



## GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

### AGING IN COMMUNITY COMMITTEE (AICC)

#### MEETING MINUTES

January 9, 2015

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Arizona State Capitol Executive Tower

Third Floor Conference Room

1700 West Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

#### **Council Members, Liaisons and Participants Present**

Lisa O'Neill (Committee Chair), Becky Brimhall-Lepire, Charles Brown, Patsy Gillis, Deborah Hankerd, Deborah Lavinsky, Teresa Ramirez Lopez, Doyle Meredith, Melinda Preston, Tonya Watson, C. T. Wright, Christine Bryson-Lazo, Mary Busch, Elisa Davis, Michelle Dionisio, Amy Ferrari, Elizabeth Harris, Randy Maskell, Michele Michaels, Elaine Poker-Yount, Deborah Schaus, Lisa Tomic and Hannele Waissi

#### **Council Members Absent**

Joy Grainger, Diane Joens, Allison Perrin and Trudy Schuett

#### **Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa, Kim Jennings and Carolyn Sigler

#### **Guests Present and Signing In**

Suzette Armijo, Delmonte Edwards and Kathy Ritchie

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

Lisa O'Neill, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. A welcome and introduction period followed.

#### **Review & Discussion of GACA Approved Recommendations for 2015**

Tonya Watson, Council Vice Chair, reviewed the process for the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Review and Revitalization & Public Relations that were approved by GACA at the November Planning Meeting. Copies of the Action Plan were provided to the members.

Ms. Watson reminded the members that the work of all committees and subcommittees of GACA will focus on actionable items and measurable outcomes from the Action Plan. Members were encouraged to work on one of the two subcommittees: Alzheimer's Subcommittee or Transportation Subcommittee.

A copy of the GACA Action Plan is available through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging's office.

### **Discussion – Mission of AICC**

Committee Chair Lisa O'Neill referenced the GACA Purpose and Committee Objectives form provided to the members and asked them to review the purpose and mission of the Advisory Council and invited them to share ideas for the objective of the new Aging in Community Committee. According to the Committee Chair, staff will compile suggestions for the AICC objective for consideration at the March meeting.

Committee Chair O'Neill announced that Melinda Preston and Teresa Ramirez Lopez will co-chair the Alzheimer's Subcommittee and Deborah Hankerd and Trudy Schuett will co-chair the Transportation Subcommittee.

A copy of the GACA Purpose and Committee Objectives form is available through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging's office.

### **Break Out Subcommittee Discussions on Short-Term & Long-Term Projects**

Members of AICC broke into two Subcommittee groups for a 30-minute discussion.

### **Report Back on Ideas for Short-Term & Long-Term Projects**

Cathy De Lisa, Executive Director, reported the Alzheimer's Subcommittee took time to learn more about the background of subcommittee members then established two short-term goals:

- 1) education of the subcommittee members as a first step by Deborah Schaus of the Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter with current data provided ahead of the March 6, 2015 AICC meeting, and
- 2) helping the Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee track legislation regarding this topic providing information on federal and state legislation.

According to Ms. De Lisa, the Alzheimer's Subcommittee's long-term goals are to:

- 1) educate the family/public/providers on the types of dementia beyond Alzheimer's Disease,
- 2) promote early assessment and diagnosis and delineation of resources and funding, and
- 3) get the word out for those without internet about the Caregiver Resource Line, the Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging, the Arizona Department of Health Services resources and the Alzheimer's Association.

Christine Bryson-Lazo reported that the Transportation Subcommittee's short-term goals are to:

- 1) review all needs assessments that have been conducted by other organizations, and
- 2) request ADOT provide update to GACA.

Long-term goals are to:

- 1) accumulate transportation resources by looking at members' communities for what is being done locally; inventory of vehicles, funding sources, mobility resources,
- 2) develop a toolkit to help establish transportation in communities,
- 3) share lessons learned and research best practices for urban/rural, and
- 4) expand resources to improve quality of life for seniors.

**Report Out and Discussion on AICC-related research, conferences, workshops, seminars, training opportunities, best practices, etc.**

Elizabeth Harris from the Arizona Caregiver Coalition reported on the second phase of the Respite Voucher Program.

Elisa Davis reminded members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Region IV Conference on Aging to be held on January 29 in Yuma, Arizona.

Michele Michaels shared latest statistics on hearing loss among older Arizonans.

Hannele Waissi reported the Foundation for Senior Living celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Guy Mikkelsen has retired, and the organization has a new Chief Executive Officer.

Deborah Lavinsky provided information on Buff Bones instructor training classes - fitness assistance for special populations - being offered in Phoenix March 7 & 8.

Deborah Schaus distributed brochures regarding the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Alzheimer's Education Conference on February 27, 2015.

Delmonte Edwards reported Tanner is working on housing options for seniors.

Michelle Dionisio reported on creative aging practitioners convening in Mesa that focus on the arts to enhance quality of life. Mark Morris from New York and Ballet Arizona will offer a workshop on dance for those with Parkinson's disease. Benevilla has been working to bring the creative arts to seniors.

Visiting Angels is conducting a seminar on January 17 – “Things Nobody Tells You About Aging” at Dayspring United Methodist Church.

Suzette Armijo reported there will be a full-day conference on managing behavioral issues related to dementia on May 5, 2015, at the Beatitudes Campus that will offer eight (8) continuing education units. This event will be put on by Metro Phoenix Senior Resources (MPSR).

Kathy Ritchie reported Young Advocates for the Alzheimer's Association will be in Washington, DC on March 23 – 25 to attend the advocacy forum; June 21, 2015 is the Longest Day, a day of endurance recognizing caregivers.

Christine Bryson-Lazo reported the White House Conference on Aging will be holding regional events; one will be in Phoenix in March.

**Adjourn**

Committee Chair Lisa O'Neill adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

**Next Meeting**

**The next meeting of the Aging in Community Committee of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is scheduled for March 6, 2015; location to be determined and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website: [www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/). These meetings are open to the public.**