

# VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING



**June 8, 2016**

**9:00 a.m. to 11:30 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<br>Fotheringham |
|           | 2. | Pledge of Allegiance   | Nick<br>Fotheringham |
|           | 3. | Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of May 11, 2016 (page 1) | Nick<br>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. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.

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|--|-----|---|----------------------|
|  | 5.  | Consent Agenda Items  | Nick<br>Fotheringham |
|  | 5.1 | Livable Communities Report from May 11, 2016 (page 5)         |                      |
|  | 5.2 | Health Issues Committee Report from May 17, 2016 (page 7)     |                      |
|  | 5.3 | Senior Nutrition Committee Report from May 16, 2016 (page 11) |                      |
|  | 5.4 | Legislative Committee Report from May 11, 2016 (page 15)      |                      |
|  | 5.5 | Optimal Aging Committee Report from May 25, 2016 (page 17)    |                      |
|  | 5.6 | Outreach Committee Report from May 31, 2016 (page 19)         |                      |

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS/PRESENTATION/MOTION**

- |           |     |   |                           |
|-----------|-----|---|---------------------------|
| 9:15 a.m. | 6.1 | Advisory Council Member Recognition and Appreciation  | Supervisor<br>Linda Parks |
|           | 6.2 | Outreach Update and Program Spotlight – Senior Nutrition Program  | Jannette<br>Jauregui      |
|           | 6.3 | 1 <sup>st</sup> Year Grantee Presentation to the Advisory Council: Catholic Charities   | TBD                       |
|           | 6.4 | VCAA Nominating Committee Report and Election of Advisory Council Officers for FY 2016-2017 and One (1) Service Provider for FY 2016-2018.* | Ginny<br>Rockefeller      |
|           | 6.5 | World Elder Abuse Month Campaign  | Jannette<br>Jauregui      |

6.6	Aging and Disability Resource Center - From Concept to Designation	Victoria Jump Dani Anderson
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**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

7.	Advisory Council Meeting Schedule for FY 2016-2017	Victoria Jump
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8.	Committee Selection for FY 2016-2017	Victoria Jump
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9.	Other Committee Meetings:	June Glasmeier
	a. California Senior Legislature Update	
	b. Triple A Council of California Update	

10.	California Congress of Seniors - Cal Seniors Newswire – Spring 2016	Nick Fotheringham
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11.	Comments from the Chair	Nick Fotheringham
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12.	Other Business	Nick Fotheringham
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11:00 am	13.	Adjournment	Nick Fotheringham
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**\*Materials will be posted 06/07/2016 and will be provided at the meeting**

The next meeting will be:

Wednesday, July 13, 2016 (9:00 am – 10:30 am)  
Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Center  
646 County Square Drive, Ventura

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 three 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  
May 11, 2016

Advisory Council Members Present

Kay Brainard (Oxnard COA)	Ginny Rockefeller (Ojai COA)
Smita Dandekar (Supervisory Appointee)	Marcy Sherbok (Special Population)
Sandra Fide (Moorpark COA)	Neill Spector (Simi Valley COA)
Nick Fotheringham (Thousand Oaks COA)	Sylvia Stein (Service Provider)
Rose Gossom (Supervisory Appointee)	Alice Sweetland (Oxnard COA)
Lori Harasta (Ventura COA)	Sue Tatangelo (Special Population)
Lawrence Hartmann (CSL)	Robert Taylor (Camarillo COA)
Nancy Healy (Thousand Oaks COA)	Vicki Tripoli (Moorpark COA)
Antoinette Olson (Simi Valley COA)	Bill Witt (CSL)

Advisory Council Members Absent

Cleo Anderson (Special Population)	June Glasmeier (CSL)
Dani Anderson (Special Population)	Lisa Hayden (Supervisory Appointee)
Jay Evans (Camarillo COA)	Marty Kaplan (Supervisory Appointee)
David Birenbaum (Supervisory Appointee)	Suz Montgomery (Ventura COA)
Rosemary Flores-Gordon (Service Provider)	Donald Todd (Special Population)

VCAAA Staff Present

Marleen Canniff	Katharine Raley
Jannette Jauregui	Jason Sagar
Victoria Jump	Christine Voth
Brian Murphy	Jacklyn Zaragoza
Monique Nowlin	

- 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) in memory of Paul Boog (Port Hueneme).

During the agenda review, the title for agenda item 6.4 was corrected to read "Recommendation and Approval of Grant Awards in the Cumulative Amount of \$474,548 for SER, Jobs for Progress for the Title V Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) and \$140,000 to Catholic Charities for Title IIIB Case Management for a Period of Up to Four Years Commencing FY 2016-2017; and \$60,000 to Senior Concerns for the Title III E Family Caregiver Resource Center serving the Conejo Valley (Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley) and **\$90,000** to Camarillo Health Care District for the Title III E Family

Caregiver Resource Center serving Camarillo, Oxnard, Ventura, and Ojai for a Period of Up to Three Years Commencing FY 2016-2017.

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 March 9, 2016, meeting were approved. (Sherbok/Olson/Passed).

#### 4. **Public Comments** –

Steve Lehmann – Steve announced that SCAN was holding diabetes education classes and referred people to a flyer on the table. The class – DEEP (Diabetes Education and Empowerment Program) starts May 24<sup>th</sup> at Scan. Ellen with SCAN also mentioned their Home to Provider program where they identify people that aren't compliant with health care and they work with the person to get them the services that they need. The person needs to be on Seaview to get these services.

Toni Olson – Toni mentioned that on Saturday May 14, Simi Valley is holding its street fair. Over 300 vendors and community service organizations will be present.

Sue Tatangelo - Sue provided copies of the Camarillo Health Care District's Healthy Attitudes magazine which features an interview with former first lady Rosalynn Carter. The District received training on the REACH program (Resources Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregiver's Health) under the Rosalynn Carter Institutes Administration for Community Living (ACL) Grant. Sue also mentioned the DEEP program and that there are 15 facilitators in Ventura County currently trained.

Don Metz – Don is a senior member of the Save Your Backside Society. Their mission is to help seniors prepare for disasters.

Monique Nowlin – Monique introduced Jason Sagar, VCAAA's newest staff member who is in charge of transportation.

5. **Consent Agenda Items** – the consent agenda containing the Livable Communities Report from March 9, 2016 Health Issues Committee Report from March 15, 2016, Health Issues Committee Report from April 19, 2016, Senior Nutrition Committee Report from March 28, 2016, Senior Nutrition Committee Report from April 18, 2016, Legislative Committee Report from March 9, 2016, Optimal Aging Committee Report from March 23, 2016, Optimal Aging Committee Report from April 27, 2016, Outreach Committee Report from

March 29, 2016, and Outreach Committee Report from April 26, 2016, was accepted. (Sherbok/Olson/Passed).

## 6. Discussion Items/Presentation/Motion

- 6.1 **VCAAA Strategic Plan for FY 2016-2020 Modification by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors.** Victoria Jump notified the council that the Board of Supervisors in April modified the VCAAA strategic plan to include the VCAAA seeking designation to become a “Dementia Friendly America” community. AC members discussed what this would mean and what it would look like.
- 6.2 **Outreach Update.** Jannette Jauregui showed members the newest agency video which was shown to the Board of Supervisors in April.
- 6.3 **Quarterly Grantee and Direct Services Performance Report.** Brian Murphy presented 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter statistics.
- 6.4 **Recommendation and Approval of Grant Awards in the Cumulative Amount of \$474,548 for SER, Jobs for Progress for the Title V Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) and \$140,000 to Catholic Charities for Title IIIB Case Management for a Period of Up to Four Years Commencing FY 2016-2017; and \$60,000 to Senior Concerns for the Title IIIE Family Caregiver Resource Center serving the Conejo Valley (Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley) and \$90,000 to Camarillo Health Care District for the Title IIIE Family Caregiver Resource Center serving Camarillo, Oxnard, Ventura, and Ojai for a Period of Up to Three Years Commencing FY 2016-2017.** Marcy Sherbok presented the report and recommendations. She also went through the grant process and lamented that the agency and the Advisory Council need to do something to come up with other sources of funding for these great programs as all applicants should have been funded. Victoria Jump also mentioned the high caliber of the applications and the need for programs such as REACH as the county moves towards Dementia Friendly America designation. She also spoke to the value of the CHCD in the community and the excellent work they do. (Sweetland/Gossom/Passed). Sue Tatangelo abstained from voting.
- 6.5 **Nominating Committee for Election of Officers for FY 2016-2017 and One Service Provider for FY 2016-2018.** Victoria Jump presented the item reminding members that the committee had formed and were seeking people interested in the offices. The executive committee application was placed on the back table for those interested. The election for those offices will be held in June.
- 6.6 **Receive and File Presentation and Recommendation to Renew FY 2016-2017 Grantee Funding and Related Service Categories Including Service Category Deviations Greater or Less than 10%.** Marleen Canniff, VCAAA Grants Administrator, gave a presentation on the renewal process along with the

recommendations. (Sherbok/Olson/Passed). Sue Tatangelo, Sylvia Stein, Nancy Healy and Toni Olson abstained from voting.

6.7 **1<sup>st</sup> Year Grantee Presentation to the Advisory Council: Grey Law and Long Term Care Ombudsman.** Michael Williams, with Grey Law provided a short presentation regarding the activities of Grey Law to include management of the FAST team as well as conducting the LIFE classes. Sylvia Stein, with the Ventura Long Term Care Ombudsman, spoke about their activities. AC members expressed appreciation for both programs.

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

8. **CSL/TACC Update.** Larry Hartmann and Bill Witt provided a short update and spoke about the funding issues with CSL. They provided a copy of form letter that people could sign and mail in support of funding for CSL. They were asked to email a copy so that AC members could send it to their networks.

9. **California Commission on Aging AgeWatch for March 2016.** Included for informational purposes.

10. **Comments from the Chair** – Nick Fotheringham mentioned volunteering is not a job we retire to, it's a lifelong commitment.

#### 11. **Other Business** –

Victoria Jump and Patti Jaeger – spoke about the farmer's market coupon program.

Victoria Jump – spoke about the N4A innovation award the agency would be receiving for the senior nutrition placement that the Health Issues Committee designed.

Victoria Jump – asked about the wireless connection and AC members thoughts on accessing AC packets online rather than them being printed. There was consensus among the group that for the foreseeable future a mixture of paper and electronic copies.

Victoria Jump - mentioned that Donald Todd, Suz Montgomery and June Glasmeier were in Sacramento representing the agency and Advisory council at the Senior Rally. Suz and Don would also be meeting with elected officials educating them on senior nutrition and other senior issues (Ombudsman, MSSP, etc.).

12. **Adjournment** – the meeting was adjourned at 10:38 am.

**TO:** VCAAA Advisory Council Members  
**FROM:** Toni Olson, Chair (for this meeting only due to Jay Evans' absence)  
**DATE:** May 11, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** **Livable Communities Committee Report from May 11, 2016**

**Committee Members Present**

Nick Fotheringham (City of Thousand Oaks)  
Rose Gossom (Supervisorial Appointee)  
Antoinette "Toni" Olson (City of Simi Valley)

**Committee Members Absent**

David Birenbaum (Supervisorial Appointee) - *Excused*  
Jay Evans (City of Camarillo) - *Excused*  
Suz Montgomery (City of Ventura) - *Excused*

**VCAAA Staff Present**

Victoria Jump, Agency Director  
Christine Voth, Manager, Business Strategy and Strategic Planning  
Jaclyn Zaragoza, HomeShare Manager

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** – The meeting began at 10:50 AM (immediately following the Advisory Council meeting)
- 2. Public Comments** – None
- 3. Approval of minutes from March 9, 2016** - Approved (Rose/Nick)
- 4. VCAAA Website. Resource list for Transportation.** Christine distributed a draft of resources intended to aid senior drivers. This will be Part 1 of the transportation component. All present felt the handout was comprehensive. Two additional categories were suggested: (1) resources for those providing kinship care (such as where to go for car seat fittings, etc.) and (2) local resources for information (such as Betty Berry of Senior Concerns who has done educational presentations on driving, per Toni, etc.).

It was agreed that Part 2 of the transportation resources component will focus on the logistics of getting around the county (Dial-a-Ride, etc.) and getting out of the county (such as bus stations, train stations, etc.) Christine will work on these resources between now and the next meeting.

5. **Ventura County's General Plan.** Victoria reported the County of Ventura's Resource Management Agency (RMA) is responsible for updating the County's General Plan, which has not been updated in thirty years. (The cities also have their own general plans.) RMA has been holding a series of stakeholder meetings divided into topics. Victoria was invited to participate in the focus group on housing along with the new director of the Housing Authority, representatives from housing trusts, persons working to end homelessness, etc. Victoria shared with the housing group the unique needs of seniors such as the need to downsize smaller homes that are near stores, transportation, medical facilities etc. Based on the information provided by Victoria, it was determined that there needs to be a separate session to address senior housing. This will give Victoria the opportunity to provide more in-depth input. It was shared that the County needs to take the lead in "building smart" by allowing people to age-in-place and by including the concepts of Universal Design in new construction. It is time to review and possible revise building codes to better address the housing needs. The date of the session to study senior housing will be made known at a future date.
6. **Report: VCAA Home Share Program - Jaclyn Zaragoza.** Jaclyn said staff is focusing on creating more matches and increasing outreach efforts. She shared some of the idiosyncrasies that staff faces when attempting to create successful matches. Jaclyn announced that the program recently received a \$4000 grant in CDBG funds from the City of Ventura. The funds will be used to pay the deposit to the landlord, which will relieve the financial burden of the home seeker who must be able to pay rent for the first month. Often these individuals do not have sufficient funds to pay the deposit *and* the rent for the first month. The agreement for these funds will be between the VCAA and the landlord. If successful, this could become a model to replicate in other cities.
7. **Other Committee Involvement/Notification, if any:** None
8. **Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 8, 2016, 11 AM to Noon, Garden View Room.** Toni and Christine will not be able to attend the June meeting.
9. **Adjournment at 11:40 AM**



**TO:** VCAAA Advisory Council Members  
**FROM:** Ginny Rockefeller, Chair  
**DATE:** May 17, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** Health Issues Committee Meeting Report from MAY 17, 2016

**Members Present**

David Birenbaum, DDS (Supervisory Appointee)  
Lori Harasta (Ventura COA)  
Ginny Rockefeller (City of Ojai)

**Members Absent**

Smita Dandekar (Supervisory Appointee) - *Excused*  
Jay Evans (City of Camarillo) - *Excused*  
Sue Tatangelo (Family Caregiver Representative) - *Excused*

**VCAAA Staff Present**

Christine Voth, Manager, Business Strategy & Strategic Planning  
Patti Jaeger, Registered Dietitian

**Community Participants**

Henry Carter, pre-Med student at Berkeley (guest of Dr. Birenbaum)  
Blair Craddock, Ventura County Evidence-Based Health Promotion Coalition (CHCD)  
Teri Helton, Livingston Memorial VNA  
Susan Landeros, Public Health, County of Ventura  
Steve Lehman, SCAN Health and Wellness Center  
Monica Lindsay, Compassionate Care Collective/Sespe Creek Collective

**1. Welcome and Introductions.**

The meeting called to order at 1:07 p.m. The committee welcomed new attendees, Henry Carter and Monica Lindsay.

**2. Public Comments:**

- a. Lori Harasta - Lori shared a flyer on a Livingston Memorial VNA upcoming event, *Advanced Directives POLST: What are They?* Teri will be the presenter. The event will be at the Camarillo Health Care District, 3639 E. Las Posas Road, Camarillo, on June 1, 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. Register at 388-1952, ext. 110.
  
- b. Steve Lehman:
  - (1) National Senior Health & Fitness Day, May 25. Seniors aged 55 older and their caregivers are invited to enjoy a free 30-minute walking group led by Camille Torgerson and Bob McCullough.

Gather at noon at the center, 6633 Telephone Road, Suite 100, Ventura.

- (2) A Zumba Gold class is being presented at the Santa Paula Senior Center each Friday from 12:15 PM to 1:00 PM. This class is a result of the recent Fall Prevention Forum held at the center. Another class will be starting in August.
  - (3) His center will be offering classes in Ventura and Camarillo on the Mediterranean Diet; and a program on Eat to Beat Cancer. Contact Steve for more information.
  - (4) In July, his center will present a Tai Chi class for the resident nuns at St. Catherine By The Sea.
- c. Monica Lindsay – As a volunteer with the Compassionate Care Collective, she frequently receives phone calls from persons aged 55 and older requesting assistance. She said obtaining cannabis is a critical issue for many seniors suffering from serious illness. Discussion followed. Teri stated that as a hospice nurse she saw positive results with its use; however, cost was an issue. It also benefits patients with multiple sclerosis. Ginny agreed with Teri's remarks. Monica shared handouts of three upcoming meetings.

The County of Ventura will hold a community meetings on *Medical Marijuana Regulation in the Ventura County Unincorporated Area*. The County meetings will be held Wednesday, May 25 from 6 to 8 PM in the Community Room at Grant Brimhall Library, 1401 Janss Road, Thousand Oaks; and on Thursday, May 26, 6 PM to 8 PM, in the Conference Room at Ventura County Public Health, 2240 E. Gonzales Road, Suite 200, Oxnard. The stated purpose of County meetings is to enable the public to share concerns and suggestions for ensuring safe access. The Ventura County Cannabis Alliance will present experts in medicine, law and public policy to talk on *Medical Cannabis: Separating Fact From Fiction* on June 24, 8 AM to 10 AM, at Century Riverpark 16, 2766 Seaglass Way, Oxnard.

- d. Patti Jaeger – Patti shared the newspaper article, *Obesity: The New Hunger*, by Robert Paarlberg, published recently in the Wall Street Journal. It includes a discussion of food insecurity versus obesity, and points out that SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program AKA food stamps) continues to allow recipients to purchase candy and soda with their benefits.

**3. Review/Approval of Minutes from November meeting – Approved**  
(Lori/David)

- 4. Senior Nutrition Placemat - Update from Patti Jaeger.** Patti and Susan Haverland, Vice President of Programs and Services for FOOD Share have been in communication. FOOD Share is again interested in distributing placemats to 1,900 recipients of Senior Share food bags (previously known as Brown Bag). FOOD Share will be adding additional food pantry sites in the future and will need even more placemats for the new sites. Susan will advise Patti on the number of placemats needed.

5. **May 25, 2016: National Senior Health & Fitness Day® VCAAA's event and launch of the Optimal Living Club - Update from Jannette Jauregui.** Christine provided the update on VCAAA's activities as Jannette was not available. Steve reiterated what his organization will be doing that day. Blair spoke about the activities that will be presented by the Camarillo Health Care District.
6. **Pilot for lecture series with panel of medical and dental professionals to discuss the health issues facing seniors – Update from Christine Voth and Dr. David Birenbaum.** David visited the Goebel Center earlier today and spoke to its staff. Yesterday, Christine emailed David to say an ophthalmologist was already scheduled to do a presentation at Goebel Center in June; thus, to have David's presenter (a retired ophthalmologist) would be a duplication of effort. David also indicated that VCAAA having presentation (such as the one he had proposed) at Goebel would be "stepping on their turf." David said his idea for the panel presentations is gone. Blair said there is a need for information on oral/dental health and the whole group agreed. David agreed to present a program on oral health in September. Lori recommended Senior Concerns as a venue. Christine will contact Andrea Gallagher to inquire about their interest and space availability. The venue would need advance notice of a few months in order to do publicity. Ginny said the oral/dental presentation would be a good start to possible future presentations. David said there is a need for someone to create a master chart of all the senior activities going on in Ventura County to avoid duplication of effort such as what he encountered at the Goebel Center today. In his opinion, VCAAA is unaware of senior activities in the cities and needs to be more proactive. Steve said VCAAA's role is to identify gaps in service (i.e., what topics are not being addressed that need to be addressed, and geographically where is the need?) Steve said no organization is willing to track all the senior events on a master calendar because it is an overwhelming task that requires significant staff time. David agreed with Steve.
7. **Evidence-Based Exercise Classes – Update on classes and facilitator training from Blair Craddock.** Blair stated that Matter of Balance classes are being provided at ARC in Santa Paula and Oxnard, Leisure Village, at the Santa Paulan housing complex, Many Mansions and the Camarillo Health Care District. Attendance is ahead of where it was last year at this time. Classes are free. Blair will follow up with Jannette Jauregui regarding distribution of Optimal Living Club tools (per what this committee approved last month). Blair stated the programs are very popular and word-of-mouth has been a very successful mode of publicity. Steve inquired about the debut of the Optimal Living Club at VCAAA's event on May 25 (at Kimball Park). Blair said May 25 is the launch date but the "tools" will not be given out at the event. No free T-shirts will be distributed at the event. They will be distributed in the classes (per the decisions made by this committee last month).
8. **Dementia Friendly America Initiative and VCAAA -** Christine shared handouts about the statistics on the prevalence of dementia in Ventura County (9.2 percent of the Medicare population in the county), California and the USA along with related materials. She reviewed the amendment to the VCAAA Master Strategic

plan wherein the Board of Supervisors amended goal/objectives 3.1 and 3.2., to ensure that the needs of persons with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, and the needs of their caregivers, are addressed. Christine provided a handout and brief overview of the history of Dementia Friendly America (DFA), Ventura County's role in becoming a DFA via VCAAA, etc.

9. **Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) Memory Screening Program and VCAAA** – Christine provided a handout describing the memory screening program, the type of screening tests used, how to locate a person to do screening and current screening sites in Ventura County. Steve mentioned that National Memory Screening Day is in November. Steve said the SCAN Health and Wellness Center was a certified AFA memory screenings site at one time. However, they stopped providing the screenings because the Alzheimer's Association did not approve of the tests/tools being used by the AFA. The Alzheimer's Association felt the AFA tests resulted into many false positives. His center encountered few individuals who needed referrals for additional care.
10. **Other Committee Involvement/Notification.** Livable Communities Committee – Update from Christine. Optimal Aging Committee – Update Lori and Christine.
11. **Next Meeting:** June 21, 2016, from 1 PM to 2:30 PM, VCAAA's Advisory Council Conference Room.
12. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 2:26 PM

**TO:** VCAAA Advisory Council Members  
**FROM:** Toni Olsen, Chairperson  
**DATE:** May 16, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** **Senior Nutrition Committee Report from May 16, 2016**

Senior Nutrition Committee Members Present

Jay Evans (Camarillo COA)  
Toni Olson (Simi Valley COA) - Chairperson  
Donald Todd (Veterans Representative)  
Vicki Tripoli (Moorpark COA)

Senior Nutrition Committee Members Absent

Rose Gossom (Supervisory Appointee)  
Alice Sweetland (Oxnard COA)

VCAAA Staff Present

Marleen Canniff, Grants Administrator  
Patti Jaeger, Registered Dietitian  
Brian Murphy, Fiscal and Contracts Manager

Guests

None

1. **Call to Order** – Chairperson Toni Olson called to order the meeting at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

**Welcome and Introductions**

2. **Public Comments** – None
3. **Approval of Minutes from the 4/18/2016 Meeting** – Toni Olson moved to approve the minutes from the above prior meeting; it passed unanimously.
4. **Meals Served Count and Food Cost per Meal through the end of April 2016** – Having served **158,434** meals to date in fiscal year 2015-16, the cumulative meal count is at **110%** of the contracted amount. With 16,263 meals served this past month, we saw a 4% decrease from last month's meal counts. Jordano's-supplied meal count is 14,485 for the month, and the non-Jordano's meal count is 1,778. While VCAAA's budgeted food cost is \$4.10 per meal, Jordano's-supplied food cost per meal in April is at \$3.75, and the total average YTD cost per meal is at **\$3.93**. This equates to an average cost of \$52,864 in food alone to cover the 13,452 meals served over contracted levels so far this fiscal year.

We are projected to serve 19,102 over contracted meal counts by June 30, 2016, which would be \$76,409 in food costs (\$66,598 if omitting the 2,453 projected additional meals at CRPD from calculation).

5. **Senior Nutrition Action Council S.N.A.C. Update** - The Senior Nutrition Action Council (S.N.A.C.) continues to search for volunteers for the Thrift Shoppe and Board Members.
6. **Freezer for Emergency Food Update** - The California Department of Aging has approved VCAAA's request to use Title III C2 (SNP) funds to pay for the Meals Food Storage room project. The cooling system upgrade and noise mitigation of the food pantry is still in the permitting stage with the General Services Agency.
7. **San Salvador Mission Appeal Status** - San Salvador Mission received VCAAA's adverse determination letter on April 13, 2016. Per California Code of Regulations, the deadline for requesting a hearing from the state is 30 calendar days, which was May 12, 2016. As of this meeting's date (May 16), the California Department of Aging has not received any notice of appeal from San Salvador Mission. Therefore, VCAAA staff will immediately begin its transition plan process, which entails CDA approval of criteria such as notifying the clients in Piru, a transfer of equipment and confidential files, and a plan to provide continued services with a smooth transition.
8. **Other Committee Involvement/Notification**
  - a. Legislative – VCAAA Advisory Council member Donald Todd attended Senior Rally Day on May 11, 2016, in Sacramento representing the agency and all Ventura County seniors in a concerted ask for \$5.4 million for senior nutrition program funding. He met at the State Capital Building with the representatives of leaders such as Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson and Assembly member Jacqui Irwin of District 44 to educate them on the importance of programs for seniors.
  - b. Outreach Committee – With the goal to help keep older Americans healthy and fit, VCAAA has allocated \$2,000 in advertising to local cumulus radio station KHAY-FM to get the word out about the Senior Expo on May 25, 2016, at the Ventura Community Park (aka Kimball Park) to celebrate National Senior Health & Fitness Day and Older Americans Month.
  - c. Health Issues – VCAAA's Senior Nutrition Program Placemats recently won an innovation award through the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging. A full report will be available in July, after the award ceremony. VCAAA provides these placemats to its SNP and SNAP-Ed participants and distributes them to FOOD Share to be included with supplemental bags of groceries for 1,900 low-income seniors at 32 sites throughout Ventura County in its SENIOR Share program.
9. **Other Business**
  - a. FOOD Share Truck – The Board of Supervisors approved the MOU and title transfer of the truck on May 10, 2016. Staff expects the title transfer to be completed in the next few days
  - b. The Jordano's 2016 Food and Equipment Show Update – Registered Dietitian Patti Jaeger discussed the status of several new food items discovered at the show: 1) The 4-ounce Grilled Chicken Breast, the Chicken Soup, and Beef and Turkey Meatballs have too much sodium to be included in SNP meals; 2) Patti found a low-sodium alternate for the grilled

chicken breast and is awaiting a sample; 3) Nutritional facts have arrived on the 3-ounce Panko Crusted Tilapia, Lasagna Rolls, and Carrot Ginger Soup, and all three items meet dietary requirements for the program. Discussion ensued about coming up with another name for the Carrot Ginger Soup, such as Autumn Harvest Soup, to appeal to more participants. While most committee members were agreeable to this approach, one was opposed to changing the name. Patti will continue to research and schedule tastings to move forward with providing new food options, as many participants have voiced a consistent desire for more variety on the menu.

- c. *Farmer's Market Program* – Patti Jaeger presented a report at the May 11, 2016, Advisory Council meeting, where she also began recruiting volunteers to distribute the coupons at certified area Farmers' Markets. Volunteers are already recruited for markets in Ojai, Simi Valley, Ventura, and Camarillo. VCAAA recently received 1,000 booklets of five \$4 coupons.

## **10. Future Meeting Schedule**

The next SNP Committee Meeting is scheduled for **Monday, June 20, 2016, at 10 a.m.** in the Garden View Room 135. Toni Olsen appointed Vicki Tripoli as chairperson pro tem in her absence. New Committee Chair Election is scheduled for the July 18 meeting.

Future meetings are scheduled for the third Monday of each month (with exception of holidays and excluding August and December) at 10 a.m. in the in the Advisory Council Room 148 or the Garden View Room 135, as indicated:

- July 18, 2016 (Advisory Council Room 148)
- September 19, 2016 (Advisory Council Room 148)
- October 17, 2016 (Garden View Room 135)
- November 21, 2016 (Advisory Council Room 148)
- January 23, 2017 (Garden View Room 135)
- February 13, 2017 (Garden View Room 135)
- March 20, 2017 (Garden View Room 135)
- April 17, 2017 (Garden View Room 135)
- May 15, 2017 (Garden View Room 135)
- June 19, 2017 (Garden View Room 135)

## **11. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

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**TO:** VCAA Advisory Council Members  
**FROM:** Sylvia Taylor-Stein, Chair  
**DATE:** June 8, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** **Legislative Committee Report From May 11, 2016**

Legislative Committee Members Present (6)

Nancy Healy (Thousand Oaks COA)  
Larry Hartmann (CSL)  
Sylvia Taylor Stein (Service Provider) - Chair  
William (Bill) Witt (CSL)  
Neill Spector (Simi Valley COA)  
Sandra Fide (Moorpark COA)

Legislative Committee Members Absent (5)

Marcy Sherbok (LGBT Special Population Seat)  
Bob Taylor (Camarillo COA)  
Donald Todd (Veteran Special Population Seat)  
June Glasmeier (CSL)  
Sue Tatangelo (Family Caregiver Special Population Seat)

VCAA Staff Present (2)

Monique Nowlin  
Katharine Raley

Guests (1)

Vicky Odle

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 10:51 a.m. by Chair, Sylvia. A quorum was present.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – None.
3. **Public Comments** – None.
4. **Update and Committee Action on Pending Legislation Affecting Seniors** – Staff (Monique) provided an overview of the following: the Senior Rally 2016 Priority Budget Items; an overview of the Decade of Decline (a visual representation of the services eliminated, major fund cuts, frozen or partial restoration); and an overview of the combined CLTCOA (California Long Term Care Ombudsman Association) and C4A (California Association of Area Agencies on Aging) Legislative Platform. The Committee reviewed the combined legislative platforms in order to decide which of these bills a priority are for the Legislative Committee. Monique went on to explain that the Senior Nutrition ask listed on the Senior Rally 2016 Priority Budget

Items has no bill number and is being requested as part of the budget process. The following are A priority bills the Legislative Committee would like to support:

- AB 1655 – Medi-Cal: Beneficiary Maintenance Needs: Personal Needs Allowance
- AB 2079 – SNF: Staffing
- AB 2231 – Care Facilities: Civil Penalties
- AB 2301 – RCFE: Resident Rights
- SB 648 – Health & Care Facilities: Referral Agencies
- SB 924 – Insurance: Annuity Transactions
- SB 938 – Protective Proceedings: Conservator Authorizations

The Committee is requesting additional information, when available, on the following bills:

- AB 1805 – Elder & Dependent Adult Abuse – spot bill; no specific language yet
- AB 2366 – Long Term Care Insurance
- AB 2554 – Public Social Services: SSI/SSP – spot bill; no specific language yet
- SB 1091 – LTC Insurance

**5. Other Committee Involvement/Notification** – There was no additional discussion regarding other Committee involvement.

**6. Next Meeting Date** – Next meeting is July 13, 2016.

**7. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m. by the Chair, Sylvia.

**TO:** VCAAA Advisory Council Members

**FROM:** Sylvia Taylor Stein, Chair

**DATE:** May 25, 2016

**SUBJECT: Optimal Aging Committee (OAC) Meeting Report from MAY 25, 2016**

**Members Present (5)**

Rose Gossom (Supervisory Appointee)  
Marty Kaplan (Supervisory Appointee)  
Ginny Rockefeller (City of Ojai)  
Sylvia Stein (Service Provider Representative)  
Alice Sweetland (City of Oxnard)

**Members Absent (4)**

Lori Harasta (City of Ventura)  
Toni Olson (City of Simi Valley)  
Sue Tatangelo (Family Caregiver Representative)  
Bob Taylor (City of Camarillo)

**VCAAA Staff Present (3)**

Christine Voth, Manager, Business Strategy and Strategic Planning

**Community Members/Guests Present (2)**

Joyce Pinkard, Advisory Council Emeritus  
Monica Lindsay, Sespe Collective  
Deirdre Daly, Candidate to represent Ojai on the Advisory Council

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Public Comments.**
- 3. Approval of minutes from meeting held on March 23, 2016 – Approved (Rose/Sylvia)**
- 4. OAC Flyer #1 – Setting Goals for Optimal Aging: Finances –** Christine reviewed with the group three handouts: (1) remarks regarding issues related to saving for retirement from a focus group of persons in the targeted age group (persons born in the late 1960's and in the 1970's); (2) a draft of financial tips for the targeted age group; and (3) an article, *\$2 Million is the New \$1 Million for Retirement* by John Grace that was published in the Ventura County Star yesterday. Christine reviewed some details from the April meeting, including the decision to have separate handouts on finance, health/wellness and socialization/civic engagement. Marty suggested the group reconsider having a trifold brochure that includes these three areas, which would plant a seed to get people into the mindset of thinking about planning for

retirement and aging successfully. Sylvia reiterated the focus is to create the financial tips and to utilize social media to reach the targeted age group (per Victoria Jump's remarks at the April meeting).

5. **Dementia Friendly America (DFA) designation for Ventura County** – Christine reviewed three handouts: (1) the article, “Minnesotans Show How to Create Dementia-Friendly Communities” available online from New America Media; (2) Dementia Friendly America (DFA) Essentials ([www.dfamerica.org](http://www.dfamerica.org)), which suggests the many sectors of society to involve in the planning process; and (3) the suggested DFA timeline to accomplish the work. She talked about Supervisor Kathy Long's support for Alzheimer's disease and dementia, and their caregivers, which is now reflected in VCAAA's Master Strategic Plan.
6. **Discussion/Brainstorming Ideas – What can be done to make our county more dementia-friendly thereby contributing to optimal aging for county residents who are experiencing the earlier stages of Alzheimer's disease or dementia?** To inspire the discussion, the group viewed three videos:
  - a) *Artful Aging*: <http://www.nextavenue.org/special-report/artful-aging/>
  - b) *Engaging and Stimulating the Mind*:  
<https://www.growingbolder.com/new-voice-for-alzheimers-patients-926120/>
  - c) *Small Changes to Make a Community More Dementia Friendly*  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fz8ACEu7Lho&feature=em-share\\_video\\_in\\_list\\_user&list=PL6Qsh0P6vDZL16L1z2L9skyDq8h0IGlur](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fz8ACEu7Lho&feature=em-share_video_in_list_user&list=PL6Qsh0P6vDZL16L1z2L9skyDq8h0IGlur)

The group agreed that education about Alzheimer's disease and dementia is essential and suggested employer in-service events and tools (brochures, flyers, etc.). The following persons/entities should be included in the DFA process: banks, cashiers, drivers involved with public transportation (drivers of buses, taxis, Uber drivers, limousines, couriers, delivery services, etc.), fast food providers, greeters in Walmart, grocery stores (including 99 Cents Store), and operators/staff of movie theaters. There was a suggestion to partner with Ralph's or Von's. Marty asked what the incentive would be for merchants (or other service providers) to have their employees receive training on being dementia friendly, or for giving them a flyer on how to be dementia friendly. Deirdre said it would be a great marketing tool for them.

A suggestion was made to have an ID card that a patient could carry in his/her wallet. The card would identify the person as having Alzheimer's disease or dementia, and the patient could obtain the card from his/her doctor.

7. **Other Committee (Health Issues, Legislative, Livable Communities, Outreach, Senior Nutrition) Involvement/Notification** – None
8. **Next scheduled meeting date is Wednesday, June 22, 2016, 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM**
9. **Adjournment** at 3:15 PM

**TO:** VCAAA Advisory Council Members  
**FROM:** Marty Kaplan, Committee Chair  
**DATE:** May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** Outreach Committee Report from May 31, 2016

Committee Members Present

Kay Brainard (Oxnard)  
Lori Harasta (Ventura)  
Marty Kaplan (Supervisorial Appointee)  
Neill Spector

Committee Members Absent

Cleo Anderson (Special Population Seat – Mental Health)  
Rose Gossom (Supervisorial Appointee)  
Robert Taylor (Camarillo)

VCAAA Staff Present

Jannette Jauregui  
Katharine Raley

Guests

None

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chair, Marty Kaplan.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – General welcome. No introductions.
3. **Public Comments** – Lori announced a seminar taking place on June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Camarillo Health Care District.
4. **Report on VCAAA's May 25<sup>th</sup> Event for Older American's Month** – Jannette provided a report on the event, commenting on the overall organization of the event and feedback for a proposed event for May 2017. Jannette expressed that the event was well organized and that all vendors were pleased with the event. Attendance, at about 100 total, was lower than she hoped, but not bad for a first event. Jannette also mentioned that the VCAAA was competing with two other large events in Ventura, and several events throughout the County. Jannette mentioned interest in planning an event for earlier in May next year, and perhaps participating in the YMCA's event on National Senior Health and Fitness Day next year. Jannette also

mentioned interest in expanding the event as well as considering incorporating KHAY and other Cumulus stations again next year for more exposure.

Katharine suggested offering canopies for all participants next year, and also suggested changing the location. The committee agreed to hold an event earlier in the month in an effort to eliminate conflict with other large events. Jannette mentioned that she will be discussing a date for next year's event at the June Outreach Committee Meeting.

Lori suggested a kick-off for the Optimal Living Club since the event didn't seem to serve as an official kick-off. The committee agreed to consider having a future event center on optimal aging for seniors and pre-seniors, spanning health, finances, mobility, and social connections.

Jannette reminded the committee that she created and distributed (via e-mail and social media) a photo slideshow of the event.

5. **Discussion and Update of Optimal Aging Flyer-** Lori mentioned that she is under the impression that more clarity is needed from Victoria Jump in regard to the content and overall creation of an Optimal Aging flyer. Marty suggested that the topic be raised again at the next Optimal Aging Committee Meeting, with an update provided to the Outreach Committee.
6. **Discussion of VCAAA Mascot/Bee Costume [Update on Name for Mascot]–** Lori suggested that the naming of the VCAAA Bee be turned into a contest on Facebook and social media. She suggested offering a prize of some sort to the "winner" of the contest. Kay suggested incorporating the Bee in flyers and all other printed material from the VCAAA.
7. **Other Committee Involvement/Notification – [HEALTH ISSUES]** Lori mentioned the request for more topics for the Senior Nutrition placemats. She also mentioned that FOOD Share has requested placemats.
8. **Next Meeting Schedule –** June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
9. **Adjournment –** The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m. by Chair, Marty.



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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Advisory Council</b>	<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Leg.</b>	<b>Livable Comm.*</b>	<b>Health Issues</b>	<b>Senior Nut.</b>	<b>Opt. Aging</b>
<b>July 2016</b>	July 13 9-11 am	July 26 9-10:30 am	July 13 11-12	July 13*	July 19 1-2:30 pm	July 18 10-11:30 am	July 27 2-3 pm
<b>August 2016</b>	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
<b>Sept 2016</b>	Sept 14 9-11 am	Sept 27 9-10:30 am	Sept 14 11-12	Sept 14 11-12	Sept 20 1-2:30 pm	Sept 19 10-11:30 am	Sept 28 2-3 pm
<b>Oct 2016</b>	None	October 25 9-10:30 am	None	None	Oct 18 1-2:30 pm	Oct 17 10-11:30 am	Oct 26 2-3 pm
<b>Nov 2016</b>	Nov 9 9-11 am	Nov 29 9-10:30 am	Nov 9 11-12	Nov 9 11-12	Nov 15 1-2:30pm	Nov 21 10-11:30 am	Nov 30 2-3 pm
<b>Dec 2016</b>	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
<b>Jan 2017</b>	Jan 11 9-11 am	Jan 31 9-10:30 am	Jan 11 11-12	Jan 11 11-12	Jan 17 1-2:30 pm	Jan 23 10-11:30 am	Jan 25 2-3 pm
<b>Feb 2017</b>	None	Feb 28 9-10:30 am	None	None	Feb 21 1-2:30 pm	Feb 13 10-11:30 am	Feb 22 2-3 pm
<b>March 2017</b>	March 8 9-11 am	March 28 9-10:30 am	March 8 11-12	March 8 11-12	March 21 1-2:30 pm	March 20 10-11:30 am	March 22 2-3 pm
<b>April 2017</b>	None	April 25 9-10:30 am	None	None	April 18 1-2:30 pm	April 17 10-11:30 am	April 26 2-3 pm
<b>May 2017</b>	May 10 9-11 am	May 30 9-10:30 am	May 10 11-12	May 10 11-12	May 16 1-2:30 pm	May 15 10-11:30 am	May 24 2-3 pm
<b>June 2017</b>	June 14 9-11 am	June 27 9-10:30 am	June 14 11-12	June 14 11-12	June 20 1-2:30 pm	June 19 10-11:30 am	June 28 2-3 pm





**2016-2017 COMMITTEE PREFERENCE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Advisory Council by-laws call for all council members to participate one at least one committee. Please select your committee preferences for FY 2015-2016 and return to the VCAAA by June 30, 2016. You may continue with your present choice and add or change to another choice.

<b>Committee</b>		<b>Sign me Up</b>
Outreach Committee	This committee focuses on Agency outreach, marketing, etc. This committee meets monthly.	
Livable Communities Committee	This committee focuses on affordable housing issues and transportation issues facing Ventura County seniors. This committee meets 7 times a year after Advisory Council meetings.	
Health Issues	This committee looks at health issues relating to seniors. Preventative health and chronic disease are some of the issues important to this committee. This committee meets monthly.	
Legislative Committee	This committee works with the California Senior Legislators to develop and respond to legislation that is of interest to seniors and disabled adults. This committee meets 7 times a year after advisory council meeting.	
Senior Nutrition	This committee meets as needed to provide guidance to the Senior Nutrition Program. This committee meets monthly.	
Planning and Allocation Committee	This committee focuses on working with AAA staff and to determine grant funding and program development in the Spring. This committee includes selected members of all standing committees. This committee meets as needed.	
Optimal Aging Committee	This committee explores and recommends methods, programs, services and educational tools that will encourage and inspire older adults to enhance the quality of their lives; maintain their identity and independence; and foster self-direction. The committee will encourage older adults to be engaged and productive in a variety of activities including part-time employment and volunteerism.	



**To:** Advisory Council Members

**From:** June Glasmeier, Triple A Council of California Representative

**Date:** May 31, 2016

**Re:** **TACC Report from May 2016**

On May 9, 2016 I went to Sacramento to attend the the May TACC meeting. We were in an all-day meeting on Tuesday and the presenters were as follows:

- Eileen Boswick, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- Gary Passmore, Vice President of Congress for California Seniors and Darrell Ketch, Executive Director of California Association of Area Agencies gave a presentation on preparation for the Senior Rally on Wednesday, May 11, 2016.
- Ed Long, Deputy Director. California Department of Aging gave a presentation on Reauthorization of the Older American's Act.
- The PSA reports were reviewed.
- Carol Sewell, Legislative Director of the California Commission on Aging reported on from Blueprint to Benchmarks, Building a framework for Elder Justice. Carol also spoke on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day which is June 15, 2016.

We went to the Capitol on Wednesday to attend the Senior Rally. Over 400 attended the Senior Rally. The chant was seniors count and seniors vote. A lunch was served and then we proceeded to the Capitol to visit with our legislators education them on the importance of senior programs.

The next meeting of TACC will be September 12-13, 2016.

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# CAL SENIORS NEWSWIRE

SPRING 2016 • *Advocacy, Education & Service for Seniors Since 1977* • Vol. 18, No. 1

## **Governor Brown Presents His Revised Budget for 2016-2017 Projects Lower Revenues -- Lowers Rainy Day Fund**

### **CCS Budget Priorities for California's Seniors**

**Senior Nutrition Funding to Combat Poverty and Promote Health  
Ombudsman to Keep Seniors Safe--APS Elder Abuse Training  
IHSS Overtime Pay**

## **CCS Legislative Priorities**

- SB 308 Bob Wiecewski** - Expands exemptions available to seniors in bankruptcy.
- SB 547 Carol Liu & Asm. Cheryl Brown** - Creates the Statewide Aging and Long-Term Care Services Coordinating Council.
- SB 908 Ed Hernandez** – Requires notification if regulators have found that health insurance rates are unjustified.
- SB 932 Ed Hernandez** - Legislature to review health care mergers/acquisitions for impacts on costs, access, and quality of care.
- SB 938 Hannah-Beth Jackson** – New, more stringent rules for use of psychotropic drugs to conservatees in residential care facilities.
- SB 1135 Bill Monning** - Requires a health care service plan contract or insurance policy to provide information to enrollees regarding access to health care services.
- SB 1150 Mark Leno** - Housing Bill of Rights for surviving spouse to help prevent foreclosures.
- SB 1234 Kevin de Leon** - Implements a state organized retirement savings program for workers with no benefits
- AB 533 Rob Bonta** – Prevents surprise medical bills to insured patients by requiring hospitals to pay the Medicare rate to out-of-network doctors. Out-of-network doctors would be prevented from directly billing the patient.
- AB 1667 Bill Dodd** - Requires a home care aide referral agency to provide specified information about the person's potential employer responsibilities. AB 1667 would require domestic aides to make criminal records available.
- AB 2077 Autumn Burke** - Declares the intent of the Legislature to enact procedures to ensure that individuals move between Medi-Cal and the California Health Care Exchange without any breaks in coverage.
- AB 2079 Ian Calderon** – Raises nursing home staff hours per day per patient from 3.2 to 4.1.

**Budget trailer bill to clean up 2014 legislation for IHSS caregivers**

# Preparing California Communities for Five Million More Seniors

Gary Passmore, Vice President

Governor Brown and the Legislature have wisely called for a new focus on infrastructure investments to meet the needs of a changing California. They also believe the state must be cautious in making long-term financial commitments to new programs while the expanding economy generates new state revenues...knowing our revenue structure is highly volatile.

One of the most dramatic demographic trends of the next several decades is that the number of older Californians will more than double, from five million to over ten million between 2015 and 2030.<sup>1</sup>

This will create new demands on an outdated infrastructure of over 750 local senior and community centers which serve some 170,000 elderly persons who typically visit the centers several times a week. Most clients are over 75 years old. In addition to services for vulnerable elders, many centers offer enrichment, wellness and preventive programs.

Most centers were built decades ago so nearly half are in facilities over 35 years old and one-in-five are in facilities over 50 years old. One in ten was built before 1930. The last state investment in these facilities was in 1984 when a \$50 million bond was approved by a majority of California voters.<sup>2</sup>

A few communities have built new facilities or made local investments but most centers are aging and lack important upgrades. A 2010 study revealed that:



St. Barnabas Senior Center Los Angeles, CA

- 20% of centers do not have smoke detectors and 60% do not monitor carbon monoxide emissions. Most have not been tested for asbestos or mold. Many have only one entrance that is ADA compliant. One in five has no ADA compliant restrooms.
- Fewer than 20% have undergone earthquake retrofits, and only half could serve as shelters during a disaster
- 20% are not wired for internet, 60% do not have Wi-Fi and 60% cannot provide on-line instruction or computer training.
- Only one in four has energy efficient windows, and only 25% have had new weatherization and insulation; solar energy is used at fewer than 5% and fewer than 20% have replaced their HVAC units since 1980.
- Seniors in areas of population growth lack community facilities and 26% of centers have waiting lists for services. Nearly all have an increased demand for services.

Centers have infrastructure needs that should be addressed now to maintain the important role they play in the community.

<sup>1</sup> The California Department of Finance projects an increase of 113%.

<sup>2</sup> The Senior Center Bond Act of 1984 was put on the ballot by the Legislature and passed with a 66.7% vote.

**Published by  
Congress of California Seniors**

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# Seniors Receiving SSI/SSP Can't get SNAP (Food Stamps)

## Understanding SSI

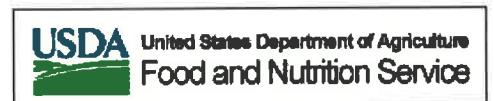
SSI stands for Supplemental Security Income. Social Security administers this program. Monthly benefits are paid to people with limited income and resources who are disabled, blind, or age 65 or older. SSI benefits are not based on prior work or family member's prior work. In most States, SSI beneficiaries may also be eligible for medical assistance (Medicaid) to pay for hospital stays, doctor bills, prescription drugs, and other health costs. Many States also provide a supplemental payment to certain SSI beneficiaries. *SSI beneficiaries may also be eligible for food assistance in every State except California.*

## Understanding SSP

The State Supplementary Payment (SSP) Program is the state program which augments SSI. Both SSI and SSP benefits are administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA). Eligibility for both programs is determined by SSA using Federal criteria. If you qualify for SSI, you qualify for SSP. The benefits are in the form of cash assistance.

## Understanding The SNAP Program

Why are seniors excluded from receiving SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) if they are receiving SSI/SSP? In 1973 California gave every SSI recipient an additional \$10 per month, in 1973 this was equivalent to the amount that would have been provided in food stamps. The Federal government allowed this allotment in lieu of SNAP payments. Unfortunately in 2015 SSI recipients still only receive \$10 per month. Because of this arrangement Seniors in California, receiving SSI/SSP are not eligible for SNAP benefits.



## Understanding Senior *Mal*nutrition

Seniors may be malnourished for one or more reasons including chronic diseases, dental problems and socio-economic issues. Poor diet is considered a risk factor for many disease such as diabetes, heart diseases and high blood pressure. For some seniors their medical condition has a dietary mandate but seniors are not always able to afford to purchase foods necessary to keep them in optimal health.

## Understanding the SSI/SSP SNAP Problem in California

All individuals who are receiving SSI/SSP are covered under this payment in lieu of SNAP benefits with the Federal program, in practical terms that means that approximately 60,000 children would be negatively impacted by changing from a cash out benefit to SNAP. California advocates have asked the Federal government for a waiver for the children in this program but they were denied this waiver even though it would help 1.2 million Californians.

## Solutions for California Seniors

Ending the cash out program for seniors would increase older Californians' ability to purchase nutritious foods. As a part of this process California could choose to compensate dollar for dollar the 60,000 households with children so these households maintain their current purchasing power.

# Homestead Exemption

Senator Bob Wieckowski

Although California's home prices have climbed over the past 40 years, the homestead exemptions in our bankruptcy laws have remained flat, making it more difficult for people emerging from bankruptcy to avoid future debt problems.

These homestead exemptions were put in place to protect average consumers' homes from being sold against their will. If there was a forced sale of the home in bankruptcy, the consumer would still have some critical home equity.

Current exemptions are \$75,000 for single residents, \$100,000 for couples and \$175,000 for seniors, the blind, and the disabled.

Now, match that against the median price of a California single-family detached home – which is more than \$450,000 dollars.

Simply put, our homestead exemptions have eroded so much over time that they really don't exempt anyone's home any more.

Making matters worse, under a 2012 court ruling, if unsecured creditors force the sale of a bankruptcy debtor's residence, the homeowner is required to reinvest all homestead exemption proceeds into purchasing another home within six months.

This court ruling stripped away any flexibility the consumer had on how to spend their exemption money.

For these reasons, I introduced SB 308. It eliminates the homestead reinvestment requirement and it modernizes our badly outdated homestead exemptions.

Under SB 308, the exemptions would be \$100,000 dollars for single residents, \$150,000 for married people and \$300,000 for seniors and the disabled.

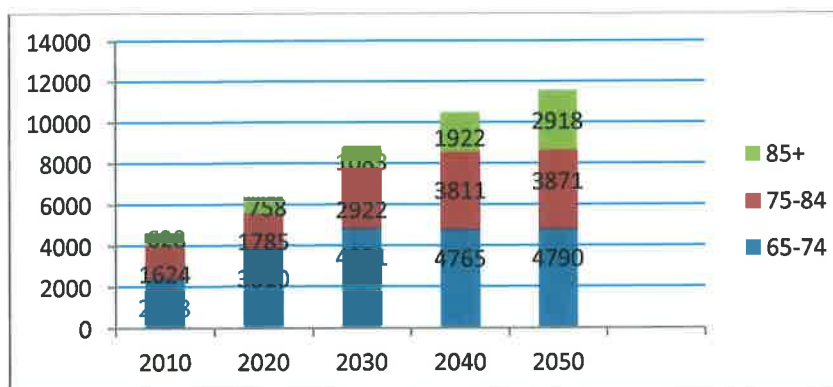
This bill recognizes that seniors are the most likely to have home equity to protect and they are the least able to re-enter the job market if they fall on hard times.

In fact, many seniors have spent years paying down their mortgage and investing in their homes with the belief that their equity can serve as a cushion in retirement.

SB 308 is currently on the Assembly floor and has a broad coalition of support.

**I urge you to contact your state Assembly member and request a Yes vote on SB 308.** Let's update our homestead exemptions to give consumers a better chance to become self-sufficient again.

## Is California Prepared for the increase in the number of seniors?



California's Aging Population 2010-2050 Number of residents age 65 and older (In thousands)

- What are the infrastructure needs of 12 million seniors?
- Who will care for seniors with advanced Alzheimer's, arthritis or diabetes? Stroke survivors and other chronic illnesses?
- Can we keep older Californians' healthier through better nutrition?