



Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities of SW Washington
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 21, 2023

Location: Vancouver AAADSW Office and Via Zoom

The meeting was called to order by Chair Arnie Dyer at 12:03 p.m.

Roll Call: Arnie Dyer, JoAnne Baker, Colleen Bennett, Pearl Blackburn, Marianne Burkholder, Pat Cano, Kathy Briggs, Sue Cameron, Jodi Oliver

Excused: Diane Craft, Greg Flakus

Absent: Gavin Carmichael

Staff present: Mike Reardon, Christina Marnieris, Samantha Waldbauer, Karen Wolfe

Guest: Sandy Bacus

Agenda: Sue moved to approve the agenda for today's meeting; Kathy seconded. Motion passed.

Minutes: JoAnne moved to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2023, meeting. Kathy seconded. Motion passed.

Announcements/Community Outlook:

- Sue reported she has resigned from the Clark County Council on Aging due to her health concerns. The Aging Readiness Plan is going to be a great document. Sue feels good about it. She sees a lot of effect from AAADSW's work.
- Pat attended the Juneteenth celebrations at Esther Short Park on Monday. Pat plans to recruit for Advisory Council members in Skamania. Pat thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers for her dad. Pat is looking forward to the Area Plan survey results.
- Kathy is working on the Senior Prom, scheduled for August 5th, and would love to have AAADSW representation. Farmers market is going well in Cathlamet, Fridays from 3-6.
- JoAnne reported that Kelli Sweet retired from AAADSW in Longview. Her replacement, Breanne Swanson, is doing well and coordinating with Pam on the SHIBA resources.
- Colleen had her granddaughter visiting and now friends are visiting. Colleen conducts outreach while she is doing her FISH volunteer work. Colleen apologized for missing last month's meeting and is glad to be here.
- Marianne is also working on the Senior Prom – it is going well. This weekend is Puget Island Garage sale. The women's club is sorting donations at her house. Learning about all the AAADSW programs.
- Jodi is in Longview today subbing for a coworker. Needs to drop off at 1 p.m. She continues to share information on AAADSW and the Cowlitz office with her patients and their families.
- Pearl asked if the senior vouchers from farmers market are being distributed. She will be working at the Grays River Grange Farmers market on the second Saturday of the month. The Eagle printed all the Aging

Unbound submissions. Christina will scan and share it with the Council. The Eagle editor Rick Nelson passed away a couple weeks ago and there was a well-attended Celebration of Life for him. Pearl is also helping on the Senior Prom. Pearl will email Karen the details.

- Arnie reported Clark County Mens Shed had a great Cooking for One event at Clark College. Dick Halvorsen took photos. They got some coverage in the Senior Messenger for the July issue.
- Mike announced that his wife and daughter are back – their daughter was in Paris since January for college and his wife was over there for a month.
- Christina is taking some time off at the end of the month to see her sisters in Denver.

Getting to Know You: Arnie introduced Samantha Waldbauer, Case Management Services Manager for AAADSW. Sam introduced herself and her role at the Agency. Sam gave a presentation on the Healthy and Happy at Home program. The program is for Humana members that are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. Initially it was for clients that did not qualify for AAADSW's Care Coordination program. Essentially it takes what works well with the Care Coordination program and puts a Humana spin on it, with more flexibility. Sam shared what is included in the program. The Health Action Plan (HAP) is reviewed every 4 months as well as conducting a satisfaction survey. The program also offers transitional care from hospital to home. AAADSW works with community partners to refer clients to other resources. The Care Coordinators have developed a great resource library for their clients. The Humana care team are very invested to make sure their members are aware of all the benefits available to them. Eligibility is based on chronic conditions that qualify. The referrals are sent to AAADSW annually in January. In 2023 we received 1,300 referrals! They also give monthly updates. Currently Clark County has 114 members participating and Cowlitz has 10 members participating. The program is limited to Clark and Cowlitz for now.

Sam shared a great success story.

Pearl asked if Wahkiakum County is included. Sam thinks probably yes, but will confirm.

Arnie asked if the engagement rate is pretty normal. Sam reported the engagement rate is doing well considering it is a newer program. Some clients have shorter-term needs and then drop off.

Jodi asked how many staff were needed to get this Humana program up and running. There are three Humana Care Coordinators in Vancouver and one in Longview.

Jodi asked if the visits are in-person. Yes, in their homes or out in the community, depending on the client's preference.

Arnie asked if the program is paid for by Humana. Yes, and Sam added that Humana is constantly looking forward to the next year's rates.

Pearl asked if there is a limit to the number of clients. No, it just depends on our ability to staff the work. Humana pays per member per month.

Jodi asked if there is interest in going beyond Humana. Yes. We have looked at other plans and other potential partners. Each contract would be established individually.

Jodi noted that Kaiser has a similar internal program.

Arnie thanked Samantha for the presentation.

Reports:

Executive Director's Report – Mike wished everyone a happy First Day of Summer and Summer Solstice. Thanked everyone for their activities in their communities and all their efforts. This is one of the most involved Advisory Councils in their communities.

- Fall Senior conference is planned for October 18th and 19th in Tacoma. Location TBD. More to come. Historically we go up the night before and participate the full first day and leave around 3 p.m. on the 2nd day to head home.
- COG meeting on June 2nd. Nothing out of the ordinary. Arnie gave a great report on the Advisory Council.
- Last month Mike presented to Ripple Impact NW to inform potential philanthropists on the programs and services in the older adult arena in Clark County. Mike shared the need for affordable housing and also the

caregiver shortage. AAADSW would not be a potential recipient for funding from Ripple Impact NW. There were 3 local non-profits that did present.

- In July at the USAging conference Mike will be presenting on how we developed our Aging & Disability Resource (ADR) network; with quarterly meetings. Christina is working on the presentation with Mike. Kudos from Arnie for being invited to present.
- Area Plan updates – Public Hearings planned as follows: August 21 Klickitat County, White Salmon at 1:30 at the Senior Center; Clark County August 29 at AAADSW at 2 p.m.; Skamania on August 30 at Hegewald Center in Stevenson at 12:30; Wahkiakum and Cowlitz meetings TBD. Christina noted all the meetings are in August. Christina will be sending out an email with the complete schedule.
- Mike would love to attend the Senior Prom on August 5th but he will be in San Diego. Pearl and Kathy suggested he send a video.

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee met on June 6th and drafted the agenda for today. At the August meeting the Executive Committee will discuss holding their meetings quarterly rather than monthly.

Planning and Allocations: no report

Advocacy and Outreach: on hiatus until September

Membership Committee: Arnie heard from Melinda Zirkle in Skamania that she is interested and plans to attend our August meeting. Arnie sent her an application. Also heard from Jim Hayes in Skamania County, and Arnie invited him today. Still trying to reach him.

State Council on Aging (SCOA): no report

Caregiver Resources in Skamania County: Former Advisory Council member Sandy Bacus spoke about the current situation in Skamania County. Currently there is no access to home health services. No services for those in home and bed bound. No caregivers. A Case Manager interviewed Sandy and she was put on a waiting list. She and her husband are moving to Tigard, Oregon in order to access in-home services and equipment. Skamania needs help. In 2019 DSHS had developed a program to train high school seniors as caregivers and they are trying to put it in effect wherever they can. They want to support agencies. Sandy feels this should be a national program. It could help these students earn money to go to college. Sandy would like to forward the program info to Arnie. In 2019 the local High School principal in Stevenson was eager to put the program into place. Sandy thanked the Council for their time today and for the going away card and gift when she termed off the agency.

Mike noted that Sandy's email was forwarded to the Council. Mike added that the local home health provider in Skamania was not able to sustain their business. Christina reached out to some other home health agencies to explore their capacity to provide service. Mike has resumed discussions with DSHS and the Office of Public Instruction and the Superintendent in Stevenson to explore implementing the High School program. He is cautiously optimistic as there are some barriers to overcome.

Mike felt the conversation with Sandy was beneficial and wishes she didn't have to move to access services. Mike appreciates Sandy sharing her concerns and seeing how we can make the situation better. Please feel free to reach out to Mike or Christina if you want to speak one on one. Pearl noted at one point there had been some interest from the Wahkiakum High School about the caregiver training. Mike will reach out to the superintendent of schools in Wahkiakum, sharing the demographics, the need, and the business opportunity. Pearl will send Mike the contact information. She also suggested that it would be good to emphasize this to the COG. She will reach out to the superintendent. The Robotics program in Wahkiakum has been a success and she hopes another program could be beneficial to the community.

Arnie noted that Sandy did reach out to him directly. Sandy's situation is an extreme example of the crisis. Christina noted this will become more commonplace if workforce issues are not addressed. Mike added that he recently shared with our COG Chair this situation and experience with Sandy as being representative of what is going on in Skamania County. Mike felt that it was a fruitful conversation and seemed to resonate with the COG Chair. Arnie added that it is eye opening to folks living in rural communities about the benefits of living in a more urban setting.

Kathy asked if the high school program is similar to Running Start to get high school and college credits at the same time. Mike doesn't think so, its more of a vocational training program.

Aging Unbound & Senior Heroes: Christina thanked everyone for the contributions to the Aging Unbound presentation. it will be continued to be updated.

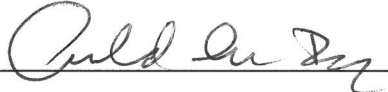
She reported that Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Senior Heroes Awards are in the works again for this year. If you know of someone to be nominated please reach out to Christina. It will be moved to a Fall event. More details to come. Mike added they will do the "prize patrol" presentations again this year, rather than a single event. Pearl reports she is happy to help.

Arnie noted that Clark County Senior Heroes is being held on July 12th. He is being recognized.

Good of the order: Arnie suggested the Council send a message of support to Sandy Bacus. Christina and her team will create something to send to her. Pearl hopes Sandy will follow up once they get settled. Christina will ask Sandy if she can share her new address with the Council.

Public Comment: none

Meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Signature  Date August 16, 2023

REMINDER: Next Meeting August 16, 2023, at AAADSW's Vancouver office and via Zoom; Committees 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (unless otherwise scheduled), lunch 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., full council meeting 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.