



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

SOCIAL, HEALTH & ALZHEIMER'S COMMITTEE (SHAC)

Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2010

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Executive Tower, Grand Canyon Room

1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Council Members, Liaisons, and Participants Present

Kati Bates, Charles Brown, , George Evanoff, Bernadine Hoffman (Chair), Noreen Nickerson-Cruz, Joe Woods, Larry Woods, David Besst, Jay Crosby, Ginger Froncek, Cathy Griner, Elizabeth Harris, Steve Laughary, Michele Michaels, Deborah Schaus, Diana Toussaint, Emma Violante, Joan Zecherle

Council Members Absent

Dana Campbell Saylor, Joyce Finkelstein, Simone Kelsh, and Karen Zanzucchi

Council Staff Present

Cathy De Lisa

Guests Present and Signing In

Lou Annacone, Julia Wacloff

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions & Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Bernadine Hoffman called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. A welcome and introduction period followed. Draft minutes from the July 8, 2010 Social, Health and Alzheimer's Committee (SHAC) meeting were reviewed. *Noreen Nickerson-Cruz made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Larry Woods seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Follow-Up to July SHAC Meeting

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reported that the Oral Health Sub-Committee did meet on September 9, 2010 as a follow-up to the July 2010 SHAC meeting and that Deborah Schaus had agreed to provide an update at today's meeting related to the Alzheimer's Priority Plan Statewide Task Force as requested at the July 2010 SHAC Meeting.

Update

Hearing Loss Initiative – Michele Michaels of the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing provided a report on the distribution of the *Fast Facts* and *Fast Resources on Hearing Loss* resource sheets developed in conjunction with the Advisory Council on Aging since the July meeting. Ms. Michaels pointed out that more than 300,000 seniors in Arizona have hearing loss, and stated those individuals find their socialization and health impacted by hearing loss.

The resource sheets are posted under Helpful Resource Links at the Governor's Office on Aging website: www.azgovernor.gov/aging/; physical copies are available for review through the Advisory Council on Aging's office.

Arizona Caregiver Coalition

David Best of the DES/Division of Aging and Adult Services updated the group on the Arizona Caregiver Coalition stating that a Call to Action is underway as follow up to development of the Coalition's mission and structure at the Governor's Conference on Aging in 2008. The Coalition intends to create an Advisory Board, finalize a Memorandum of understanding with DES/Division of Aging and Adult Services, and examine the possibility of becoming a non-profit. Other intended actions include partnering with the Foundation for Senior Living, establishing a statewide hotline, conducting an awareness campaign, working with the Alzheimer's Priority Plan, and coordinating with Arizona SERVES to ensure faith-based organizations are a part of the Coalition's work as well.

Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition

Cathy De Lisa, Diana Toussaint, and Bernadine Hoffman, SHAC Chair provided an overview of the Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition's celebration of National Fall Prevention Day - an event held on Wednesday, September 22, 2010 at Banner Good Samaritan Medical Center. All three teams representing major aspects of fall prevention (physical activity, medication management, and home modification) provided displays and resources for those in attendance. Committee members reporting stated they felt it was a well-organized, informative and successful event. The Area Agency on Aging, Region One also coordinated development of a physical activity video which was posted to the Coalition's website in advance of the celebration allowing seniors and adults of all ages with an opportunity to participate at home or in a congregate setting. That video is available for review on the Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition website: www.azstopfalls.org.

Update on Alzheimer's Priority Plan Statewide Task Force and Alzheimer's Research

Deborah Schaus of the Alzheimer's Association provided an update on efforts to staff the Alzheimer's Priority Plan Statewide Task Force. While accomplishment of this goal has been delayed due to funding, it is anticipated that a solution will result from a partnership with DES/Division of Aging and Adults Services. Ms. Schaus also provided recent statistics on the prevalence of Alzheimer's disease in our state: 100,000 individuals in our state have Alzheimer's; one of eight by 65 years of age and one half of those 85 years of age and older. She discussed a recent *New York Times* article "Years Later, No Magic Bullet Against Alzheimer's Disease" that outlined the need for longitudinal research to determine best preventive measures. According to Ms. Schaus, Wednesday, September 22, 2010 was also World Alzheimer's Day and she circulated information from the *Executive Summary of the World Alzheimer's Report 2010*. Statistics discussed included the worldwide cost of dementia which totaled \$604 billion in 2010, the doubling of the international population with Alzheimer's in 10 years, and the cost of dementia care's ranking as the 18th largest economy in the world.

A copy of the "Years Later, No Magic Bullet Against Alzheimer's Disease" article and the *Executive Summary of the World Alzheimer's Report 2010* are available for review at the Council on Aging office.

Oral Health Sub-Committee Report and Recommendation of Oral Health Fact Sheet

Emma Violante of the Dental Hygienist's Association and Ginger Froncek, Executive Director of the Arizona Dental Foundation provided a report back to SHAC on behalf of the Sub-Committee Co-Chair, Dr. Birdwell. Ms. Violante reiterated the importance of oral health to overall health and shared the Committee's concern for the lack of or limited dental coverage in programs such as Medicare, Medicaid or Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). Ms. Violante outlined accomplishments of the group to date highlighting the Oral Health Fact Sheet and updating of the Reduced Fee and AHCCCS Dental Clinic resource list. She reviewed those partners actively involved in the Oral Health Three-Year Work Plan and stated the Sub-Committee hopes to engage additional partners following planned outreach. Ginger Froncek circulated a draft survey that the Arizona Dental Foundation will use in outreach efforts to solicit input from dental and hygiene schools, medical, nursing, physician assistant and nurse practitioner programs about community education or services provided by students and/or the potential for services to be provided by students. Ms. Froncek also shared her intent to capture funding sources to help provide students with a toolkit for use in providing oral health training targeting older adults and adults of all ages with disabilities and their caregivers. *Cathy De Lisa read the motion carried forward from the Oral Health Sub-Committee "to adopt the Oral Health Fact Sheet – Healthy Smiles Forever - as revised and presented to SHAC." David Besst seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.*

A copy of the Oral Health Fact Sheet – Healthy Smiles Forever, Reduced Fee and AHCCCS Dental Clinics resource list, and the draft survey are available for review through the Council on Aging office.

SHAC Input for the 2010 Planning Meeting

Following discussion, Committee input for the Council on Aging 2010 Planning Meeting included: diet and nutrition for seniors, gaps in service (hospice), regulation of caregiver agencies, how best to educate and market information from various SHAC initiatives (caregiver, fall prevention, hearing loss, and oral health), ways to support the Alzheimer's Priority Plan Task Force efforts, options counseling update, direct care workforce update, diversity and aging, and discussions on the impact of hoarding by older adults.

Announcements

Committee Chair, Bernadine Hoffman reminded those in attendance of events hosted by local police (and fire departments) offering safe disposal of medication during September and suggested checking with local departments for more information. Deborah Schaus encouraged the group to remember the Memory Walk events occurring in various parts of the state as posted at the Desert Southwest Chapter's website: <http://www.alz.org/dsw/>. Ms. Schaus stated the events help raise awareness and support in the fight against the disease.

Adjournment

Committee Chair Bernadine Hoffman adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee will be November 4, 2010. Location to be determined and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website, www.azgovernor.gov/gaca .