

Southwest Washington Agency on Aging & Disabilities
Advisory Council (SWAADAC)
Meeting Minutes of the March 17th, 2010
Cowlitz County Human Services Department
1952 9th Ave., Longview, WA 98632

Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Chair, Pat Culver.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

Clark County: Roxanne Jones, Karin Woll, Ginny Wilberg,
Elizabeth Brown, Mike Teefy, Shanti Potts
Cowlitz County: Marc Bollinger
Klickitat County: Lowell Smith
Wahkiakum County: Nicki Thomas
Skamania County: Patricia Culver, Sandra Bacus, Jim Jordan

Members Absent:

Cowlitz County Patty Kinswa-Gaiser (Excused)

Wahkiakum County: Anne Snyder (Excused)

- A quorum was present

Guest

Trisha Hilton-Orth, SWAAD Kelso Office

Staff Present:

David Kelly, Executive Director
Klaus Micheel, Planner

Approval of Agenda:

The agenda for the March 17, 2010 meeting was approved.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the February 17, 2010 meeting were approved.

Cowlitz County Human Services Department

Marc Bollinger provided the council with an overview of the Cowlitz County Human Services Department. The Department has three separate sub-services, Substance Abuse, Regional Support Network (Mental Health) and Development Disabilities (see attached hand-out).

SWAAD Kelso Office

Trish Hilton-Orth spoke to the council regarding services the Kelso Office provides. The Information and Assistance staff works with community partners to disseminate information and share resources. Staff works with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Health Services, the Ethnic Support Council, Peace Health Medical Group and local pharmacies.

In an attempt to better serve Wahkiakum County SWAAD has partnered with Wahkiakum County Health & Human Services: Kelso office staff is available every Wednesday afternoon in Cathlamet in office space provided by Wahkiakum County Health & Human Services. Staff delivers information and assistance to people referred to them and to the public at large.

Kelso office staff participates in a local radio show, Boomer Plus Radio, focusing on questions relating to baby boomers. It is tentatively scheduled for the 20th of April.

Kelso office staff will be back at the annual Cowlitz Senior Fair on May 1st, the Lewis Health Fair scheduled for April 10th and at a Black Bear baseball game in August.

Pat Culver thanked Trish for providing the council with an update on Kelso office staff's activities.

Renewal of Membership

Roxanne Jones informed the council Pat Culver had completed her first three-year term. Pat said she has enjoyed working with the council representing Skamania County and now serving as Chair for the Council. She stated she would like to serve a second three-year term. Sandy Bacus made a motion to renew Pat Culver's membership, Mike Teefy seconded the motion and the motion carried. All members expressed their gratitude for Pat's continued service.

Announcements/Community Outlook:

Beth Brown reported about attending the Professionals in Aging meeting. She also attended a Town Hall meeting in the 49th LD. At that meeting Beth spoke in favor of fully funding SCSA (the Senate proposes a \$1M cut to the budget \$9M SCSA budget).

Shanti Potts announced that on April 6th the Powerful Tools for Caregiving class will begin in Skamania County. Classes will now be available in all five counties.

Nicki Thomas reported Cowlitz County wants to develop a service center to serve the homeless and mentally ill and they are currently looking for a building site. Nicki suggested a multiservice center to meet all their needs in one location.

Nicki further reported about a Mental Health Block Grant which the Mental Health Advisory Board (Nicki serves on) is reviewing. Nicki will be meeting with Cowlitz County and Cowlitz County will be working with Clark County She is hopeful that in a few months she will be able report about the collaboration efforts between the two counties regarding mental health services.

Karin reminded the council it should be targeting the children of seniors. They are the ones who will be assisting in arranging care for housing and medical needs for their parents.

Ginny Wilberg spoke about a City of Vancouver Planning Commission meeting she attended regarding housing for Boomers. Ginny felt the experts invited to speak at this meeting were very informative. They explained their creative ideas for senior housing which would include parks and walking trails. It was an excellent presentation.

Jim Jordan told the council about taking part in a Town Hall telephone conference in the 15th LD. He said most of the questions presented were from people calling for "no more taxes." Jim also mentioned the good service AARP provides in advocating for senior issues. AARP sends emails with talking points on various issues we are advocating. The talking points are helpful in preparing informative letters to our representatives.

Mike Teefy said as Vice President of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) he gets to talk to his fellow members at NARFE's monthly luncheon meetings. Mike reported that Port Angeles has a one hour radio show for seniors and they provide information on a variety of services available to seniors. Mike advised the council he was going to speak with CVTV about a show for SWAAD.

Pat Culver described some of her experiences traveling in eastern Skamania County as a Census Taker. She met with several interesting seniors all with a story to tell. Pat said she thoroughly enjoyed becoming more familiar with the area and the people.

Lowell Smith spoke with his local newspaper (The Goldendale Sentinel). The paper has agreed to run an article providing information on how to reach SWAAD for information and assistance. Lowell also took part in the Town Hall telephone conference in the 15th LD. He left a message to remind seniors to vote.

Sandy Bacus reported that she had received Information Packets to deliver to Skyline Hospital and Hood River Providence Hospital. She scheduled meetings with the Directors of the Patient Discharge Units to discuss the information and discover if they might be interested in providing this information to patients in need of in-home services when they are discharged from the hospital.

Director's Report:

SWAAD is in the process of procuring senior transportation services in Clark County and in-home personal care services in all five counties.

The City of Vancouver Planning Commission had invited the SWAAD director and other experts to its planning meeting on March 2nd to talk about the aging boom and its effects on housing (Ginny Wilberg also attended this meeting). An expert on aging issues from Portland State University (PSU) expressed interest in working with Clark County. There seemed to be consensus at the meeting communities would lose people and money if they didn't prepare for the aging population

Under SWAAD's leadership a number of service providers have come together to form a local Eldercare Alliance. The purpose of this alliance is to improve service

coordination and explore opportunities for collaboration and advocacy. Among the members are both hospitals in Clark County, CDM home care, Clark County RSN, C-Tran, Vancouver Housing Authority, and Loaves & Fishes.

SWAAD contract specialist, Alicia Sampath, is starting to pursue grant funding and will hopefully be able to spend 30 to 40% of her time on this task. SWAAD is seeking grant funding for Gatekeeper training, for emergency kits for homebound seniors, and for aging readiness.

Outcome 2010 Legislative Session/Review Advocacy Efforts

Klaus has summarized the discussion which took place during this meeting (and the Advocacy Committee meeting that followed). This summary could serve as the basis for future Advocacy Committee meeting agendas:

Our Message/Legislative Agenda

Both should be developed as early as possible. Family caregiver support as well as SCSA will probably be part of it. Everybody needs to be comfortable with the message and be able to explain/defend it. As part of this year's SCSA message we used local data and examples (clients). That has worked very well, and we need to continue providing local data and information supporting state-wide legislative issues.

Whom to share the message with

We (staff and appropriate Council members) met with legislators early on and repeatedly. This is successful and must continue.

Council members should track their legislators' activities and make sure they attend meetings, such as Town Halls. 2010 is an election year. Legislators and candidates will make public appearances, and Council members should be present. A list of questions could be developed regarding senior issues.

Senior Lobby Day has been successful: a majority of Council members participated, was articulate, and had local data/information to work with.

Council members should talk about senior issues/legislative agenda with other groups they are involved with (AARP, NARFE, church groups, civic organizations...) whenever appropriate. The message should be tailored to each group.

2009 Service Data Review

Klaus provided council members with a packet of data which was collected sent to the State and then forwarded to the Federal government. Klaus went through each document explaining their meaning.

The first report was the SWAAD Non-Medicaid Service Activity Report – 2009. Broken down by individual Counties the report provided the number of units provided for Adult Day Health, Aging Network Case Management, and Congregate Meals, Congregate and Home delivered Nutrition Clients at Nutritional Risk, Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. FCSP – Access and Support for each County individually reported Units of Service for contacts, sessions, and activities. Reports were further broken down providing the number of units utilized for each service in each County. Adult Day Care, Assessment and Coordination, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Respite In-Home, Supplemental Services, Home Delivered Meals, Information and Assistance, Kinship Navigators Program, Legal Services, Medication Management, Minor Home Repair, Ombudsman, Personal Care Services, Personal Emergency Response, Senior Drug Education Program, Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program, and Transportation. The SWAAD Medicaid Monthly Activity Report – 2009 Title XIX – Medicaid provides for each County indicated the number of clients served and hours utilized for Personal Care Services, Case Management/Nursing Services, Nursing Services Activity Report – AAA, Nursing Services Activity Report – DDD, Skilled Nursing, Home Delivered Meals, Adult Day Care, Transportation, Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies, Personal Emergency Response Systems and Environmental Modifications. One report provided per County the number of telephone calls received and made providing information and assistance, the number of SWAAD Materials distributed in English, Spanish and Russian. The number of people informed about Disease Prevention and Promotional Events. The number of Caregiver Support Groups is reported. The number of senior related radio shows, newspapers and magazine articles. This report estimates the number of individuals receiving information about the programs SWAAD offers. The last report, SWAAD Professional Training for Caregiver, Workers and IPs provided the type of training, number of clients and number of hours for January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.

State Council on Aging (SCOA)

Beth reported a significant amount of time was spent talking about Senior Lobby Day (February 18, 2010).

Meeting Wrap-up:

Karin Woll requested Klaus email us to jump start us with ideas and issues we should be addressing. (Klaus did this by providing a summary of the discussion of Advocacy Efforts and Ideas)

Adjourn:

Meeting was adjourned at 1:00p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by SWAADAC Secretary

Klaus Michael for Sandy Bacer
Signature

4/21/10
Date