

GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL (GAC)
ON SERVICES FOR AGING AND ADULTS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES
Julie H.C. Bailey Training Center
Smyrna, Delaware
March 5, 2013
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

PRESENT: Patsy Bennett-Brown (Co-Chair), Bob Brown (Chair), Ernest Cole, Carolyn Fredricks, Bonnie Hitch, Suzanne Howell, Katie Macklin, Mary Ann Miller, LaVaida Owens-White, William Payne, Lee Perkins, Jim Young

EXCUSED: Milton Daves, Evelyn Hayes, Karen Lloyd, Linda Smith, Debra Veenema, Barbara Willis

VACANT SEATS: 1) Aging Public / Non-Profit Sussex; 2) Consumer - Disabled Kent; 3) Consumer - Disabled At-Large; and, 4) Consumer - Disabled At-Large.

DSAAPD (Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities) Staff Present: Bill Love, Director; Cindi Powell, Administrative Specialist III; Denise Weeks-Tappan, Planning Supervisor

GUESTS: Jackie Finer and Carol Wzorek, Greater Lewes Community Village; Karen McGloughlin, Office of Women's Health, Division of Public Health

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review of Minutes: December 6, 2012
- III. Overview of the Implementation of the State Plan on Aging
- IV. Greater Lewes Community Village
- V. Joint Finance Committee (JFC) Overview
- VI. Draft Letter to Legislators
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Roundtable
- X. Next Meeting: April 2, 2013
- XI. Adjourn

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by B. Brown, GAC Chair.

II. Review of Minutes

The December minutes were accepted as written.

III. Overview of the Implementation of the State Plan on Aging

Denise Weeks-Tappan presented an overview of the State Plan on Aging Implementation Tracking Tool. Overviews will be provided to the GAC every six months.

Each DSAAPD Leadership Team member has been assigned as a champion for the State Plan objectives. A tracking tool has been created by breaking down the objectives into strategies in order to facilitate the implementation of the goal.

A document reflecting the progress made on each goal, objective and strategy will be distributed to the GAC when it is completed by DSAAPD.

IV. Greater Lewes Community Village

Jackie Finer (President) and Carol Wzorek (Co-President) presented an overview of the Greater Lewes Community Village (GLCV) initiative. The Village is a volunteer-driven, non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of residents 50+ years of age in the Lewes area. GLCV provides support, services, and programs that make it possible for its members to live independently and safely in their homes as they grow older, while also helping them remain engaged in the variety of social and cultural activities available in the community. The GLCV is hoping to go public in April, and their anticipated 'go live' date is November 2013.

Please see the attached GLCV information sheet for further details on their goals, accomplishments to date, and current tasks, or refer to the below website link.

www.GreaterLewesCommunityVillage.org

V. Joint Finance Committee (JFC) Overview

B. Love presented an overview of the FY2014 JFC Hearings held on February 21, 2013. Points noted to the JFC included expanding access and use of the ADRC, enhancing services to effectively meet the needs of Delaware's growing population, increasing efficiency in service delivery, reducing the reliance on State LTC facilities, addressing current economic insecurity among services, and the Governor's Recommended Budget for the home-delivered meals program.

Please refer to the attached DSAAPD JFC presentation for details.

B. Love informed the Council about a program called \$tand By Me®. The program was created to provide Delawareans with a Personal Financial Coach and a toolkit to navigate the challenges leading to personal financial security. The program goal is to increase the capacity of Delawareans to understand and manage their finances in order to increase their financial stability and future economic opportunities. The program is also being tailored towards seniors with the development of \$tand By Me 50+®. Please refer to the below link for more information.

<http://standbymede.org/>

VI. Draft Letter to Legislators

A draft letter introducing the GAC to all State legislators was reviewed by the Council.

J. Young suggested a few minor edits. The final letter will be signed by the GAC Chair and Co-Chair, and sent via email to all of the Delaware State Senators and Representatives.

The letter's intent is to raise public awareness of and obtain public support for programs supporting older Delawareans and adults with physical disabilities. The letter will also include a list of the names of the GAC Members.

VII. Old Business

In the December minutes, it was noted under *New Business* that a referral list of doctors and specialists in the State who provide services specifically designed for a person with a disability should be compiled as a reference point.

C. Powell noted that C. Barnett (DSAAPD) is working with the Center for Disabilities Studies to see if the establishment of such a referral list can be created. This item is noted for follow-up.

VIII. New Business

B. Love informed the Council that the Federal 5% funding cuts have gone into effect. The Division will use Federal funds carried over from prior fiscal years to mitigate the impact this year. DSAAPD projects a more serious impact if the cuts continue into FY2014 and will result in large waiting lists for services.

B. Payne advised the Council of a free, user-generated accessibility rating site called **I Can't Get In!** Now, differently-abled people, their families and friends can post reviews about the accessibility of any public location in the US, which means that people can easily know — before they go — whether a location will meet their basic accessibility needs.

Please refer to the below link for more information.

http://icantgetin.com/?_r=1

IX. Roundtable

L. Perkins: Thank you for a good meeting, and welcomed the information on the State Plan and the draft letter to the legislators.

E. Cole: Reported there will be a 1.5% cut to the Center for Independent Living (CIL) next year, which may affect the program. Welcomed the information regarding the Stand By Me® program, and thanked DSAAPDs ADRC for providing a three-day training for their staff on option counseling.

K. Macklin: Informed the Council that *Alzheimer's Day on the Hill* will be held on April 24th. Advocates will travel to Washington DC to meet with members of Congress regarding this important issue. For those who would like to attend, a bus is scheduled to depart from Christiana Mall at 6:15 am on April 24th. It was also noted that several town hall meetings will be scheduled for review of the State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease.

K. McGloughlin: Introduced herself to the Council [Director of the Office of Women's Health in the Division of Public Health under the Office of Health Equity.] The office is reaching out to all agencies in the State in order to bring services together for persons who have been identified with personal needs, and is looking forward to working with DSAAPD.

M. Miller: Reports that she is continuing her work with the Congo Hour TV show.

S. Howell: Thank you for a good meeting, and welcomed the information presented. Ms. Howell noted that some local restaurants provide Braille menus.

P. Bennett-Brown: Noted that there is also an Advisory Committee on Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County. Ms. Brown is working with this Committee who are looking to form a coalition and perhaps planning a conference for 2014. The Committee meets every third Monday of the month at the Sussex County Administrative Office - West Complex, 22215 DuPont Boulevard, Georgetown, DE 19947.

B. Hitch: On March 10th, Ms. Hitch will be helping to facilitate a subcommittee in Washington, DC on "Older Adults Transportation", and will report back to the GAC at the April meeting. In addition, DART is in the process of developing a new travel training program for persons with disabilities. The training begins in a classroom setting, and then to the use of an offsite vehicle where the individuals practice using the bus. The program will also be offered to senior centers and schools where children are transitioning to the use of public transportation.

J. Young: Thank you for a good meeting and it is good to see how much DSAAPD is doing.

X. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 2, 2013** at the Julie H.C. Bailey Training Center* in Smyrna from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

XI. Adjournment

B. Brown adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm.

BL/cmp
Respectfully submitted 3.15.2013

***Health and Wellness Center (Entrance C)**

Alzheimer's Association
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