



*The Unified Voice for Older Adults in Yolo County*

## **Advocacy Committee**

### **MINUTES**

**Thursday, May 7, 2020, 10:00am – 12:00pm**

### **VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL**

**PRESENT:** Julie Bates (AARP), Marianne Boyer (Yolo Co. and Winters Aging Commissions), Seth Brunner (Yolo Co. Aging Commission), Saira Delgado (Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry office), Charlotte Dorsey (BBCAN/CA Sr. Legislator/AAA4 Advisory), Monique Gomez (YHAA intern), Lindsey Hall (Yolo Co. DA Elder Abuse Prevention), Anson Houghton (AAA4), Nia Jones (Congressman Matsui office), Elizabeth Lasensky (Davis Aging Commission), Lysette Marshman (Senator Bill Dodd’s office), Pam Miller (AAA4), Mary Schleeter (AAA4), Fran Smith (senior and consumer advocate, CARA rep.), Debra Palmer (Yolo Co. and Winters Aging Commissions), Patti Huston (YHAA Board), Kelly Trillo (Yolo Co. DA Elder Abuse Prevention Program), Aaron Lotta (Congressman Garamendi Office), Dana Carey (Yolo Co. Office of Emergency Services), Rhonda David (senior advocate), Nancy S.Zipse (senior advocate), Sheila Allen (Executive Director)

#### **1. Welcome, introductions and approval of agenda**

**2. Approval of the minutes of 4/2/20 MOTION:** Move approval by Debra Palmer, Fran Smith 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed unanimously.

#### **3. Status of Follow up items from 4/2/20**

- a. Send California Senior Legislator application-*opening has been filled.*
- b. Provide federal Older Americans Act legislation to YHAA Advocacy Leg. Committee for evaluation-*complete.*
- c. Investigate if legal to help other people complete census online while on the phone with senior.
- d. Send Aguiar-Curry office Phone Friends for Seniors press release-*complete*

#### **4. Update on Yolo County COVID-19 and Roadmap to Recovery (Dana Carey, Yolo County Office of Emergency Services)**

- There are 82 staff at emergency operations center. Yolo County has daily briefing and weekly Board of Supervisor meetings. In addition, information and directives are being released at the state level. Yolo Co. can move slower than state re-opening orders but would like to keep up as much as possible with “new normal”.
- “Great Plates Program” is a FEMA program for older adults who receive 3 meals a day from local restaurants. Eligibility requirements-cannot be eligible for any other federal program (e.g.: IHSS recipient, Meals on Wheels, CalFresh). Program is expensive: cost \$66 per day vs. \$8-10

Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance - The Voice for Older Adults in Yolo County

Supervisor Jim Provenza, Chair - Sheila Allen, Executive Director

600 A Street, Suite C, Davis, CA 95616 530-757-5583 [www.yolohealthyaging.org](http://www.yolohealthyaging.org)

per day for congregate or Meals on Wheels meals. Funding source is Federal CARES Act Funds. Currently no open program in Yolo although City of Woodland and county have expressed interest.

- OES and Health Dept. are working with businesses ready to open safely.
- Testing update: Test sites at Woodland Fairgrounds free with appointment through Optum Serve (not run by county). No need for MD order. 2 weeks in Woodland and then 2 weeks in West Sacramento. Not drive through-have to walk through stations. County is looking into creating rotating mobile testing. Mobile testing will likely take over after the Woodland and West Sac sites close. There are no federal funds for testing in Yolo through CARES Act because we didn't meet population threshold.
- For latest COVID information, plans, restrictions and data see county website:

<https://www.yolocounty.org/health-human-services/adults/communicable-disease-investigation-and-control/novel-coronavirus-2019>

## 5. Reports from elected officials' offices

- Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry** (Saira Delgado) Assembly is back in session but it looks very different. No rules change to allow remote voting. Committee hearings are in person. On Assembly website you can provide input via call and electronic comments. A new legislative calendar has been released and subcommittees are meeting. May 22 last day to hear budget, May 29 last day non budget items, June 15 budget deadline. June 15-19 going through bills.  
**FOLLOW UP:** Saira will send calendar. The assemblymember has significantly changed her legislative agenda. May carry over bills/issues into next year. Legislative priorities: COVID and fire prevention/response. AB2047 will be published tonight or tomorrow on Leginfo. Amended to focus on emergency response related to persons with Alzheimer's/dementia. No date scheduled for hearing.
- Assemblymember McCarty** (Sydney Whitesel) not present
- Senator Dodd** (Lysette Marshman) Senate will return on May 11. Dodd office went from 19 to 9 pieces of legislature. He will be asking for mental health funding for the whole district. Unlikely Yolo Adult Day Health Center facility funding request will move forward. Legislators will not be able to request funding for local asks. Any new expenditures will likely not be considered unless directly related to COVID. Dodd office will continue to seek opportunities for Yolo Adult Day Health Center funding. Have a (EDD) pandemic unemployment program for those that are not currently covered by usual unemployment. Paid for by CARES Act.
- Senator Pan** (update) not present
- Congressman Garamendi** (Aaron Lotta) Next round of federal coronavirus funding will be announced later today. Assist with nation to set up contact tracing to redirect Peace Corp and Americorp volunteers "Unite Act" HR6560. Congressman cosponsored FEMA "Great Plates" Program. Aaron will report to office regarding request to reconsider NO federal program recipients can participate as this greatly narrows those eligible. Garamendi's office is still open for constituent services. Funding for Adult Day Health-possibly in next CARES funding.  
**FOLLOW UP:** Will check if Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) funding is expiring
- Congresswoman Matsui** (Nia Jones) Aging and Family Act introduced on April 27 to protect older Americans during COVID. It will assure that older adults have health coverage, scam prevention, home health care workers have access to PPE and food security. Congresswoman Matsui is co-sponsor of HR6698 Safety and quality of care in congregate senior living homes.

## 6. Organizing and activities of YHAA Advocacy Legislative Subcommittee

Legislative Subcommittee met to organize themselves and discuss procedures. Each member was assigned to a legislator's office. Subcommittee will look more deeply at legislation and come to Advocacy Committee with reports and recommendations for discussion. Advocacy Committee will discuss and make a recommendation to YHAA Board of Directors who will vote on position and assure letters of support or opposition are written and sent.

**7. Report from YHAA Advocacy-Legislative Subcommittee** (Debra Palmer, chair, members: Elizabeth Lasensky, Nancy Schaezlein-Zipse, Charlotte Dorsey) Committee member provided overview of AB2047 (Aguiar-Curry) Alzheimer's Emergency Planning. Recommend a support position by YHAA. **MOTION:** Recommend support in concept AB 2047. Moved by Elizabeth Lasensky, Charlotte Dorsey 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed unanimously.

**8. YHAA Phone Friends for Seniors project update** (Sheila Allen) for information or to sign up as volunteer or to receive a call: <https://www.yolohealthyaging.org/phone-friend-forms> Con

Committee members reports: "it is therapy for me", great opportunity to address and find gaps in service.

**9. Update on 2020 Census – "Census Day" April 1**-online portal open until Aug. 15 (Sheila Allen) Some committee members report that the questions were intrusive.

**10. The Collaborative for Long Term Services** (Jon Sugarman) working on new scope of work and providing regular webinars for providers and the community. The Master Plan for Aging work is still on hold.

**11. Agency on Aging Area 4 update** (Pam Miller/Mary Schleeter) AAA4 is working with Yolo Co. HHSA, Sandra Sigrist and Nolan Sullivan to get meals into Yolo. There is no more waitlist for Meals on Wheels. Have cleared waitlist in all 7 counties. Some counties by direct service to persons. Using CARES Act funds to provide meals via restaurants. There are 50 people in motel program over the age of 65 being served. Continuing to work on Yolo Aging and Disability Resource Connection getting budget in this week and workplan almost done. **FOLLOW UP:** Check if Meals on Wheels is adding to the "Great Plates" restaurant meal program.

**12. Report from California Senior Legislature –** (C. Dorsey) 4 bills made it to be addressed in committee, e.g.: AB5 Cohabitants in Sr. Citizen Housing, SB13 Increase Medicare monthly maintenance amount \$35-\$80 per month

**13. Announcements and upcoming events**

- a. YHAA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fundraiser-**Rescheduled-Sunday, Oct. 4, 4pm-Virtual or In-Person**
- b. Senior Lobby Day at Capitol-CANCELLED
- c. SCAN Foundation – Fall Advocacy Day at Capitol- Oct. 21 (tentative)
- d. CARA (Fran Smith is YHAA representative) is having a District Lobby Day and reaching out to Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry's office for meeting.
- e. Today is the Big Day of Giving! Give online if you can for YHAA and other Yolo non-profits.
- f. May is Older American Month

**14. Future Agenda Items-Homeless Programs for older adults** **FOLLOW UP:** with Sandra Sigrist

**15. Next meeting date:** Thursday, June 4, 2020, 10am via Zoom