

Mayor's Council on African American Elders

c/o Aging and Disability Services, Seattle-King County
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MCAAE Meeting

July 20, 2023

Attending – Paula Williams, Chair, Madinah Slaise, Claudette Thomas, Dr. Abe, Sheila Mary, Paul Mitchell, Pamela Williams

Members Absent – Charlotte Antoine, Madinah Slaise

Guests – Irene Stewart, HSD Communications Manager

Staff – Karen Winston

I. Online Fraud Prevention

MCAAE Chair, Paula Williams, presented information on types of fraud and prevention. The title of her presentation was “The Dirty Dozen: Email Fraud,” and included:

- **Utility Bill Scams** – Threats of disconnection. Note: Utilities don't call to disconnect.
- **Credit Card Errors Scams** – Real errors are not handled by phone.
- **Shopping Scams** – What's promised is never delivered. And, if you provide your cc#, you're giving them access to your account info. Recommends going to an independent source
- **The Nigerian Prince Scam** – Promising something—usually money—but wants
- **Investment Scams** – If you don't know anything about crypto or byte coins, don't send anyone your money
- **Fake Tech Support** – Don't click the link or anything else. Find a trusted tech support company if you need tech support
- **Online Dating Scam** – Victims are led to believe the online interest is real/sincere, but they often end up losing substantial amounts of money.
- **Ransom Ware Scam** – When someone takes over your computer and won't exit unless you pay.
- **Fake Lotteries** – You get an email saying you won, but you never entered the lottery.
- **“Can you hear me?”** – Begins with a call, usually from a phone number that looks local. When the person answers, the scam artist tries to get the person to say “yes”—most often by asking, “Can you hear me?” or “Is this the lady of the house?” or a similar question. The voice is recorded to use in other scams.
- **The Mystery Shopper and Work From Home Schemes** – Must pay for training kit.
- **Fake Charities** – Often used especially after a natural disaster. Go to a reputable charitable organization.
- **Free Stuff** – If they're offering if for free, they want something from you, and it's usually your money.
- **Public Charger Scam** – Beware of using public charging stations, some are fake and still your credit card information.

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The goal of most online scams is to get access to your bank account or credit card information and separate you from your money. Paula encouraged consideration of an identity protection service such as Life Lock, that has been endorsed by AARP. The cost is less than \$100 a year. It's best to get protection before a disaster happens. Cleaning up your identity after it is stolen, is more difficult after the fact.

II. Input on ADS Mission & Vision

HSD communications manager, Irene Stewart, provided a review of the Aging and Disability Services (ADS) vision, mission, and values. She has been gathering input from staff and community about recommended revisions. She started with an overview/background about ADS and discussed the ADS North Star: Lead with race; Center community; and Stronger together.

Members reviewed various key values and statement options, discussed them, and provided feedback on their preferences. A survey will be emailed to everyone who has participated so far, with more questions re your options for various proposed statements.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.