

**Joint
Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC)
and
Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC)
Meeting
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 2, 2017**

SSAC Members Present: Bob Daley, Chair; Catherine Skiens, Vice Chair; Commissioner Bill Hall, Lincoln County; Suzanne Lazaro; Doris Lamb; Saleem Noorani; Curtis Miller; Carolyn Mendez-Luck; Lee Strandberg; Mark McNabb; Dani Marlow; Robynn Pease; and Janet Shinner.

DSAC Members Present: Jan Molnar-Fitzgerald, Chair; Mike Volpe, Vice Chair; Lee Lazaro; Pete Rickey; Suzanne Brean; and Edythe James.

ADRC Members Present: Sandy Potter and Jasper Smith.

Guests: Mitzi Naucler; Carolyn Fry; Cathy Savage; Pat Shirley; Marilyn Winter; Anita Thompson; Joseph Lowe, Roxy Tolura; Marie Laper; and Kath Schonau.

Members Absent: Anne Brett; Bill Turner; Suzette Boydston; Jann Glenn; and Rusty Burton.

Staff: Senior and Disability Services (SDS) Program Manager Randi Moore; SDS Program Supervisor Ann Johnson; SDS Community and Program Support Coordinator Lisa Bennett; SDS Health Systems Transformation Liaison Sarah Ballini-Ross; and SDS Administrative Assistant Terri Sharpe.

1. Welcome, Introductions, Additions to the Agenda (Bob Daley, SSAC Chair):

Chair Bob Daley called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm. Introductions were made, including guests.

2. Approval of Minutes:

ACTION: Motion to approve the March 7, 2017 SSAC/DSAC Joint meeting minutes made by Lee Lazaro, seconded by Suzanne Lazaro. Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Motion to approve the April 4, 2017 SSAC/DSAC Joint meeting minutes made by Lee Lazaro, seconded by Suzanne Lazaro. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Issues and Advocacy Committee Report (Suzanne Lazaro, Issues and Advocacy Committee Co-Chair):

- Issues and Advocacy Committee (I&AC) Co-Chairs Mike Volpe and Suzanne Lazaro wrote testimonial letters to the Ways and Means Committee from the perspectives of receiver of in-home care services and of Occupational Therapist in long-term care facilities (samples of the letters were passed around). The I&AC Co-Chairs Volpe and Lazaro emphasized the importance of advocating whether it be through a letter or an email, or going to the Capitol and testifying. It is important to advocate as an individual, and not as a SSAC or DSAC member. Contact information on State and local Legislators can be found on their website.
- I&AC Co-Chair Lazaro drafted a letter, from both I&AC Co-Chairs, to Representative Greg Walden on the impact of proposed cuts to non-defense discretionary spending and the affect it will have to rural areas. The draft letter is in the review process.
- House Bill 2004, if passed, would change the 30-day no-cause eviction to only allowing a no-cause eviction to be given within six months of tenancy. Also, it would change the 30-day notice to raise rent to a three months' notice of raising rent and limiting rent increases to once a year.

- I&AC Co-Chair Volpe met with Representative Dan Rayfield who is the Co-Chair of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services. I&AC Co-Chair Volpe has great respect for Representative Rayfield and found him to be interested and friendly to all the services SDS provides. With the 1.6-billion-dollar deficit there will not be any decisions made until the end concerning the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) budget items for SDS. The Legislature is working on the tax reform bill that will lower the 1.6-billion-dollar deficit.
- The portfolio of six of SDS's clients' profiles are ready to be signed and used when advocating.
- Oregon Project Independence (OPI) funding is being cut by 50% which will be devastating to the program. Everyone is encouraged to call their local Legislators as individual citizens and advocate for OPI, as well as for Medicaid consumers, in keeping the services they receive.

Saleem Noorani suggested having access to the profiles (in electronic format) when AARP is advocating for OPI at the Capitol. SDS Program Support Coordinator Bennett will send copy to Mr. Noorani for his use.

SDS Program Support Coordinator Bennett emphasized that now is the time to advocate regarding issues that are important to members. DHS's Aging People with Disabilities (APD), which SDS gets funding through, are looking at making cuts. The Legislature has directed APD to start looking at cost reductions. The I&AC has come up with three priorities: preserving and protecting OPI; preserving and protecting the current Medicaid system; and the reassessment of consumers which will affect their eligibility of services and their place of living status. SDS Program Support Coordinator Bennett stressed the importance in advocating now, and regardless of whether one is a constituent of Representative Rayfield, they should reach out to him because of the key role he plays in the Ways and Means Committee. He needs to hear from people.

- The next I&AC meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 9th from 1:30 – 3:00 pm. Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities (O4AD) put out a one-page reference of OPI talking points that will be handed out at the next I&AC meeting as well as sent electronically to everyone.
- Upcoming O4AD events:
 - May 16, 2017 - O4AD Quarterly meeting in Salem. Today is last day to register and anyone interested in going should let Ann Johnson know.
 - May 17, 2017 - O4AD Day at the Capitol which includes Legislative updates, lunch, Senate and House floor sessions, and meetings with Legislators. There are still openings and anyone who is interested should let SDS Program Support Coordinator Bennett know and she will set up meetings for them with their Legislators. The meetings are only five to fifteen minutes long, and she'll be there to attend with them. I&AC Co-Chair Volpe reminded everyone the importance of the profiles as an advocating tool and feels the Legislators will take them seriously. The I&AC hopes to keep adding to the profiles and sharing them with other Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) to bring more momentum across the state.

4. Health Systems Transformation (Sarah Ballini-Ross, SDS Health Systems Transformation Liaison):

SDS Health Systems Transformation Liaison Sarah Ballini-Ross gave an overview on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Long-Term Services and Supports between InterCommunity Health Network CCO and Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments' (OCWCOG) Senior and Disability Services. The MOU is required by the Oregon Health Authority, which contracts with the Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs). The CCOs were developed to deliver the physical health, mental health, and dental services to Oregon Health Plan recipients across our Region. Locally, InterCommunity Health Network (IHN) covers Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties. When the States were developing CCOs, the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services originally wanted to include Title 19 Medicaid services, which is our Long-Term Services and Supports, in with CCOs. The State of

Oregon made a push to let them continue to provide Long-Term Services and Supports as they have been to which they were granted the go ahead as long as they could demonstrate how the agencies are working together. The MOU is one of the mechanisms the State of Oregon uses to deliver that expectation.

Three domains, in this current MOU, are:

- 1) Interdisciplinary Care Teams (ICT) – how the agencies work together on an individual level to help coordinate care for their shared members. IHN and SDS meet monthly to monitor the MOU and keep track of their progress and build on the relationship. Currently, two Interdisciplinary Care Team meetings are held per month. One for consumers in the Linn and Benton County area and the second for consumers in the Lincoln County area. This year, they designed the MOU to engage their mental health partners which has resulted in a strong mental health partnership.
- 2) Traditional Care Practices - when a consumer is leaving the hospital and going into a skilled nursing facility, and when they are leaving the skilled nursing facility and transferring to any type of community based care. This Domain has been harder to achieve this year due to staffing and reorganization with the CCO. It will be included in next year's MOU.
- 3) Member Engagement and Preference – care meetings need to be person centered with the consumer directing the care. There are checks and balances to ensure this such as requiring the consumer to be contacted before and after the ICT.

This MOU is valid through June 30, 2017. The State has not issued guidance for next year's MOU, but they have issued a statement that it will remain mostly the same for next year without any significant changes.

SDS Health Systems Transformation Liaison Ballini-Ross asked the Councils for input on any areas they would like to see covered.

SDS Health Systems Transformation Liaison Ballini-Ross said one of the biggest challenges this year has been the actual selection of members. Many of the ICT meetings this year have been canceled due to no members being selected. Unfortunately, none of their systems have a good way of identifying people. Pat Shirley, Mental Health worker, will work with SDS Health Systems Transformation Liaison Ballini-Ross to identify better case flow on who to be selected. Lee Strandberg also offered to send a copy of what he wrote in risk indexing.

SDS Health Systems Transformation Liaison Ballini-Ross said funding for her position, and like positions, such as Long-Term Services and Supports Innovator Agents, will not be continuing past June 30, 2017. Support will be needed to see that the MOU is followed through to ensure forward progress.

Many Council members voiced concern with the loss of SDS Health Systems Transformation Liaison Ballini-Ross and the knowledge she brings to the table in regard to the CCOs. It was questioned whether another agency could support her role, such as Mental Health.

5. Changes to Home and Community-Based Services (Randi Moore, SDS Program Manager):

SDS Program Manager Randi Moore gave an overview to the Councils on changes in how facilities will serve the consumer. The Home and Community Based Services Waiver provides services to consumers in facilities. In 2014, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) decided they needed to change the way the waiver was functioning. The hope was, over time, more choices and independence would be available to those receiving services to increase their quality of life. For example; having access to food when desired, lock on doors, visitors anytime you want, etc. However, this can create challenges and problems in implementing this plan in certain facilities. In 2014, when CMS changed the waiver, the plan was to have, by the Spring of 2016, any new facilities that come into SDS services operating within the new guidelines and existing facilities being grandfathered in by July 2017. CMS and the Administration for Community Living (ACL) have pushed this date back giving more time for facilities to implement the changes.

SDS is supportive of the changes and hope they can make the transitions for facility providers work for everyone. There is concern with the safety of the consumer and allowing them to have their rights, but there is a place in the consumer's care plan for limitations. However, there must be a guardian's signature for any limitations and, unfortunately a lot of consumers do not have guardians and having one appointed by the State can be challenging.

The changes are coming and finding the balance between consumer choices and consumer safety will be a challenge.

6. ADRC – What is it? (Randi Moore, SDS Program Manager):

SDS Program Manager Moore gave a brief review of what the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) is and what they do. The ADRC is a call center, not an entity but rather a process, that anyone can phone in for information on services, resources, and supports for seniors or people with disabilities. They can be referred for assistance either within OCWCOG or other partnering agencies. All agencies work to provide the consumer with the services they need. SDS Program Manager Moore will provide brochures at the June 6, 2017 meeting.

7. Old Business – Education for Consumers Regarding Abuse Recognition:

Tabled to a future meeting.

8. Announcements:

SDS Program Manager Moore shared what was happening in regard to management at OCWCOG. In the past, there have been three SDS Program Managers and a SDS Director. The SDS Director and one SDS Program Manager have left OCWCOG and SDS Program Manager Mary Kay Fitzmorris will be retiring in the near future leaving SDS Program Manager Moore as the only Manager. OCWCOG decided to hire Jennifer Moore as a Community Programs Manager to handle grant writing and fundraising. SDS Program Manager Randi Moore will continue to be in charge of the Medicaid focus. OCWCOG has decided to hold off on hiring a SDS Director until they see what is going on with the State's budget. The Toledo office currently has one supervisor with plans on hiring a second which SDS Program Managers Randi Moore and Jennifer Moore will oversee.

SDS Program Manager Randi Moore shared that in regard to the qualifying eligibility changes for services, the State has put it on hold while they develop a transition plan with financial support for people who need transitioned out of facilities.

May is Older Americans Month with the theme *Aging Out Loud*. There are a couple of proclamations happening throughout the community.

SDS Program Manager Randi Moore shared that there was an article published by the *Oregonian* on abuse in facilities statewide. Below are the links to the articles.

http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2017/04/elder_abuse_and_poor_care_the.html

http://www.oregonlive.com/health/index.ssf/page/elder_abuse_and_neglect_in_oregon_nursing_homes.html

http://www.oregonlive.com/health/index.ssf/2017/04/ombudsman_praises_kept_in_the.html

SDS Community and Program Support Coordinator Bennett announced Access Benton County (ABC) is having a guest speaker from OHSU's Office of Disability of Health talking on the subject of awareness of physical access. ABC's meeting will take place on May 22, 2017 from 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm at the Corvallis Senior Center. SDS Community and Program Support Coordinator Bennett will send out information on the meeting. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come.

Ms. Brean announced her Canine Emergency Response Buttons are on the market. They can be ordered directly from her website and soon from Amazon.

Carolyn Mendez-Luck announced the Annual Nursing Facilities Report that she works on for the Department of Human Services should be available in June. She will let everyone know when it's available how to access it.

Catherine Skeins announced that May is Mental Health Awareness Month.

Ms. Lazaro knows someone who is a senior and a parent of an adult child with suicidal tendencies and thinks she would be a great addition to the Advisory Council and would like to invite her to a meeting.

OCWCOG Executive Director Fred Abousleman announced they just proclaimed May as Older Americans Month in Benton County and will do the same in Lincoln County later in the month. He is excited about the new hire of SDS Program Manager Jennifer Moore and building the capacity the OCWCOG team. OCWCOG will be asking all the Rotary clubs in the three counties to support Mr. Strandberg's effort with OCWCOG to support Senior Meals and make it a signature yearlong effort. There is a \$250,000 goal to raise money for the gap in *Meals on Wheels*. Congress has the budget until September and they have not seen any Medicaid cuts. All programs are still here until September.

9. Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 2, 2017.