

Mayor's Council on African American Elders

C/O – Aging and Disability Services, Seattle-King County
Mailing Address: PO Box 34215, Seattle WA 98124-4215
Office Address: Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Ave, 51st Floor
(206)684-0706 * TTY(206)684-0274 * FAX (206)684-0689
Website: www.seattle.gov/MCAAE

Meeting Summary

January 20, 2017

Members Present – Mattie Taplin, Chair **Excused** – Dr. Brenda Jackson, Susan Millender
ADS Staff – Maria Langlais, Karen Winston
Guests: Cynthia Winters, (Pending Appointment), Clara J. Williams

I. Welcome & Introductions

The ice-breaker question was: What are two words that describe your hopes for the MCAAE accomplishments during 2017? Responses included: Resources, community, outreach, communication, caring, motivation, friendly visitors, ambassadors, growth, outreach, visibility.

II. **ADS Updates** – Maria updated the group on the following:

Age-Friendly Initiative

The Age-Friendly initiative's goal is to ensure that communities in Seattle are great places to grow up and grow old. Age-friendly means human friendly. Maria briefly described what the Age-Friendly Task Force will be working together to accomplish during the 1st and 2nd quarters for 2017. She also presented an idea for MCAAE members to become ambassadors for the initiative, especially during the community engagement phase. Members responded favorably.

Medicaid Transformation

On September 30, 2016, WA State and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services reached an agreement in principle on a five-year Medicaid demonstration project. This is an opportunity to accelerate changes in our state's Medicaid program that support the goals of Healthier Washington—better health, better care, and lower costs. ADS will monitor implementation for King County. The goals of the transformation project are: 1) Reduce avoidable use of intensive services and settings—such as acute care hospitals, nursing facilities, psychiatric hospitals, traditional long-term services and supports, and jails; 2) Improve population health—focusing on prevention and management of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, pediatric obesity, smoking, mental illness, substance use disorders, and oral health; 3) Accelerate the transition to value-based payment—using payment methods that take the quality of services and other measures of value into account; 4) Ensure that Medicaid per-capita cost growth is below national trends—through projects and services that improve health outcomes and reduce the rate of growth in the overall cost of care for Medicaid clients.

In association with the Area Agency on Aging for Seattle-King County and sponsored by:

Co-sponsored by:



City of Seattle



United Way of King County



King County

ADS Sponsors

- The ADS Sponsors will transition from a “sponsors group” to an aging & disability “partnership” that is focused on shared results. Move from sponsored by to in partnership with.
- The Partnership would include City of Seattle (HSD), King County (DCHS), and Public Health (new partner)
- UWKC would sunset as a “sponsor”, and engage as a strategic partner and link to philanthropy/business on the go forward
- City of Seattle (HSD) continues to serve as the host agency for ADS/Area Agency on Aging with operational authority & responsibility
- The County continues to support the work of the AAA through appointment of Advisory Council members and intentional collaboration on planning, community engagement, and advocacy strategies

2017 Legislative Priorities – Maria reviewed four key legislative issues that ADS and the ADS Advisory Council will be advocating for during the 2017 legislative session:

- **Preserve and increase affordable, accessible housing**—We are asking the State Legislature to invest \$200 million in the Housing Trust Fund, a critical resource to increase the housing supply for seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, and low-income families. In addition, we are asking the State to make document recording fees permanent—and to increase the fees—to fund state and local homelessness services.
- **Increase long-term care case management services**—Washington State’s nationally-regarded system enables people to receive care in the lowest cost setting—their own homes. Over 15 years, long-term care case management services have saved the state more than \$2.7 billion. We must increase support for these services—\$5.18 million (plus a \$10.35 million federal match) would ensure program quality and the safety and well-being of our elders. We are asking the State Legislature to support the Department of Social and Health Services’ requested rate increase for all programs across the long-term care spectrum, from case management services to adult family homes.
- **Protect victims of elder abuse**—We encourage the State Legislature to support legislation that would revise the definition of first, second, and third degree criminal mistreatment and create the crime of theft from a vulnerable adult. The bill would also authorize expansion of multidisciplinary teams to identify and respond to abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults.
- **Ensure Medicaid coverage for hearing and vision**—Investments in hearing and vision will result in overall health and long-term care savings. Sensory loss is associated with poor health status and cognitive decline. Washington State cut Medicaid coverage for hearing for people ages 21+ during the recession.

MCAAE Recruitment

Maria ended by acknowledging that staff in the Mayor's Office (Steve Lee and Dominique Stephens) are willing to assist with recruitment. They are both working with ADS on the age-friendly roll-out. Members requested assistance with publicity. Members would like to target individuals with backgrounds, such as legal, mental health, clergy and first responders.

III. Recruitment

The group discussed community outreach and recruitment. Ideas included the following:

- Suggestion boxes at churches, grocery stores, senior centers – to gather input.
- Conduct focus groups with older adults at churches.
- Input could be gathered at the March 11 event on older adults and HIV/AIDS.
- Hold MCAAE meetings at other locations in the community.
- Seek partnerships with other African American groups and organizations.
- Order ink pens to advertise and distribute for the MCAAE.
- Develop partnerships. Potential groups – Kent Black Action; AAEP; Groups working with the clean and sober; Lottie Cross - Black Dollar Days; Churches and/or pastoral groups; Health ministries at churches; Village of Hope; Urban League; and NAACP.
- Karen was asked to email information about the MCAAE, with an invitation to attend the February meeting, to the following individuals:
 - Deborah Terry Hayes
 - Eudora Carter
 - Steve Riggins
 - Annie Edwards
 - Rev. Linda M. Smith

IV. 2017 Work Plan – Tabled

V. February Meeting

Mattie asked for the February meeting to be held in the community and not downtown. Karen will contact the Southeast Seattle Senior Center to see if a room is available.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.