

# ADULT SERVICES POLICY COUNCIL

Working together to meet the health and human service needs of adults and seniors.

Our vision is safe and supported adults & seniors with access to a full continuum of resources & independence wherever they reside.

## Members

### **Boards, Commissions and Community Groups**

Adult Abuse Prevention Council  
Commission on Aging  
County Board of Supervisors  
Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board  
Health Commission  
Mental Health Advisory Board  
SLO Supportive Housing Consortium

### **Non-Profit Agencies**

211 SLO Hotline  
AIDS Support Network & SLO Hep C Project  
Alzheimer's Association  
Area Agency on Aging  
CenCal Health  
Coast Caregiver Resource Center  
Community Action Partnership of SLO County  
Community Health Centers / Services of the Central Coast  
Hospice of San Luis Obispo County  
Independent Living Resource Center  
Linkages Care Management  
LTC Ombudsman Services of SLO County  
North County Connection  
Peoples' Self Help Housing  
Retired Senior Volunteer Program  
Ride-On Transportation  
Senior Legal Services Project  
Senior Nutrition Program  
Transitions/Mental Health Association  
Tri-Counties Regional Center  
United Cerebral Palsy  
United Way of San Luis Obispo County  
Wilshire Community Services / Caring Callers / Creative Mediation / Senior Peer Counseling

### **Private Organizations**

Bates Care Management  
Client Care Consultants  
Family Home Care  
Morris & Garritano Insurance  
Sierra Vista Medical Center  
Trio

### **Public Agencies**

San Luis Costal Adult School  
San Luis Obispo County Departments of:  
District Attorney / Victim Witness Assistance  
Health Agency: Public Health / Public Guardian / Medical Services/ Behavioral Health  
Probation Department  
Sheriff  
Department of Social Services / Adult Services  
Veteran's Services

[www.slocounty.ca.gov/ASPC](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/ASPC)

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Co-Chair Kathleen Karle, [kkarle@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:kkarle@co.slo.ca.us), (805) 781-4929  
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## **AGENDA**

**9/9/2011**

**9.00 – 11.00 a.m.**

### **INTRODUCTIONS and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(New developments for the population, agency or program changes that affect other agencies or programs)

**5 min.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT (5 minutes or less)**

**10 min.**

### **DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- **2011-2012 Directory and Sign-up Sheet**
- **“Why Climate Change is a Health Issue”**
  - - Kathleen Karle, SLO County Health Agency

**60 min.**

### **CORRECTIONS / ADDITIONS TO THE SYNOPSIS**

**1 min.**

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- **2010-2011 Annual Report**

**20 min.**

### **COMMITTEE UPDATES AS NEEDED: (10 minutes or less)**

**30 min.**

- **IHSS Update**
- **Good Neighbor**
- **POLST Follow up**

### **MEETING LOCATION:**

Department of Social Services  
2975 McMillan Road, San Luis Obispo  
Suite 164 (Big Conference Room)

### **NEXT MEETING:**

**10/7/2011**

## ASPC Meeting September 9, 2011

Chaired by: Janet Amanzio

### Attendees:

Sara Bartlett, Alzheimer's Association  
Meredith Bates, Bates Care Management  
Janet Amanzio, Behavioral Health  
Jean Raymond, Catholic Healthcare West, Health Commission  
Krista Morley, CenCal Health  
Sandra Pendell, DSS  
Cindy Marie Absey, DA's Office  
Jason Reed, Drug & Alcohol Advisory Board, Women's Shelter Program  
Jerry Mihaic, Independent Living Resource Center  
Kelly Hannula, Independent Living Resource Center  
Karen Jones, Long Term Care Ombudsman  
Elias Nimeh, Senior Nutrition  
Michelle Cole, Sheriff's Office  
Rod Youngquist, Sierra Vista Medical Center  
Kara Edwall, United Way of SLO  
Jessica Devereaux, Wilshire Community Services  
Brian Petersen, Senior Living Consultants  
Jeff Snyder, Representative for Senator Blakeslee  
Kevin Drabinski, Representative for Assemblyman Achadjian  
Martin Meltz, Community Representative

### Introductions and Announcements

Sara Bartlett, Alzheimer's Association, provided copies of newsletter. There will be walks in Atascadero and San Luis Obispo. She is interested in starting a professional caregiver's roundtable to support professionals working in the field and provided information to see if there is interest. AB109 Criminal Justice Realignment Act should be discussed at ASPC as it will impact interactions with criminal justice in our community.

Michelle Cole also says AB109 will be significant. It transfers supervision of non-violent, non-serious and non-sex offenders from prison system down to county jails. County capacity is already full and must prepare for more when the inmates are sentenced to jail rather than prison. Starting October 1, 2011, certain felonies as defined by Penal Code will be sentenced to the jail. There will be impacts on law enforcement agencies, public health and other agencies providing adult services.

Jerry ILRC announces emergency preparedness forum coming up at library next week. It will be focused on preparedness for disabled adults and seniors.

Sandra Pendell, DSS, will be representing Kat Lauterback today. Karen Jones, LTCO, is now working only in SLO County again. The SB LTCO is now operating out of AAA. Ombudsman's office is currently looking for board members and interested parties should contact the LTCO office. LTCO concerned about prison's "Compassionate Release" program as LTC staff are not trained to work with prisoners. The LTCO has concerns about the safety and comfort of facility residents. Rod Youngquist, Sierra Vista, notes that a prisoner was released to their ER. Karen also concerned about Medi-Cal block grant changes and potential affect on long term care facilities. Kevin Drabinski says that Katcho is meeting with SB County Sheriff re: realignment concerns. Krista Moreley, CenCal health, has hired new Chief Medical Officer and Chief Operating Officer.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Discussion/Information Items**

New ASPC Directory and signup sheets to be checked by members.

Kathleen Karle, SLO County Health Agency, provided a presentation on "Why Climate Change is a Health Issue." People have varying levels of concern about global climate change. Low-income people are typically not as concerned because they are more focused on meeting their daily needs. Public health issues need to be addressed. The intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2007) found that global warming is real. The top ten hottest years since 1850 have occurred in the past 12 years; the hottest year on record was 2010. Even skeptics are beginning to accept the reality of global climate change. Global warming is a misnomer; it's global climate change. The frequency and intensity of hurricanes are increasing. 96% of world's most qualified experts agree climate change is real and it is human caused. Fossil fuels are used for transportation and for producing goods, and result in green-house gas emissions. An average American puts out much more carbon emissions than citizens in other countries.

Climate change is bad for people, not just polar bears and penguins. Its consequences on humans need to be explored and understood. It is the biggest public health threat facing our nation according to public health experts.

Rising temperatures result in heat waves and heat stress, which is particularly hard on elderly, young and disabled people. Urban heat islands are areas in inner cities where heat is trapped; it is 10 to 15 degrees hotter in urban heat islands than in other areas. Imperial County used to start set up cooling centers in August when temperatures exceed 100 degrees; now they must set up the cooling centers in June. Extreme weather during Katrina resulted in huge numbers of fatalities and injuries. Wild weather is going to continue.

Droughts and floods are also increasing resulting in water and food scarcity and safety problems. The subsequent increase in food cost impact low income seniors and disabled. Climate change results in reduced air quality, thus there is an increase in air pollution and pollens. As a result, there is also an increase in asthma, respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.

Disrupted ecosystems are the cause of the increase in West Nile Virus. Other vectors such as rats and insects are spreading to areas where they do not normally live. As an example, Dengue fever, a tropical disease, is now showing up in places where it never occurred before.

In the southwest we can expect to experience degraded air quality, heat waves, urban heat islands, wildfires, early snow melts, droughts, extreme rainfall/flooding, and sea-level rises. Ventura County had to buy land on the coast to build a new parking lot as the old parking lot area was lost to sea-level increases.

Deaths from drought, floods and storms are occurring more in other countries than in the U.S. The World Health Organization estimates that 150,000 people die each year worldwide as a result of climate change. Worldwide water and food shortages result in increased poverty, starvation, armed conflict and despair.

Climate change is a problem that can be solved. Small actions can have been big impacts. Dietary choices, home consumption choices, how we travel and commute, purchasing habits, and work schedules choices all can have an impact.

There is currently a grant program for 501(c)(3) agencies through the Southern California Gas Company for projects and programs that would improve air quality. Changes in city and county policies can reduce municipal carbon emissions. Carbon offsets were purchased by Salt Lake City for all city employees. This is not a political issue, it's about science. It is possible to encourage changes in state and national policies through the use of letters, e-mails and phone calls made to legislators. Better and healthier lifestyles can result from taking steps to correct climate conditions.

SLO County received a grant to develop their climate change adaptation strategies. Many of these strategies align with health promotion goals, e.g., increased walking and bicycle paths, banning public smoking and promoting local food production. Even if there is not a direct impact on climate change, better and healthier world will result.

A general discussion on the topic followed the presentation.

### **Corrections/Additions to the Synopsis**

No corrections or additions.

### **New Business:**

None.

### **Action Item:**

Discussion and review of draft annual report was held. Corrections were made to the draft report. It was suggested that transportation be mentioned as an issue affecting seniors and disabled adults. Jean Polst moved and Karen Jones seconded that annual report be approved as corrected and with input of Mark Shaffer on transportation issues.

### **Committee Updates:**

**IHSS Update** – Sandra Pendell reported that all IHSS applicants and recipients are now required by the state to submit medical certification. The form used as medical certification in most cases is the SOC 873. DSS Adult Services is working to meet this new state requirement without negatively impacting IHSS applicants and recipients.

**Good Neighbors** – Jessica Devereaux reported that Kim Hudson has been hired to work on the Good Neighbor Program. Eleven people attended the last training, however only one of the volunteers lives in North County. Training will be coming up again on 9/17 with 12 volunteers anticipated. Referrals are increasing and coming from different areas in the county, so it appears that marketing and word of mouth advertising is working.

**POLST Update** – The Central Coast Coalition for Compassionate Care (CCCCC) continues to plan future POLST programs in the community. The flyer with registration information for the POLST Community Education Program – September 20<sup>th</sup> at Stephen's Church in Ramsden Hall was distributed. If you are interested in the latest POLST educational materials, they can be accessed at [www.caPOLST.org](http://www.caPOLST.org).

**The next meeting will be held October 7, 2011**

**9:00-11:00 a.m.**

**Department of Social Services**

**2975 McMillan Rd**

**San Luis Obispo**