

# **Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services**

Advocating for local, state, and national programs that promote quality of life for older adults and people with disabilities in partnership with Seattle Human Services and King County.

# **Advisory Council Meeting Minutes February 12, 2021**

**Advisory Council Members** Jenny Becker X Zelda Foxall Ava Frisinger ✓ Joe Hailev CM Marli Larimer X Larry Low June Michel X Tom Minty **CM Tammy Morales** Cindy Snyder 🔀 Lorna Stone 🔀 Diana Thompson Sue Weston Barb Williams Kim-Khánh Van X Dick Woo Friends of the Advisory Council X Edna Daigre **Kevin Lambing** Others present: Guests: John Vassall, Joan Bergman, LTCOP Staff, Chris Daigre, Gaynell Walker, Sharon Sobers-Outlaw **AAA Staff:** Cathy Knight, Maria Langlais, Irene Stewart, Andrea Yip, Karen Winston, Brent Butler, Lenny Orlov, Jane Crum, Lorraine Sanford, Sariga Santhosh Partners: Traci Adair, Mary Snodgrass, Alexis Rinck

I. Community Health: Reflections on Black History Month - Dr. John Vassall, MD (Physician Executive, Comagine Health)

February was Black History month. In recognition of this year's theme, 'The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity,' we invited Dr. Vassall to discuss the pandemic response, health literacy, and access issues for Black families.

- II. Meeting Motions and Council Business
  - Motion to approve December meeting minutes

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- Dick: move to modify or accept minutes
- Moved by Cindy
- Seconded by Larry
- Passed unanimously among council members

# III. Committee Updates

#### Executive

Will meet briefly after the AC meeting.

## <u>Advocacy</u>

- Happy Lunar Year we're now in the year of the Ox. February is also Black history month!
- Discussed bills in legislature on long-term care, progressive revenue, and digital divide.
   Sariga will send priority bills tracker after meeting and members can weigh in with support or concerns about specific items.
- Members have been busy with webinars, contacting legislators, and staying connected with friends and family.

# Planning and Allocations:

- Lorna is the new P&A Committee Chair!
- Met on 2/1 and discussed 2021 work plan, which will be primarily focused on Area Plan updates and 2022 budget recommendations.
- Waiting on approval of interlocal agreement with County, but it is moving forward.

# Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) Board

- Met 1/21 and learned about Pathfinders, who do outreach to veterans in county.

  Discussed spike in mental health issues and needs for older adults during the pandemic.
- VSHSL Chair, Robert White, has resigned and we're looking for a new Chair.
- Dick testified at the 2/10 County's Community, Health and Housing Services Committee
  meeting in support of the interlocal agreement. New ILA focuses on improved
  partnership between city and county and ensuring the AC makes a good faith effort to
  recruit with nine county districts in mind.

#### State Council on Aging

No updates

# Northwest Universal Design

No updates

# Mayor's Council on African American Elders (MCAAE)

- Met on 1/15 to discuss federal, state, and local COVID-19 and Age Friendly updates.
- Members also discussed recruitment efforts and have a press release out. If you know anyone who would be a good fit for MCAAE, please spread the word and reach out!

• This month's meeting on 2/19 will be a celebration of Black History Month and will feature King County Councilmember Girmay Zahilay.

# IV. Partners Report

# Seattle King County Public Health Department (Mary Snodgrass)

- Seeing some reduction in total test volumes of COVID-19 cases.
- New masking guidelines recommends wearing two to three layers of tightly woven fabric, like cotton, and making sure the masks fit tightly around the nose and mouth.
- There is a vaccine shortage in King County, making it hard to secure appointments. There are ~260,000 vaccine-eligible folks, but we received under 20,00 first doses last week.
- Good news is that as of <u>late last week</u>, 341,000+ doses have been administered in King County, 58,000 within the last seven days. 41% of the 65-74 aged population have had at least one dose and 46% of the 75+ aged population had at least one dose.
- The new federal administration is infusing much-needed dollars for vaccine distribution, which means spring supply and vaccination schedule will be ramping up to meet need.
- County opened two high volume sites in Auburn and Kent for adults over 75 or adults over 50 in multigenerational homes and their caregivers. The Auburn location will temporarily be relocated to Kent this weekend due to inclement weather.
- County is also coordinating with local EMTs to vaccinate residents at adult family homes that have not registered in the federal pharmacy partnership.

# **Department of Community and Human Services (Traci Adair)**

No updates, but Traci will do a deeper dive on VSHSL investments at a later meeting.

# **Sound Cities Association (Alexis Rinck)**

- SCOA has biweekly briefings with Public Health Director, Patty Hayes, to ensure cities are updated on vaccine availability and testing sites, while centering discussions on equity.
- SCOA is also tracking legislation during current state session on affordable housing, public health, police oversight, etc.

# V. Director's Report (Cathy Knight)

- ADS had received federal dollars for Older Americans Act services (mainly nutrition) as part of the COVID-19 relief package that passed in December.
- Aging network partners, including some ADS staff, are very engaged in scheduling appointments and connecting with clients with mass vaccination sites to mobile clinics. There was great press recently about our partner's work in getting older adults appointments in the International District.