

Advisory Council on Aging Planning Committee
April 6, 2021, Minutes of the Meeting

Call to Order: Kevin Donovan called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Kevin Donovan, Debbie Card, Jim Donnelly, Susan Frederick, Jill Kleiner, Dennis Yee, Arthur Kee

Guest: Heather Madaus (CEI, Guardian Center Director); Debbie Toth (Choice in Aging, CEO); Melanie Smith (AAA Senior Staff Assistant)

Staff Present: Glenda Pacha, Anthony Macias

Approval of Today's Agenda: Approval of agenda motioned first by Susan; Debbie second; approved by all.

Approval of March Minutes: Susan moved to approve, Debbie moved second, approved as written.

AAA Report – AAA Staff

- AP-2122-07 Area Plan Contract Release Notification; received the budget display for the Area Plan for 21/22; total \$5.49887 million.
- The good news is that we have an overall increase of 6%.
- Posting for AAA Program Manager has closed, Tracy working with personnel on scheduling of interview of candidates.
- CARES ACT funding: Extension on time in funding for Ombudsman position; all other funding appears to be spent in time to meet deadline of September 30, 2021.
- Great Plates Delivered program extended another 30 days through May 7, 2021.

Contractor's Presentation: Center for Elders' Independence Guardian Center, Heather Madaus, Center Director

- CBAS/Guardian ADC and CEI took over about three years ago; is not PACE center; is an Adult Day Care (ADC) became Community Based Adult Services for those Medi-Cal eligible clients and Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) for non-M/Cal eligible.
- Three years ago remodeled space; modern and open floor plan; offer field trips.
- Offer variety of activities and programs like a Valentines Dance, entertainers come to center.
- Heather has been there for 10 years and has seen many transformations of Guardian.
- Mission is to help the elderly maintain independence and living in their community by providing a high level of care.
- Provide ADHC 9:00-3:00 Monday through Friday with a multi-disciplinary team.
- Offer breakfast/lunch/ snack through CACFP food program.
- Offer transportation to/from center.

- Prior to pandemic average daily attendance was between 50-60 participants with over 100 clients enrolled in ADC/ADHC.
- Have seen a drop in attendance for on-line programs.
- CCHP is local health plan for this CBAS program. Must be evaluated to need this care and not just be M/Cal eligible.
- Debbie- concern among potential clients about PACE and losing IHSS? Oakland facility?
- Heather- PACE participant is not eligible to IHSS; CBAS participant can be on IHSS and participate in day program; PACE provides whole person care and day program can be a part of this, but can be separate with CBAS. Alternate care site for the PACE program.
- AAA/CARES contract used to fund activities and being used to fund technology;
- Participants not tech savvy and wanted them to have connection through Zoom and cognitive activities. Identified 40 participants for this project. Offers step-by-step training.
- Provided 13 iPads with ongoing encouragement and support; can now visit with each other. Sixty participants report using iPad all most daily.
- Partnership with Comcast to get WiFi set-up for participants who do not have it.
- Kevin- CARES act funding well used; when funding goes away in September, what happens to those who are currently using these iPads and technology? CEI is looking to set-up computer lab at the center and exploring how to keep this going.
- Funding: 3% of revenues for Guardian ADHC come from AAA funding; what other funding: Per Diem daily rate; min 4 hours per day; \$110 day rate from CCHP; VA is a funding source; also Regional Center of East Bay pay for day rate. Grants help in offsetting payment for staffs.
- Transportation provided for almost all/majority of participants; also sub contracts with Silver Ride and East Bay and West Cat paratransit.
- Dennis- outreach? Downturn during the pandemic and are seeing an uptick in getting new referrals. Doing outreach to get word out on what they can provider; foresee future is hybrid model with in-person and alternative services and remain at home.

Contractor's Presentation: Choice in Aging – Debbie Toth, CEO

- Choice in Aging (CiA) is an ADHC center with Skilled Nursing level staffing in a Senior Center setting.
- CiA provides assistance with eating, walking, Activities of Daily Living (ADL) so that people can live independently with dignity and prevent from placement in SNF prematurely.
- Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) grant- scholarship funding so that participants can help pay the difference. This is for those over income/assets for M/Cal eligibility and need assist with complete payment.
- Care plans developed by social workers; looking at entire person and at their home in order to make sure person is safe and know of their particular needs.
- Caregivers can get respite while person is at ADHC;
- Offer variety of programs for persons with varying levels of social interaction; Classes presented on Zoom and activities and craft items that participants will use while

participating in zoom activity. The craft and activity items are delivered to participant's home.

- Created a road show model in order to keep participants engaged.
- There was still deterioration happening; exhausted every possibility to engage with participants.
- Physical and Occupational Therapists were fit tested with PPE and n95 masks in order to conduct home visits.
- Mobile vaccine clinics with CC health services to provide vaccines.

Caregiver Support Grants:

- Support groups at Bedford (Antioch) and Mt. Diablo (Walnut Creek) Centers for caregivers.
- Demographic from East and Central show parents of younger disabled adults at Bedford centers.
- Offer education, outreach, individual counseling; day of care and love for caregivers where they are pampered with relaxation exercises, yoga, etc.
- During pandemic times: used phone calls, zoom meetings, individual one-one with SW and caregivers; outreach and training with Facebook Live.
- Kevin- the amount you got from CARES exceeded what you get from AAA, the funding will go away at end of September, how will you transition without this funding? Debbie does not think it will be a huge hardship because people will be able to return to where they can make some payment for these services. Also looking for higher contract amount moving forward.
- Kevin- 3% of budget from AAA; where does bulk of revenue come from? Medi-Cal pays for majority; number of veterans with payment; Regional Center; LTC insurance; retirement systems and private pay; inter-generational preschool offered through CiA is private pay.
- How did organization develop in Farsi and Russian- large waves of refugees came into program in 1980-1990's and programs were eventually developed with language parity.

Master Plan for Aging Presentation – Debbie Toth

- Power Point Presentation attached as PDF.

Discussion

- CEI in El Sobrante is a big improvement from what it was prior, as Guardian.
- Drop in IHSS participants to PACE program.
- CiA- continue to support organization.
- Need more of these CBAS agencies in the community.

Community Connect and ACOA – Debbie Card

- Moving forward with case management with their clients. Admin hope to give update later in the year.
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Items for Executive Committee:

- None.

Next Meeting:

- Next Meeting: Thursday, May 6, 2021 9:30-11:30, location: Zoom
- Senior Information and Assistance, Nhang Luong, Program Manager
- Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP), Ruth Atkin, Program Manager

Public Comment:

- None

Adjourn 11:30 a.m.