee's new role regarding the Speakers Bureau will be to develop themes for the talks, thus, expanding beyond talking about Medicare and Social Security.

 - b. **Health Issues Committee.** Lori Harasta provided an update on the Health Issues Committee meeting held on July 21, 2015, including an update on evidence-based classes. She added that Caregiver/Second Patient Syndrome might be a good topic for the Speakers Bureau.

 - c. **Senior Nutrition Committee.** Toni Olson shared her recent experience of distributing Farmers Markets coupons. She said there was a huge demand and the coupons were distributed much faster than anticipated. When that occurred, many seniors were still in line and there were no coupons to give them. Toni made a special effort to talk to them displaying the situation. She said that many were disgruntled and unhappy.

 - d. **Livable Communities Committee.** Ginny Rockefeller mentioned that positive changes for seniors relative to transportation in east Ventura County were recently featured in an article on the Ventura County Star.

 - e. **Other.** Toni Olson reported on the Village-to-Village meeting recently held in Thousand Oaks. The introductory meeting was well attended (200+ people). Advisory Council members, Nick Fotheringham and Nancy Healy, are involved with bringing the Village-to-Village concept to the Conejo Valley. Toni said the organizers need to get vendors; and implementation would be at least a year from now. The fees have not yet been structured. Marty Kaplan said he had a long discussion with Nancy, and people seem to be interested in items such as home modifications. The people who are interested in the concept appeared to be very mobile and, thus, they do not necessarily need the services provided by this concept. It was mentioned that there is a Village-to-Village program in Santa Barbara

10. **Next meeting: Wednesday, September 23, 2015.**



**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*	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 2 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 11 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 22 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

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TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members

FROM: June Glasmeier, TACC Representative

DATE: September 2, 2015

SUBJECT: TACC Report from August 11-12, 2015

The August 11-12, 2015 TACC meeting was held in Sacramento. There were approximately 18 members in attendance.

PRESENTERS

The first presentation was given by Paul Downey on the White House Conference. This was a one-day event and Mr. Downey did attend the conference. President Obama's speech lasted 35 minutes instead of the scheduled 10 minutes. Two hundred and fifty thousand adults become seniors each month so the senior population will soon represent 25% of the total population. Topics covered were the following: Healthy Aging, Long Term Care Services and Supports, Elder Justice and Retirement Security. The President stated Social Security is not in jeopardy. The Older Americans Act should be reinstated and since the White House Conference the three year reinstatement bill has passed unanimously from the Senate and is now in the House. There will be Federal guidelines on elder justice in the near future. There were many reporters in attendance at the Conference but little or no coverage in the news.

Brandi Wolf, Policy Director for SEUI TCW gave an update on In Home Supportive Services (IHSS). There are over 500,00 IHSS consumers and 380,000 providers. Seventy per cent of the providers are family members. Fifty six per cent of consumers are 65+ years of age, 38% per cent between the ages of 18 - 34 and .6 per cent are disabled. There has been a time lapse in payment to the providers which is being corrected.

Bob Prath of California Livable Communities gave a presentation on AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities. The AARP network of age friendly communities consists of villages, towns and counties in the US. The target of AARP is improvements that influence the health

and quality of life for older adults. There are two age friendly communities in California to date.

Roy Ernst of Corporation for National and Community Service provided an overall view of the Senior Corps volunteer programs and opportunities.

Darrell Kelch, Executive Director, California Association of Area Agencies on Aging gave a C4A update.

The remainder of the meeting was spent on a review of the PSA Reports. Nominations were held and Kathy Randall will remain as the President of TACC and Eileen Bostwich will serve as Vice President for the forthcoming year.

FY 2015-2016 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	Vacant								
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		X	X		X			
City of Camarillo	Robert Taylor	X			X			X	
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	Dani Anderson								
Special Population Seat	Sue Tatangelo			X	X			X	X
Special Population Seat	Donald Todd Sr.				X	X		X	
Special Population Seat	Cleo Anderson								
Special Population Seat	Marcy Sherbok								

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Volume 6, Issue 4

July 2015

CCoA
California Commission on Aging

AGEWATCH

NEW!

Readers of
AgeWatch can
Now Click

to open hyperlinks to articles and
webpages.

Watch Parties and Online Access to bring next week's White House Conference on Aging to all

With less than a week to go to the 2015 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) on July 13, enthusiasm is building. This White House Conference promises to be an extraordinary event, with watch parties participating from homes, community centers, and libraries in every state. Conference planners hope that seniors, service providers and policy makers are planning to get involved by watching the livestream and engaging online as the President and other senior Administration officials headline this once-a-decade forum.

The White House Conference on Aging is working with older adults, families, caregivers, advocates, community leaders, and experts in the aging field to hold Watch Parties across the country to make this the largest White House Conference on Aging to date. WHCoA officials plan to make the day interactive and engaging for those tuning in online.

Nora Super, Executive Director of the 2015 WHCoA, encourages all organizations hosting events—whether public or private—to register their Watch Party [here](#). By registering, Watch Party hosts will receive the latest information about the July 13 Conference and a rundown of the best ways to submit your questions, comments and stories. Public watch parties will be posted on the Conference website once confirmed. Already, more than 85 public Watch Parties have been organized.

Next Monday's WHCoA will run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. EST (**7:00 a.m. - 11:00, PST**), with an early appearance from President Obama, who is expected to announce executive orders outlining the his Administration's policy priorities on aging. Based on input received so far from the regional forums, policy briefs and dozens of webinars and events, the WHCoA will issue on conference day a set of policy recommendations from the Administration and legislative proposals, with the goal of forwarding policy recommendations and ideas to improve the lives of Americans as they age.

2015 WHITE HOUSE
CONFERENCE
on AGING

To watch the event on Monday, July 13, or to read more about the WHCoA and preparation for this year's event, Visit the WHCoA [website](#).



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.

(916) 419-7591

www.ccoa.ca.gov

Governor signs on-time State Budget with few increases for safety net programs

Last week's State Budget signing by Governor Jerry Brown brought some small victories for advocates for the aging and persons with disabilities, although nowhere near what advocates had hoped for given the state's improving economy.

The \$167.6 billion 2015-16 State Budget includes an additional \$3.8 million for the state's Caregiver Resource Centers (CRCs) and an additional \$2.4 million for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program. The budget includes a \$5 per month increase in SSI/SSP benefits for the state's most disadvantaged seniors, the blind and persons with disabilities. The budget additionally restores the 7% reduction in IHSS service hours that were eliminated during the recession. The CRCs and the Ombudsman program are also among the many safety-net programs that suffered significant budget losses during the recession, yet the majority of programs will see no increases in the new fiscal year. Budget requests to restore recession-induced cuts to other home and community based services administered through the area agency on aging network went unheeded in the latest budget cycle.

This month the Legislature began work in a special session called by the Governor to address the final unresolved issue agreed to in budget negotiations: passage of a new managed care organization tax (MCO) structure that complies with federal law. The new, modified tax will affect all managed care organizations and will generate income that will enable the state to increase Medi-Cal provider reimbursement rates, which are currently among the lowest in the nation.

Information from CDCAN Report (Jun 19 2015): Breaking News - Legislature passes revised budget bill reflecting budget deal and Governor's Press Release, June 24, 2015, Governor Brown Signs 2015-2016 State Budget.

Federal Budget Proposals Raise Concerns of Aging Advocates

The House and Senate funding committees each passed spending bills in late June that propose a variety of cuts to critical health and social service programs serving older adults and persons with disabilities.

Along with continuing the 2011 sequester cuts, both chambers propose major reductions to Aging and Disability Resource Center funding. While the House budget proposes primarily level funding and a few increases for most OAA programs, the Senate's more aggressive bill would cut spending for the Senior Community Employment Program, Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, Elder Falls Prevention, Title VI aging programs for Native Americans and the State Health Insurance Assistance Program.

According to the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, the House bill would also eliminate all remaining funding for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation with CMA, a center created under the ACA designed to improve healthcare delivery and payment systems in order to reduce overall spending. Both the House and Senate budgets would eliminate funding to fight fraud and abuse in Medicare, Medicaid, and disability programs.

The proposed aging program budgets from both houses of Congress fell well below the President's '15-16 FY request. To view the National Council on Aging's chart of proposed aging funding levels, [click here](#).

Information from NCOA - Federal Budget - protecting programs that improve the lives of seniors, <https://www.ncoa.org/public-policy-action/federal-budget/> and the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, *Congressional Budget Roundup 2015: Everything You Need to Know About the House and Senate Budget Plans* <http://www.cbpp.org/blog/congressional-budget-roundup-2015-everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-house-and-senate-budget>

Law Allowing Nursing Homes to Make Patient Care Decisions Ruled Unconstitutional

A California law allowing nursing homes to make medical decisions on behalf of certain mentally incompetent residents was found unconstitutional in late June. The law, which has been in effect more than 20 years, gave nursing homes authority to decide residents' medical treatment if a doctor determined they were unable to do so and they had no one to represent them.

Alameda County Superior Court Judge Evelio M. Grillo wrote in the June 24 decision that the law violates patients' due process rights because it doesn't require nursing homes to notify patients they have been deemed incapacitated or to give them the chance to object.

Grillo acknowledged the decision is likely to "create problems" in how nursing home operate but wrote that patients' rights are more compelling.

"The stakes are simply too high to hold otherwise," the judge wrote. Any error could deprive patients of their rights to make medical decisions that "may result in significant consequences, including death." The medical decisions on incapacitated residents without representatives are made by a team that includes a physician and a nurse.

The fact that nursing homes are making end-of-life decisions without patient input is a big concern, according to the ruling. The decision cited one nursing home resident who was found to be mentally incapacitated and who had no representative. The facility staff made a decision to take him off life-sustaining treatment and he passed away in 2013.

The ruling came after the California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, an advocacy group, filed a lawsuit in 2013 against the state Department of Public Health. The suit alleged that nursing homes used the law to administer anti-psychotic drugs, place residents in physical restraints and deny patients life-sustaining treatment. To read the full story, visit [Kaiser Health News](#).

Reprinted in part from :Anna Gorman, Kaiser Health News, June 26, 2015. *Judge Strikes California Law That Allowed Nursing Homes To Make Medical Decisions For Mentally Incompetent Residents.*

CCoA Visits PACE Center

Members of the California Commission on Aging toured St. Paul's PACE in Chula Vista in June. Part of the Commission's regular meeting agenda, the group visited the state-of-the-art center, one of the state's 30 Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly.

Pictured at right (back row, from left,) are Commissioners Stuart Greenbaum, Rita Saenz, Steve Castle, Carmen Reyes, Paul Downey, Bob Petty, Gail Nickerson, Julie Conger, staff member Carol Sewell, and (front row) Commissioners Jane Rozanski, Lucy Fisher, Ed Walsh, Donna Benton, Marian Last, Jean Schuldberg,

Barbara Mitchell and staff members Sandi Fitzpatrick & Marcella Villanueva.



California
Commission on Aging

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Chair, Carson

Marian Last,
Vice Chair,
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Lucille Fisher,
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Sacramento

Barbara Mitchell,
Riverside

Gail Nickerson,
Granite Bay

Robert Petty,
Monterey

Carmen Reyes,
Whittier

Jane Rozanski,
Camarillo

Rita Saenz,
Sacramento

David Sanchez,
San Francisco

Jean Schuldberg,
Chico

Ed Walsh,
Rancho Mirage

Aging Advocates Celebrate 25 Years of the Americans With Disabilities Act

The Americans With Disabilities Act turns 25 this month, and advocates for persons with disabilities and the aged have cause to celebrate.

In a new brief from Justice in Aging, titled *ADA at 25: Aging Advocates Celebrate Partnership and Progress*, the organization credits the ADA with lifting the lives of the disabled and setting in motion an advocacy model that is an example for other defenders of vulnerable populations.

According to Justice in Aging, "This celebratory time offers an opportunity to reflect on the ADA's history and its future potential. The disability community's unwavering commitment to the passage and implementation of the ADA continues to inspire aging advocates. As the health care delivery system becomes increasingly complex and the struggle for full community integration persists, partnership between the disability and aging advocacy community is more important than ever."

The brief highlights the importance of the ADA to the lives of older adults, and "outline(s) four key areas where the ADA continues to shape the environment, care, and services for older adults. As aging and disability advocates continue to partner to advance policy, it's important to remember how much the ADA accomplished in just twenty five years."

To learn more about Justice in Aging and read the brief, visit [Justice in Aging](#)
Excerpted from Katrina Cohen, Justice in Aging June 18, 2015 Issue Brief: *ADA at 25: Aging Advocates Celebrate Partnership and Progress*



AGEWATCH

July 2015

Upcoming Events

July 13, 2015 -- White House Conference on Aging, Washington DC (invitation only) for information or to watch the proceedings, visit <http://www.whitehouseconferenceonaging.gov/>

July 27-29, 2015 -- American College of Preventative Medicine Healthy Aging Summit, Washington, DC, from **July 27-28**. Registration closes **Monday, July 13**. For registration and event details, visit www.2015healthyagingsummit.org/.

August 11-12, 2015 -- Triple-A Council of California. Vagabond Inn, Sacramento.
www.4tacc.org for information.

September 17-18, 2015 -- California Commission on Aging, Hotel Diamond, Chico.
www.ccoa.ca.gov for information.

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

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California Commission on Aging

AGEWATCH

Special 2015

White House Conference on Aging
Edition

Obama Administration announces Actions to Empower Older Americans at 2015 White House Conference on Aging



President Obama greets the audience at the White House Conference on Aging.

Seniors and advocates across the nation went online on July 13 to watch the 5th decennial White House Conference on Aging. Although the actual event at the White House seated no more than 150 invitees, the online presence and great anticipation surrounding the event made this the largest White House Conference on Aging ever.

Building on the momentum around the Affordable Care Act and the 50th anniversary of the Older Americans Act, Medicare, and Medicaid, President Obama addressed the conference, releasing a laundry list of major initiatives to strengthen programs serving the elderly and persons with disabilities.

Among the major announcements were: **1)** the launch of Aging.gov, a **one-stop site** linking to information on federal programs and how to access a wide range local resources; **2)**

the first CMS update in 25 years to federal **nursing homes and skilled nursing facility rules** to improve safety and care quality; **3)** a USDA proposed rule **allowing SNAP** benefits to be used to purchase home-delivered meals; **4)** finalized **Victim of Crime Act Guidelines** authorizing the use of VOCA funds to support legal services and social services for elderly victims of abuse, financial exploitation, fraud and neglect; **5)** the addition of **federal data sets on aging** on Data.gov, the federal government's open data site; **6)** a new **HUD guide on home modification** to help older adults to remain safely in their homes; **7)** launch of the new **\$2.5 million National Aging & Disability Transportation Center** this fall, providing technical assistance to improve availability and accessibility of transportation options; **8)** a **National Institutes of Health September 2015 kick-off of the "Go4Life" campaign** to promote physical activity for older adults; **9)** **\$2.65 million in Senior Corps grants** to place senior corps volunteers in Native American communities; **10)** DOJ commitments to **train prosecutors** in trying elder abuse cases and disseminate law enforcement training materials about elder abuse.

To read the full list of initiatives in the White House announcement, click [here](#).



CCoA Chair Virgie P. Walker (L) and Commissioner Paul Downey with Administration for Community Living Assistant Secretary Kathy Greenlee.

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California reflections on the White House Conference on Aging



CCoA Chair Virgie P. Walker represented both the Commission and People Coordinated Services of Southern California

"I was honored to be a part of the White House Conference on Aging, hosted by President Barack Obama, proudly representing California Commission on Aging, People Coordinated Services of Southern California, Inc. and California older adult populations. The conference successfully brought together older adults, caregivers, government officials, community leaders, other experts and professionals to discuss the vision and strategy to meet current and future needs of older adults. It provided an opportunity to listen, learn and share with leaders in the aging field from across the United States. The Conference additionally afforded a time to celebrate such important accomplishments as the Affordable Care Act, the 50th anniversary of Medicare, Medicaid and the Older Americans Act, and the 80th Anniversary of Social Security.

"The White House Conference also offered an opportunity to reflect on the multiplicity of issues which continue to impact the diverse older adult populations. It reminded me that despite the many successes that we have witnessed, far too many older adults still do not have adequate and secure daily resources and retirements. I left the conference empowered and challenged – challenged to arduously work and advocate for older adults to live and retire with dignity."

Bruce Chernof, President & CEO of The SCAN Foundation, pointed to three major successes of the 2015 WHCoA:



"First, President Obama attended and spoke forcefully on the issues at hand. Acknowledging America as an aging and vibrant nation, his remarks are critical given that aging as a personal, family, community, and societal issue gets scant attention compared to other domestic matters. Bringing the bully pulpit to bear on broader questions of how we wish to age; what we want the support system to look like; and how one's dignity, respect, and choice should be honored when having needs – as most of us will – is the White House's appropriate and vital role.

"Second, the Conference theme provided leadership on setting a vision to transform how Americans can talk respectfully about vulnerable aging and the need for daily supports. Speakers broke from well-worn, unproductive narratives of aging (aging = being sick, poor, and alone; caregiving = burden; aging policy = safety net programs), which have made issues of vulnerable aging someone else's problem, therefore excluding it from serious public discourse. Instead, the Conference re-shaped what it means to age with needs in creative ways. How can we learn from the sharing economy to support the needs of older adults living in the community and their caregivers? How can the banking industry play a role in identifying early cognitive impairment and protect against elder abuse? How can technology enable safer, more connected environments so older adults can live as they choose? These discussions are relevant for all economic strata.

"Third, the Conference moved beyond a D.C. beltway debate among policy aficionados engaging local communities and grassroots to grass tops champions. Conference leaders and Cabinet secretaries facilitated listening sessions across the country starting last September at the Foundation's Long-Term Services and Supports Summit and continuing throughout 2015. Conference staff developed four briefs to inform the listening sessions and spark public comment onsite and online. Live streaming and an active social media presence connected 600 community watch parties to the Conference, with the hashtag #WHCOA reaching #3 on Twitter's trending list that day."

To read Dr. Chernof's full commentary, click [here](#).

CCoA Commissioner Paul Downey represented the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Service Providers at the WHCoA:

"It was very exciting to be part of the White House Conference on Aging. The President's remarks were very moving when he touched on the importance of assisting seniors in need. The rest of the sessions, which included the Secretaries of HHS, Labor, Agriculture, Veterans Affairs and the Surgeon General, were also important because they emphasized the importance of strong and supportive policies for our nation's seniors. Perhaps the most important take away from the conference was, at least for day, the nation and the media talked aging policy. It is now up to those of us in the aging network to leverage the day into long-lasting and meaningful change."



Older Americans Act Reauthorization Passed by the Senate

The 1100-member National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP) (has) commended the Senate for its unanimous voice vote passage of S. 192, the bipartisan Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2015 (OAA). NANASP Chair Ann Cooper called it "a strong and bipartisan reaffirmation for the value of the Older Americans Act in improving the quality of life for older adults."

NANASP Executive Director Bob Blancato noted that the Senate bill has numerous provisions to preserve the existing good features of the nutrition programs while also making enhancements for the future. "NANASP especially supports the bill's calling for greater use of locally grown fresh foods in nutrition programs, language to more directly utilize dietitians, and the clarification of policy on supplemental foods given with home delivered meals. These improvements, combined with maintaining separate funding for congregate and home-delivered meals and keeping contributions from participants voluntary, will ensure that the largest program in the OAA continues to be effective in its important mission."

NANASP Immediate Past President Paul Downey commended the bipartisan leadership which produced the Senate-passed bill, specifically Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and HELP Primary Health and Retirement Security Subcommittee Ranking Member Bernie Sanders (I-VT). "The OAA has a proud history of bipartisanship which continues today. Thanks to the work of Sens. Alexander and Sanders, along with other committee members, we move forward to the House."

NANASP also praised the Senate bill for its ongoing support of the Senior Community Service Employment Program, which remains in the Department of Labor.

"It is especially appropriate that the Senate bill passes in the same week as the OAA celebrated its 50th anniversary and the 2015 White House Conference was held, which featured a strong endorsement of the Act by President Obama," noted Blancato. Passage by the House of Representatives is needed for the reauthorization bill to reach the President's desk.

Reprinted from NANASP Washington Bulletin for July 16, 2015

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Carmen Reyes, Whittier

Jane Rozanski, Camarillo

Rita Saenz, Sacramento

David Sanchez, San Francisco

Jean Schuldberg, Chico

Ed Walsh, Rancho Mirage



Past meets the present: Three former Assistant Secretaries for Aging -- Fernando Torres-Gil, Jeanette Takamura & Josefina Carbonell -- join with current Assistant Secretary Kathy Greenlee in celebrating 50 years of the OAA.



UCLA's Fernando Torres-Gil, Gretchen Alkema of the SCAN Foundation, and Bob Blancato of the Elder Justice Coalition pictured at the White House Conference on Aging.

2015 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE on AGING

President Barak Obama addressed invitees to the 2015 White House Conference on Aging.



AGEWATCH

July 2015

Upcoming Events

August 11-12, 2015 -- Triple-A Council of California. Vagabond Inn, Sacramento. www.4tacc.org for information.

September 17-18, 2015 -- California Commission on Aging, Hotel Diamond, Chico. www.ccoa.ca.gov for information.

October 27, 2015 -- The SCAN Foundation 2015 Long-Term Services and Support Summit. Sacramento Convention Center. Early registration is recommended -- visit The SCAN Foundation website for [registration information](#).

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

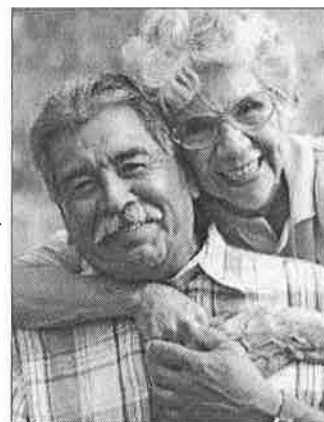
CCoA
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AGEWATCH

United States of Aging 2015 looks at top concerns about aging

The 2015 *United States of Aging* survey of older adults and the professionals who serve them finds maintaining physical health, avoiding financial exploitation, memory loss, mental health and affordable housing are the top concerns of both groups.

Each year the United States of Aging Survey – conducted by the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (NAA), National Council on Aging (NCOA) and UnitedHealthcare – polls U.S. adults 60 and older for their insights on how older Americans are preparing for their later years, and what communities can do to better support this growing population. New in 2015, the survey also polled professionals who work closely with older adults, including Area Agencies on Aging staff, credit union managers, primary care physicians and pharmacists, to gain their perspectives on the challenges older Americans face as they age.



The prioritization of concerns differ between the two survey groups:

FOR ADULTS 60 AND OLDER

- 1) Maintaining their physical health (40%)
- 2) Memory loss (35%)
- 3) Maintaining their mental health (32%)

FOR PROFESSIONALS

- 1) Protection from financial scams (43%)
- 2) Access to affordable housing (38%)
- 3) Memory loss (38%)

To read the full report, visit the [UnitedHealthcare newsroom](#).

Excerpted from NAA, NCOA, UnitedHealthcare press release, United States of Aging 2015, July 8, 2015.

Social Security turns 80 today!!!

On August 14, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act, landmark legislation that continues to provide hope and protection to some of the most vulnerable members of society.



Earlier this year, Social Security launched a commemorative [80th anniversary website](#) where people can learn more about the agency's legacy and the importance of the Social Security program. The public has used the [website](#) to submit stories that show how Social Security has benefited them or their families. Social Security employees around the country have also expressed their enthusiasm and support through the agency's "Why I Serve" campaign, which highlights employees telling their own stories illustrating why they enjoy giving back through public service.

To learn more about the impacts of Social Security, the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities has posted [Policy Basics: Top Ten Facts about Social Security](#).

Information from the Social Security Administration August 14, 2015 "Happy 80th Anniversary, Social Security!" press release and the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities.

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New Linkage Lab Initiative provides guidance to community-based organizations partnering with healthcare providers



A new suite of resources are now available for community-based organizations (CBO) seeking partnerships with the health care sector. Created by The SCAN Foundation in partnership with the Health Foundation of Western and Central New York, the *Linkage Lab* is an organizational development program for leadership and management teams from selected California CBOs. Its goal is to prepare CBOs seeking to deliver care-coordination services for effective partnership with health care entities (e.g., health plans, hospitals) through structured management education and on-site technical assistance.

According to The SCAN Foundation, The *Affordable Care Act* and other policy actions have changed the landscape for delivering services to older adults and persons with disabilities. Community-based organizations (CBOs) can play a central role in integrating long-term services and supports with the health care sector for these populations.

The Linkage Lab includes:

Case studies from the first cohort of Linkage Lab grantees. Learn about their key objectives and strategies, successes, challenges, and lessons learned.

Free online learning modules for CBOs to build leadership and management capacity.

Perspectives from TSF President & CEO Bruce Chernof on the importance of forming effective health care/CBO partnerships.

To read more and to access the Linkage Lab resources, click [here](#).
Information from *TSF: New Resources for CBOs*, August 12, 2015.



NCOA's Senior SNAP Initiative helps connect seniors and benefits

Millions of older Americans are at risk for hunger. In 2012, 9.3 million older Americans faced the threat of hunger, representing 15.3% of all seniors. The food insecurity rate for all senior households was 8.6% in 2013, up from 5.5% in 2001. At the same time, the percentage of seniors facing the threat of hunger has more than doubled.

Too few seniors are enrolled in SNAP, the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. 3 out of 5 seniors who qualify for SNAP do not apply. This means that 5.2 million seniors miss out on benefits. Older Americans who qualify for SNAP are significantly less likely to participate in the program than other demographic groups.

The National Council on Aging has released new informational materials to help older adults access the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known as SNAP.

See ways your organization can help with NCOA's new Seniors & SNAP Handbook.

Information from *NCOA Week* August 11, 2015.



CMS Releases First Star Rating System Measuring Home Health Quality of Patient Care

A new star rating system for home health agencies is now available on the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Home Health Compare website. The new *Home Health Compare Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings* site for home health agencies is designed to help consumers more quickly identify differences in quality and make use of the information when selecting a health care provider. In addition to summarizing certain data about Home Health Agency performance for consumers, star ratings can also help the agencies identify areas for improvement.

Each Home Health Agency will receive a single summary Quality of Patient Care Star Rating encompassing that agency's relative performance on 9 of the 29 quality measures already posted on Home Health Compare, including:

Process Measures:

1. Timely Initiation of Care
2. Drug Education on all Medications Provided to Patient/Caregiver
3. Influenza Immunization Received for Current Flu Season

Outcome measures:

4. Improvement in Ambulation
5. Improvement in Bed Transferring
6. Improvement in Bathing
7. Improvement in Pain Interfering With Activity
8. Improvement in Shortness of Breath
9. Acute Care Hospitalization

The new Home Health Compare Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings will be updated each quarter as new data becomes available. In addition, CMS plans to introduce additional star ratings based on a patient experience of care survey in January 2016. It is the sixth star rating system that has been added by this Administration to Medicare.gov and is part of a larger effort at the Department of Health and Human Services to transform the health care system to deliver better care, spend taxpayer dollars more effectively, and put patients in the center of their care to keep them healthy.

For more information about the Home Health Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings, please visit the CMS Home Health Star Ratings web site at Medicare.gov/HomeHealthCompare.

	A1 Home Health Care, Your Town	CALIFORNIA AVERAGE	NATIONAL AVERAGE
Quality of patient care star ratings	☆☆☆●●	☆☆☆☆●	☆☆☆☆●●



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Baby Boomers At the Epicenter of the Alzheimer's Crisis

Guest editorial

by Susan DeMarois, State Policy Director, California Council of the Alzheimer's Association



Researchers from around the world gathered recently in Washington, DC, for the 2015 Alzheimer's Association International Conference (AAIC). A key take away message from the scientific gathering was this: what has long been known as the Baby Boom Generation is on the verge of becoming "Generation Alzheimer's."

In a new study presented at AAIC, researchers estimate that more than 28 million Baby Boomers will develop Alzheimer's disease between 2015 and 2050, significantly higher than previous projections made nearly a decade ago. Of all Baby Boomers, 37 percent will develop the disease before they die. And, in 2050, among those Boomers alive (they will be ages 86 to 104), over half will be living with Alzheimer's. The large prevalence combined with the high costs of caring for those with the disease will place an enormous burden on the health and long-term care systems. For example, the new study estimates that in 2040, nearly one-quarter of the Medicare budget will be spent just on Baby Boomers with Alzheimer's disease.

Already, Alzheimer's disease is the 5th leading cause of death in California, and the one in the top ten without a known cause, treatment or cure. For public health, it is time to ask: will we as a nation be ready? Will we have enough capacity in the long-term care system? Are we developing enough home- and community-based support services? Is enough being done to educate Americans about reducing the risk of cognitive decline? The oldest Baby Boomers turn 70 next year. The time to prepare is now.

Researchers gathered in Washington, D.C. were encouraged by news on multiple fronts of promising clinical drug trials. In addition, scientists discussed pioneering new approaches and interventions. For example, could you one day spit and find out if you are at risk of developing Alzheimer's disease? Maybe, according to a new study which found that an excess of certain proteins in saliva may be a strong predictor of Alzheimer's. Researchers reported strong associations between certain substances and a person's cognitive abilities. Currently, many diagnosis techniques can be costly or invasive. But, saliva is easy to obtain, making it particularly useful for performing repeated assessments that span days, weeks, months, or longer.

On the heels of the AAIC, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) recommended an increase of \$323 million in its first professional judgment budget aimed at providing Congress with a scientific estimate of what research funding is needed and can be immediately well-utilized to address Alzheimer's disease in fiscal year 2017. Under the Alzheimer's Accountability Act incorporated in the 2015 funding bill, a professional judgment budget for Alzheimer's research that identifies the funding necessary to achieve annual research milestones established under the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease will be submitted each year until 2025. It will reflect the state of Alzheimer's knowledge, and the effectively deployable investments in research identified by leading scientists as required to achieve the plan's first goal to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's by 2025.

AGEWATCH

August 2015

Upcoming Events

September 17-18, 2015 – California Commission on Aging, Chico. www.ccoa.ca.gov for information.
 August 29 – Sept 3, 2015. NASUAD/National Home and Community Based Services Conference, Washington DC. [Information and registration](#).
 October 27, 2015 – The SCAN Foundation 2015 Long-Term Services and Support Summit. Sacramento Convention Center. Visit The SCAN Foundation website for [registration information](#).

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