



## GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

### Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2015

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Arizona State Capitol Executive Tower

Third Floor Conference Room

1700 West Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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

Becky Brimhall-Lepire (Chair), Andrew Compton, Patsy Gillis (Secretary), Diane Joens, Deborah Lavinsky, Teresa Ramirez Lopez, Doyle Meredith, Lisa O'Neill, Allison Perrin, Melinda Preston, Trudy Schuett, Tonya Watson (Vice Chair), C.T. Wright (Past Chair), and Cydney DeModica, Kristin Fray, Olivia Guerrero, Lynn Larson, Babak Nayeri, and Cindy Saverino

### **Council Members Absent**

Charles Brown, Deborah Hankerd

### **Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa, Lizette Cordero

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

Christine Bryson-Lazo, Loretta Crimi

### **Call to Order, Welcome, Review & Approval of July 10, 2015 Draft Meeting Minutes**

Council Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. with a welcome and introductions then called for a review of the July 10, 2015 draft meeting minutes. *C.T. Wright made a motion to approve the draft minutes; Deborah Lavinsky seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Update on Adult Protective Services**

Lynn Larson, Assistant Director, DES Division of Aging & Adult Services (DAAS) provided an update on Adult Protective Services (APS). Since State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2012, APS has seen a 57% growth in reports received for investigation. APS anticipated a 5% growth in SFY 2015, but experienced a 19% growth. APS received nearly 13,800 reports of adult abuse, neglect and exploitation in SFY 2015. DES has worked diligently over the past several years to address and create solutions to provide additional resources to APS staff. DES has developed and implemented a two-pronged approach to ensure the success of the APS program: 1) DES examined cases that have been open for longer than six months and have engaged temporary staff with the purposeful action of closing outstanding cases that were in various stages of the investigation process. 2) In

2015, the DES implemented the Four Disciplines of Execution (4DX) to improve performance and facilitate efficiencies during the investigation process. 4DX aims to maximize team efficiencies, while ensuring APS client safety and security, to increase the rate of case closures. The Department's budget request for SFY 2017 includes increasing APS staffing by two additional units (investigators and support staff), 7 supervisors to reduce the APS supervisor to investigator ratio from 1:9 to 1:6, two Financial Exploitation Unit investigators, additional staff for the Central Intake Unit, an additional training position, and several continuous quality improvement staff. Ms. Larson thanked the Council for their continued support of APS and its efforts to address the caseload growth.

### **Discussion – Dashboard Updates & Planning for 2016**

Vice Chair Tonya Watson provided an overview of progress made and noted challenges or barriers related to the focus areas of the Action Plan as posted on the dashboard. GACA members were reminded that the input received through Senior Action Days events and stakeholder survey would be important to the GACA Annual Planning meeting and encouraged input to the Executive Director well in advance of the November 6, 2015 date. Progress noted included the establishment of the Marketing Ad Hoc group and greater awareness of GACA due to Senior Action Days.

A copy of the dashboard is available from the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging office.

### **Liaison Reports**

*Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging (AZ4A)* – Olivia Guerrero reported the Area Agencies on Aging are advocating for funds for Adult Protective Services; they work hand in hand with the Division of Aging and Adult Services helping to find people in need and serving them. Ms. Guerrero distributed a report that included updates from Regions I through VI. Some of the highlights include:

Region One – held ten events to raise awareness around elder abuse as part of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day; the Area Agency won five 2015 Mature Media Awards.

Region II – brought together local network of community centers to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Older Americans Act (OAA) and that resulted in hundreds of older adults at the centers choosing to sign a "Get into The ACT" celebration urging reauthorization, funding and protection of the OAA.

Region III – will hold the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Elder Issues Conference: *Elder Justice* on October 15, 2015 that features two national speakers.

Region IV – Western Arizona Council of Governments/WACOG is planning to have staff at the Senior Action Day in Kingman on October 6 at the Kathryn Heidenreich Adult Center. WACOG is co-hosting five Family Caregiver Trainings throughout the region with the Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter.

Region V – Pinal-Gila Council for Senior Citizens, Area Agency on Aging has been working to complete year-end closure tasks; staff presented on their innovative home delivered meal service at the Arizona Senior Center Association's Annual Conference and provided information on available

resources, OAA services, elder abuse and federal/state health insurance programs to community volunteers of the Maricopa Police Department.

Region VI – Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization/SEAGO Area Agency on Aging’s Long Term Care Ombudsman/Health & Nutrition Program Coordinator is visiting congregate sites. Santa Cruz County will be hosting its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Education Conference in Nogales on October 9; members of the community, professional and caregivers will attend to obtain information on Alzheimer’s and related dementia, legal documentation and safety. SEAGO is partnered with the Alzheimer’s Association Desert Southwest Chapter to raise awareness.

Ms. Guerrero announced the Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging would be partnering with state and local partners to hold the first statewide conference on aging since 2008. According to Ms. Guerrero, Aging in Arizona 2016 is planned for May 19 - 20, 2016 in Flagstaff, Arizona. GACA was then invited by Ms. Guerrero to help by co-sponsoring the event even if in name only if unable to provide sponsorship funding. Council Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire stated that since this invitation was directly related to Outcome #6 of the Action Plan, it would be addressed in the Chair’s Report. Ms. Guerrero then thanked the Chair for the personal invitations to the Area Agencies on Aging Directors and staff to attend GACA Senior Action Days around Arizona.

The full written report from the Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging (AZAA) is available through the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging office.

*Arizona Department of Economic Security* – Cindy Saverino reported on The Legal Services/Ombudsman annual meeting at the Flinn Foundation on November 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. that includes 60-70 people. Ms. Saverino reiterated that the Home and Community Based Services budget request focuses on caseload growth and care; 2.6 million is being requested. October is Domestic Violence Month and October 15<sup>th</sup> is Wear Purple Day to raise awareness. Medicare enrollment is October 15 – December 7 and the State Health Insurance Assistance Program hotline is already receiving 80-100 calls per day.

*Arizona Department of Health Services* – Babak Nayeri reported that Bureau Chief Wayne Tormala had been vetted and selected to participate in the Alzheimer’s Institute that includes top 20 progressive states working on Alzheimer’s disease. Dr. Nayeri also highlighted the healthy brain initiative, inclusion of nine questions for caregivers on the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) thanks to collaboration with DAAS and National Falls Prevention Awareness Day on September 23, 2015. Dr. Nayeri urged everyone to wear orange on September 23, 2015.

*Arizona Department of Insurance (ADOI)* – Steve Clutter was not in attendance.

*Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)* – Cydney Demodica reported ADOT was asking anyone with information related to the recent highway incidents to call the 602-644-5805 number. Arizona has until April 16, 2016 to launch the new travel identification that is federally compliant, and ADOT is planning to offer Arizonans with several options to choose from including options for those without passports.

*Arizona Department of Veterans’ Services (ADVS)* – Kristin Fray, Admissions Coordinator, Arizona State Veterans’ Home reported:

### Yuma Veteran Home Update

- Plans continue to build an Arizona State Veteran Home in Yuma. The land has been acquired, and architecture bids are being reviewed. We are applying for a VA grant for this home, which will fund 65% of the project if approved.

### Cemetery Updates:

- Construction continues for the State Veterans' Cemeteries in Marana (near Tucson) and at Camp Navajo (near Flagstaff).
- The dedication for the Marana Cemetery is scheduled for March 26, 2016, and the Northern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery is scheduled for June 4, 2016.
- The end of WWII was commemorated at the SAVMC on August 16, and more than 60 WWII Veterans attended.
- On October 24, Missing in America Project will intern the remains of several unclaimed veterans at the National Cemetery.

### Arizona State Veterans Homes:

- The Arizona State Veteran Home – Tucson has been using miniature therapeutic horses with their veterans through a program called “Little Hooves, Big Hearts.” They had a Hawaiian celebration in honor of the statehood anniversary.
- The Arizona State Veteran Home – Phoenix enjoyed a variety of recreational programs, including a Carnival with Cooties Pup Tent #11. The Cooties are part of the VFW, and they sponsored games, prizes and a dunk tank. ASVH residents also participated in Spirit of '45 day, marking the end of WWII, and performed in an annual variety show.

*Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)* – Jay Dunkleberger was not in attendance.

*Arizona Indian Council on Aging (AICOA)* – Ronald Moore, President of the Arizona Indian Council on Aging was not in attendance.

*Attorney General's Office (AG)* – Amilyn Pierce was not in attendance.

### **Council Chair Report**

*Recommendations from the Executive Committee* – the Council Chair provided a review of the Executive Committee discussions that included the need for more training of all members to understand protocols and expectations as part of the transition and culture change then noted behind the scenes work that happens in order for the GACA meetings/events to occur.

*Follow up Discussion on Ad Hoc committees* – the Council Chair outlined the reconvening of the Ad Hoc Committee on Review & Revitalization and the kick off of the new Marketing Ad Hoc Committee to move GAC forward on the Action Plan and work toward measurable outcomes in all focus areas. Referencing the dashboard tracking of progress made on the Action Plan, Ms. Brimhall-Lepire asked the members to consider Ms. Guerrero's invitation to help sponsor the May 2016 aging conference. Following a brief discussion, *Melinda Preston made a motion for the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging to sponsor in name the Statewide Aging in Arizona 2016 conference; Lisa O'Neill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Final Input on Senior Action Days* – The Council Chair invited GACA members to share final input, advice, requests or ask questions related to Senior Action Days then reiterated that GACA members are to use the talking points in the introduction, and those scribes taking notes at the event need to get the notes back to the Executive Director immediately following the events. Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reminded members that the fact sheet prepared by DAAS needed to be distributed at the event and that the individual event flyers could be used to collect input from those constituents not wishing to speak at the events. Ms. De Lisa promised to share the notetaking templates with the event scribes and also email an update on RSVPs received by staff.

Copies of the talking points, notes template, fact sheet and individual event flyers are available through the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging office.

*Annual Planning Meeting Discussion*- Council Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire announced that former GACA member Anne Morrison had agreed to help facilitate the November 6<sup>th</sup> annual planning session and expressed appreciation for Ms. Morrison time and energies. According to the Chair, input from the Senior Action Days, stakeholder survey and liaisons will help frame the work for GACA in 2016. Following a suggestion by the Chair that the group hold a potluck that day, the group agreed by general consensus to plan a 30-minute break for the potluck on November 6, 2015.

*Overview of Committee Discussion and Consensus on Work Moving Forward* – Council Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire invited the group to provide feedback on the work of the committees and subcommittees and emphasized the importance of input from everyone ahead of the Annual Planning Meeting in November.

### **Executive Director’s Office Updates**

Executive Director Cathy De Lisa welcomed new Executive Assistant Lizette Cordero, discussed the pending move to Suite 240 and actions taken to downsize ahead of the move. Ms. De Lisa also discussed proposed dates for 2016 provided in a handout, the roll out of the Arizona Alzheimer’s Plan, and the refocus of Aging 2020 to the State Plan on Aging.

Proposed dates for the GACA 206 meetings include: January 8, 2016, March 11, 2016, May 13, 2016, July 8, 2016, September 9, 2016. The proposed date for the annual planning meeting is November 4, 2016.

### **Council Member Reporting & Sharing**

Diane Joens reminded attendees of the Northern Arizona Council of Governments/NACOG annual conference on October 15 in Flagstaff.

Olivia Guerrero reported the Globe High School Hall of Fame recently celebrated a 100 year anniversary and her parents Bennie and Gloria Guerrero were honored for their work with youth.

Deborah Lavinsky reported October included an American Bone Health Awareness week.

Becky Brimhall-Lepire reported on the National Conference on Guardianship in Mesa October 24 – 27, 2015.

### **Call to the Public**

No input from the public received.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by Council Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire at 2:34 p.m.

**Next Meeting**

**The next meeting of the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging is the Annual Planning Meeting scheduled for November 6, 2015; time and location to be confirmed 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.**