



The Unified Voice for Older Adults in Yolo County

Advocacy Committee

Purpose: To discuss and implement strategies consistent with the YHAA Strategic Plan that advance policies, programs and projects that promote the well-being of older adults in Yolo County

MINUTES

Thursday, June 4, 2020, 10:00am – 12:00pm

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

PRESENT: Julie Bates (AARP), Seth Brunner (Yolo Co. Aging Commission), Saira Delgado (Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry office), Charlotte Dorsey (BBCAN/CA Sr. Legislator/AAA4 Advisory), 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), Jon Sugarman (YHAA Board), Aaron Lotta (Congressman Garamendi Office), Nancy Schaezlein-Zipse (senior advocate), Dawn Myers (YHAA Board member/Yolo Adult Day Health Center), Elaine Roberts Musser (Yolo Commission on Aging), Sydnie Whitesel (Assemblymember McCarty's office), Christine Dicker (Partnership Healthplan), Valerie Olson (Yolo Co. Health Council), Kaelea Lucas (Resources for Independent Living), Sheila Allen (YHAA Executive Director)

- 1. Welcome, introductions and approval of agenda**
- 2. Approval of the minutes of 5/7/20 MOTION:** Move approval as written. Moved by Elizabeth Lasensky, Julie Bates 2nd, passed unanimously.
- 3. Status of Follow up items from 5/7/20**
 - a. Saira Delgado will send updated Assembly legislative calendar-*done*.
 - b. Aaron Lotta will check on expiration of FQHC-*done-deadline was extended*.
 - c. Is Meals on Wheels or anyone in Yolo Co. doing Great Plates program? *MOW is not but Yolo County started program 5/26/20. Runs through June 10.*
- 4. Proposed Elimination of Community Based Adult Services (CBAS)/Adult Day Health Care (ADHC)** (Dawn Myers) Both the Senate and Assembly voted on budget and forwarded to governor and did not include this elimination in the budget. Advocacy needs to focus to the governor now. Dept. Health Care Services (DHCS) is still moving forward with Long Term Care at Home MediCal new

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

benefit proposal. **FOLLOW UP:** Send thank yous to Aguiar-Curry, Pan and Dodd for their support of CBAS and senior services. **FOLLOW UP:** send out the link to the advocate to governor.

Yolo ADHC planning for soft reopening with social distancing in early July. Caregivers are starting to go back to work and need the support and respite. Suggestion from committee for ADHC to document what physical decline happened during the closure to show importance of ADHC services.

5. Review of additional proposed cuts to LTSS

The following were proposed by the governor in the May Revise and rejected by both houses before forwarding to governor for his signature:

- a. Multi-purpose Senior Service Program (MSSP)-elimination
- b. In-Home Supportive Services (IHHS) – 7% cut to identify service need
- c. SSI/SSP – sweeping up (state taking) federal cost of living
- d. Caregiver Resource Programs 65% cut
- e. Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) cuts \$3 million
- f. \$8 million nutrition programs
- g. Optometry, diabetes education, estate recovery, incontinence supplies

Legislative budget fix included use of state rainy day funds and federal COVID funding and not cutting the programs and services and then reinstate if federal funds arrived.

6. Reports from elected officials' offices

- a. Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry (Saira Delgado) Assemblymember signed onto a letter with many others in support of not eliminated and cutting senior programs. Assembly budget committee rejected the cuts. Now negotiating with governor until June 15. CBAS is a priority for Assemblymember. Alzheimer's legislation AB2047 got out of committee. June 19 is house of origin deadline. July 13 summer recess ends. **FOLLOW UP:** resend letter of support to Senate side. Maintaining office hours with social distancing, available by phone only.
- b. Assemblymember McCarty (Sydney Whitesel) Budget meeting today. Budget blue print will be coming out. Tomorrow town hall with West Sacramento Mayor Cabaldon.
- c. Senator Dodd (Lysette Marshman) Glad that his office received letter of support for CBAS. Senator Dodd is in opposition to the proposed elimination of CBAS.
- d. Senator Pan – need new representative.
- e. Congressman Garamendi (Aaron Lotta) Congressman is confident that part of the HERO Act funding will become available for state funding purposes. Signed onto Paycheck Protection Program update (changes to make more flexible for small businesses including non-profits). Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) funding is extended to November. Policy team knows that we are interested in this issue and they will provide updates on this issue.
- f. Congresswoman Matsui (Nia Jones) Congresswoman working on task force on aging, and also Coronavirus. Provided information to Legislative Subcommittee on HR 6698 (Matsui) Quality Care for Nursing Home Residents during COVID-19 Act of 2020.

7. Report from YHAA Advocacy-Legislative Subcommittee (Debra Palmer, chair, members: Elizabeth Lasensky, Nancy Schaezlein-Zipse, Charlotte Dorsey) Presented initial information on HR 6698 (Matsui). Will have recommendation for support next month. AB 2047 (Aguiar-Curry) Emergency Services: Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia. We are in support and have sent a letter. Will present Bill Tracker at next meeting and then post to website for following legislation that we are tracking.

8. **The California Collaborative for Long Term Services (CCLTSS)** (Jon Sugarman) Participation in committee is good with broad representation from services throughout California. Would like to build on advocacy momentum and more unified messages from the LTSS community. Looking for strategic input from member groups. For advocacy efforts will to begin to send out Action Alerts.
9. **Agency on Aging Area 4 update** (Pam Miller/Mary Schleeter) working remotely and providing many meals throughout the region, especially Sacramento County where they are receiving meal referral from Adult Protective Services. **FOLLOW UP:** see if we can have similar referrals in Yolo Co. Great Plates program in Yolo Co. had a very high rejection rate. Only 40-some persons being served of over 1000 that were screened. AAA4 assisting with Dine at Home Sacramento-local in just Sac City and locally funded, rolling out mid-June.
10. **Report from California Senior Legislature** – (C. Dorsey) No state meeting this year. SF Bay Area and San Diego caucus strong so now creating a Northern California caucus-1 meeting via zoom so far.
11. **Report from California Association of Retired Americans (CARA)** (Fran Smith) Legislation Action Day in district offices-reached out to Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry talked with her regarding funding for people just above federal poverty level. Next issue is getting out the senior vote.
12. **YHAA report on current projects:** (Sheila Allen)
 - a. **Phone Friends for Seniors** for information or to sign up as volunteer or to receive a call: [https://www.yolohealthyaging.org/phone-friend-forms Con](https://www.yolohealthyaging.org/phone-friend-forms-Con)
Continuing the Program long term makes sense. Consensus that this program should continue going forward.
 - b. **Update on 2020 Census**-online portal open until Aug. 15. Doing social media and online outreach and through Phone Friends Program.
 - c. **Yolo Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)** Funding available for our “emerging ADRC” for next year and half. Partners are AAA4, Resources for Independent Living and YHAA.
 - d. **Healthy Parks-Healthy People**-In collaboration with Cache Creek Conservancy and Putah Creek Council education public and health care providers on the positive health impact of getting out in nature. Creating prescription pad of parks. Suggested to include dog parks and county parks in resources provided.
 - e. **2020-21 Yolo Senior Resource Guide**-research on updates completed by YHAA interns. Now being formatted for website. Will then create printed version. Sharing all these resources with 211.
 - f. **Expansion of Yolo Adult Day Health Center**-focus this month has been on saving funding for CBAS. Continue to work to find space and funding to expand this program.
13. **Announcements and upcoming events**
 - a. YHAA 10th 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. League of Women (Debra Palmer) Voters started a new chapter to educate voters-Health Care Forum-child health, adult health, public health-Virtual June 24, 6:30pm. Access and Affordability in Yolo County. Sheila Allen is panelist representing older adult services.
 - e. Emergency Preparedness- County Staff response presented to BOS. Health Care Preparedness Coalition-there is a supply chain issue for PPE.

14. Future Agenda Items:

- a. Food insecurity for seniors- Great Plates Program 1200 screened and 42 people qualified**
- b. Homeless Programs for Older Adults (Sandra Sigrist)**

15. Next meeting date: Thursday, July 2, 2020, 10am-noon via Zoom