



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

**SOCIAL, HEALTH & ALZHEIMER'S COMMITTEE (SHAC)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**May 6, 2010**

**2:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

**Executive Tower, 1st Floor Conference Room**

**1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007**

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

Kati Bates, Charles Brown, Neva Crogan Pomilla, George Evanoff, Joyce Finkelstein, Bernadine Hoffman (Chair), Noreen Nickerson-Cruz, Joe Woods, Karen Zanzucchi, Linda Anderson, Michelle Barth, Dr. Jerry Caniglia, Jay Crosby, Susan Cypert, Gwen Dean, Ginger Froncek, Kim Gaunt, Michele Michaels, Linda Morgan, CJ O'Connor, Deborah Schaus, Diana Toussaint, and Emma Violante

**Council Members Absent**

Simone Kelsh

**Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa, Claire Parriott, and Shawn Trobia

**Guests Present**

Jessica Mortensen, Connie Nunn Miller, and Dawn Walters

**Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions & Approval of Minutes**

Committee Chair Bernadine Hoffman called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m. A welcome and introduction period followed. Draft minutes from the March 4, 2010 Social, Health and Alzheimer's Committee (SHAC) meeting were reviewed. *Emma Violante made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Noreen Nickerson-Cruz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Washington State Foundation Caregiver Training Presentation**

Jessica Mortensen, Washington Dental Service Foundation (WDSF), provided an overview of their training - Oral Health for Caregivers. According to Ms. Mortensen, WDSF is funded by Delta Dental, a non-profit dental insurance company, and their mission is to eliminate oral disease and improve oral health for all. When developing the training, Ms. Mortensen stated they focused on the prevention and early treatment of oral disease. Foundation projects include:

- Improved oral health for seniors
- Engaging physicians and other professionals in preventive oral health
- Community water fluoridation
- Engaging dentists in caring for young children
- Increased dental treatment for the underserved

In 2005, the curriculum was developed on behalf of WDSF by a Registered Dental Hygienist experienced with curriculum development; it included a technical review by a group of 25 aging and dental professionals and was pilot tested by Professional Registry of Nursing (PRN) and Bellingham Technical College. The core of the program is a PowerPoint presentation with six (6) modules on gum disease, tooth decay, denture problems, dry mouth, poor nutrition, and oral cancer. Training includes many other activities such as *Check Your Mouth* practice scenarios, *What If* questions, hands-on practice, and a resources section. The training content and length is customizable to audience needs. Trainees are taught to look for non-verbal signs of oral problems, such as unexpected behavior changes, refusing to eat, warm and puffy cheeks or chin, and refusing to use dentures.

The curriculum was rolled out in 2005, using a train-the-trainers model, to caregiving training agencies such as PRN, Area Agencies on Aging and other contracted trainers. In 2007, WDSF did an evaluation of the curriculum. The evaluation asked two key questions: (1) did the training change how caregivers provided oral health to others or (2) did the training impact their own habits? The questionnaire was administered through focus groups, written surveys and phone interviews. The evaluation concluded that trained caregivers are more likely to:

- to provide oral health care
- likely to describe enacting specific oral health care giving behaviors
- feel confidence in providing oral health care
- become oral health advocates
- make positive changes for their own oral health and that of their families

After the evaluation revisions were made to add additional information on overcoming client resistance/enhancing compliance, material to share with the client, and more links to medical and dental information were added. In the 2008 revision, WDSF also added ten (10) new slides on assessing ability and gaining cooperation, handouts for clients, and information sheets on medical conditions and oral health.

For more information please contact Jessica Mortensen at [jmortensen@deltadentalwa.com](mailto:jmortensen@deltadentalwa.com).

### **Break Out of the Oral Health Sub-Committee for Review & Approval of Minutes**

Draft minutes from the February 18, 2010, April 8, 2010, and April 21, 2010 Oral Health Sub-Committee meetings were reviewed. *Dr. Jerry Caniglia made a motion to approve the three sets of minutes as presented; Emma Violante seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Report Back of Sub-Committee Minute Review & Approval**

Noreen Nickerson-Cruz, Co-Chair of the Oral Health Sub-Committee, reported back that the Sub-Committee had approved the three sets of Sub-Committee minutes as presented.

### **Recognition of SHAC former Sub-Committee Co-Chair**

Former Oral Health Sub-Committee Co-Chair CJ O'Connor was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from Committee Chair Bernadine Hoffman for her efforts and commitment to the development of the Oral Health Three-Year Work Plan.

### **Update – Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium 2010 Conference**

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa and Deborah Schaus, Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association – Desert Southwest Chapter, reported registration is still open for the free event and those wishing to attend must register online at the website provided on the conference flyer or at the telephone number provided on that flyer. The afternoon sessions, planned in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, Desert Southwest Chapter, will include a presentation by Dr. David Coon, Arizona State University College of Nursing and Health Innovation, on Enhancing Well-being for Care Partners, a Resource Panel providing information on how best to access resources, legal and financial planning, long-term care housing options and support services. The afternoon will conclude with an Alzheimer's Priority Forum offering all participants the opportunity to provide direct input and feedback.

Deborah Schaus reported the conference represents an unprecedented level of cooperation between Alzheimer's researchers and professionals here in Arizona. Ms. Schaus told the Committee that the conference always had fantastic presentations that are user-friendly for the public. The afternoon sessions are expected to attract 400-500 people. Conference volunteers are still needed, and Ms. De Lisa requested that anyone interested in volunteering talk with her about specifics following the meeting.

A copy of the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium 2010 Annual Conference flyer is available through the Council on Aging office.

### **Current Events – News from the Alzheimer's Association, Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition, Arizona Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ACDHH)**

#### **Alzheimer's Association:**

Deborah Schaus, Executive Director Alzheimer's Association-Desert Southwest Chapter, reported that progress is being made on the new Administration on Aging Alzheimer's Disease Supportive Services Program grants to the State. Approximately \$1 million was awarded to Arizona through DES for the CarePRO program, and an additional \$500,000 for EPIC (Early stage Partners in Care). The grants involved the Department of Economic Security, Arizona State University, Area Agencies on Aging, and the Chapter. The Chapter will be involved, along with Dr. David Coon, in conducting an evidence-based program to measurably reduce stress in caregivers.

#### **Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition (FPC):**

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reminded the Committee that the Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition website - [www.azstopfalls.org](http://www.azstopfalls.org) - is now available and invited Committee members to submit community information related to medication management, physical activity programs, and home modifications to the site administrator at the Area Agency on Aging, Region One. The next Fall Prevention Coalition meeting will be June 3, 2010, and discussions will include plans for a statewide celebration of National Fall Prevention Day on September 22, 2010.

#### **Arizona Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ACDHH):**

Michele Michaels, Arizona Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, reported to the Committee that another 800 *Hearing Loss Fast Facts & Fast Resources* have been distributed since the March 4, 2010 meeting. In total, 1200 fact sheets have been distributed across the state. Ms. Michaels also announced that the Area Agency on Aging Region One added an objective to their area plan surveying older adults 65+ about accessibility for the deaf, visually impaired and hard of hearing. Ms. Michaels also informed the Committee that a lawsuit citing the Americans

with Disabilities Act was brought against a local theater chain. Ms. Michaels also reported that ACDHH also made it through their sunset review process and will be continued for another 10 years. As an example of how individual State's work can impact national policy, Ms. Michaels stated she will participate in a national conference for the Hearing Loss Association of America in Wisconsin in June 2010. She plans to distribute the fact sheets at the event. Ms. Michaels reminded the attendees that ACDHH is holding a training session for hearing loss professionals on May 27, 2010 in Tucson at the University of Arizona and stated there are a few openings still available; attendance is free but registration is required.

### **Oral-Health Sub Committee Report, Discussion, & Possible Action**

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reported no recommendations or actions to bring forward at this time. The Oral Health Sub-Committee met on April 8, 2010 and April 21, 2010 and spent time focusing on potential oral health preventive education and training for older adults and caregivers and discussed ideas for the one-page, user-friendly educational fact sheet. The Sub-Committee plans to reconvene before the July 8, 2010 SHAC meeting. Ms. De Lisa introduced Larry Clausen, Executive Director of the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC) who stated he noted similarities in the objectives of DDPC and SHAC and has asked the Council to consider a Memorandum of Understanding to solidify collaborative efforts between the two groups. Mr. Clausen stated the Governor's Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC) was formerly the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities until it was sunsetted in 2009. After a three-month hiatus, it was brought back by Executive Order as the Governor's Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. Established by federal law in 2000, its objective is to advocate expanding capacity to improve quality of life for people with developmental disabilities. Disabilities may appear from birth to age 22 and must be chronic, severe and likely to be permanent. Dental services are a priority in their strategic plan. Another potential area for collaboration mentioned was Alzheimer's as correlations are being made between Down syndrome and Alzheimer's disease according to Ms. Schaus.

### **Announcements**

1. Diana Toussaint, Department of Economic Security/Division of Aging and Adult Services provided a printout of potential links for alternative caregiver training that includes oral health.
2. Linda Morgan announced that Interfaith Community Care has changed their name to Benevilla. Ms. Morgan handed out brochures detailing their services such as caregiver support for residents of the Northwest Valley. Benevilla also offers respite care, intergenerational programs, gardening, storytelling, cooking, parties, a café and bistro, and catering kitchen. Benevilla operates six adult day centers including one for developmental disabilities.
3. Cathy De Lisa announced a presentation by the DOVES program will be provided at the next SHAC meeting. DOVES is a late life domestic abuse program created by the Area Agency on Aging, Region One.
4. Ginger Froncek of the Arizona Dental Foundation announced an opportunity for the Arizona Dental Foundation and Desert Mission Children's Dental Clinic to reinstitute a special needs dentistry training program by having persons concerned about accessible dental care go to a link called *Sharing the Prize*: [www.sharingtheprize.org](http://www.sharingtheprize.org)
5. Cathy De Lisa announced a special presentation on preparing for Arizona's health care needs by Dr. Bill Crist, Vice President of Health Affairs, University of Arizona at the July 9, 2010 Council meeting. Members of the Social, Health and Alzheimer's

Committee are invited to join this special presentation tentatively scheduled for the Arizona Department of Health Services State Laboratory.

Copies of the oral health printout from Ms. Toussaint and the Benevilla brochures are available through the Council on Aging office.

**Next Steps:**

- GACA staff will convene an Oral-Health Sub-Committee meeting before the July 8, 2010 SHAC meeting.
- GACA staff will email the links provided in a handout from Diana Toussaint and the Sharing the Prize link referenced by Ginger Froncek to the Sub-Committee.
- GACA staff will request the presentation used during today's presentation by Jessica Mortensen of the Washington Dental Services Foundation and email to the Committee, if available.
- Members of the Committee will receive an update on the Alzheimer's Priority Plans and hear about opportunities to participate in a statewide Task Force following the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium 2010 Annual Conference.

**Adjournment**

*Committee Chair Bernadine Hoffman adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.*

**Next Meeting:**

**The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging's Social, Health, & Alzheimer's Committee will be on July 8, 2010 in the Grand Canyon Conference Room. These meetings are open to the public.**