

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

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 Coastal 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

P.O. Box 8119
San Luis Obispo
CA 93403-8119

Immediate Past Chair: Janet Amanzio, jamanzio@co.slo.ca.us, (805) 781-4732
Chair Kathleen Karle, kkarle@co.slo.ca.us, (805) 781-4929
First Vice Chair: Marie Brinkmeyer, (805) 544-8740, rsvpslo@svolunteer.org
Second Vice Chair: Tiffany Alcantara, (805)773-3744 talcantara@homeinstead.com

AGENDA

February 1, 2013

9.00 – 11.00 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 minutes or less)

DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Sacramento Update – California Senator Bill Monning
- Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) – Rick London, United Way

CORRECTIONS / ADDITIONS TO THE SYNOPSIS

ACTION ITEMS:

- None

COMMITTEE UPDATES AS NEEDED: (10 minutes or less)

- IHSS Update
- Good Neighbor
- POLST Follow up

MEETING LOCATION:

Department of Social Services
3653 Empleo Drive, San Luis Obispo

NEXT MEETING:

3/1/2013

**ASPC Meeting
February 1, 2013
Chaired by Kathleen Karle**

Attendees:

- ▶ Julie Light, Alzheimer's Association
- ▶ joyce ellen lippman, Area Agency on Aging
- ▶ Meredith Bates, Bates Care Management
- ▶ Krista Vega, Cencal Health
- ▶ Kathleen Bellefontaine, Commission on Aging
- ▶ Grace McIntosh, CAPSLO
- ▶ Diane Jay, CMSP
- ▶ Sandra Pendell, Department of Social Services
- ▶ Cindy Marie Absey, District Attorney/ Victim Witness Assistance
- ▶ Laura DeLoye, Mariposa Music Therapy
- ▶ Kathleen Karle, Public Health
- ▶ Tiffany Alcantara, Home Instead Senior Care
- ▶ Carol Rose, Home Instead Senior Care
- ▶ Jerry Mihaic, Independent Living Resource Center
- ▶ Rick Gulino, Peoples Self Help Housing
- ▶ Heidi McNichols, Probation Department
- ▶ Mark Shaffer, Ride-On/United Cerebral Palsy
- ▶ Elias Nimeh, Senior Nutrition Program
- ▶ Mike Bossenberry, Transitions Mental Health Association
- ▶ Alisa Welsch, Tri-Counties Regional Center
- ▶ Rick London, United Way of San Luis Obispo
- ▶ Kimberly Hudson, Wilshire Community Services
- ▶ Kevin Drabinski, Representative for Assembly Achadjian
- ▶ Hannah Miller, Legislative Assistant to Supervisor Adam Hill
- ▶ Martin Meltz, Community Volunteer
- ▶ Raye Fleming, CAPSLO
- ▶ Kara Barbieri, Hospice SLO
- ▶ Carly Fox, Long Term Care Ombudsman
- ▶ Sara Bartlett, Central Coast Hospice,
- ▶ Angela Nelson, Ride-On
- ▶ State Senator Bill Monning, 17th District
- ▶ Noelle White, District Director for Senator Monning

Introductions and Announcements

Kathleen Karle called the meeting to order by welcoming the group to the new location; it was noted that there is plenty of parking available in the parking lot behind the building.

Julia Light, Alzheimer's Association, passed out the 2013 Confident Caregiver Series schedule. The series provides educational information for family caregivers.

Carol Rose, Home Instead, announced that nominations were being accepted to honor a senior volunteer with the Salute to Senior Service Award. More detailed information will be e-mailed to all.

joyce ellen lippman, Area Agency on Aging, reported that the needs assessment project is going well. Distribution of the questionnaire has been very good; the next step is to collect and analyze the information.

Rick London, United Way, provided a handout about the VITA tax preparation assistance program. He also noted that www.myfreetaxes.org provides free tax services to people with annual income under \$57,000.

Sandra Pendell, DSS, informed the group about the availability of donated furniture being offered by a community member.

Mark Shaffer, Ride-On Transportation/UPC passed out information regarding the Nights Without Limits fundraiser which will be held on March 16, 2013. He reported that no calls had been made in support of the senior shuttle to the SLO Council of Governments regarding their Unmet Transition Needs public hearing. He asked that the membership call or e-mail in support of the senior shuttle. He stated that additional funds are needed to ensure the provision of services to all seniors needing transportation. He noted that people are being turned away due to limited resources. He noted that the Good Neighbor Program continues to seek volunteer drivers.

Cindy Marie Absey, Victim Witness/D.A.'s Office, reported that they are recruiting for half-time advocate to work specifically with victims who have been impacted by the AB109 Realignment early release program.

Mike Bossenberry, Transitions Mental Health/SLO Hotline, gave information about the Journey of Hope event that would be held in the next week. He reported that the Annual Bowl-a-Thon Fundraiser will be held at various locations throughout the month of March. More information about all events can be found at www.t-mha.org.

Carly Fox, Long Term Care Ombudsmen's Office, provided information about upcoming trainings for volunteers.

Kari Barbieri, Hospice SLO, reported they would have volunteer trainings in San Luis Obispo and Paso Robles during the month of February. She also noted the annual California Festival of Beers fundraiser will be held in March.

Angela Nelson, Program Coordinator for SLO Regional Ride-Share, provided information regarding the Mobility Management program. The Mobility Management program provides education and outreach on transportation services. SLO Regional Ride-share will be hosting a Mobility Management Summit in July for social service agents and anyone in the public who wants to learn more about how to support the transportation needs of clients, themselves and their friends and family. SLO Regional Ride-Share works with Ride-On Transportation, Wilshire Community Services Good Neighbor Program, RTA, SCAT, SLO City Transit, Paso Express, El Camino Shuttle and Morro Bay Transit both fixed route and Dial-a-Ride services. They promote pedestrian and cycling safety to the community in various ways including Senior Trainings.

Martin Meltz reported that the Benefits ARCH pocket resource guide is being updated and will be reprinted in the near future. He noted that the updated pocket resource guide will be available in Spanish. He reported he has been doing independent research on housing for seniors and disabled people and is also investigating how to bring more medical providers to San Luis Obispo County.

Grace McIntosh, CAPSLO reports that their adult day center is in the process of moving. She explained that they had outgrown their prior location. The center serves individuals with Alzheimer's, dementia and/or memory loss. The new center will be at 1345 Oak in Paso Robles; she expected that it would be opening in the next week.

Diane Jay, County Medical Services Program, announced that she had been contacted by the Public Health Institute who requested information on safety nets and services in San Luis Obispo County. She provided them with information about the ASPC and its members. The Public Health Institute will be doing a survey and it's possible that ASPC members will be contacted. She also announced that a stakeholders group has formed and is looking at the Affordable Care Act and how it will work in SLO County.

Public Comment:

None.

Discussion/Information Items

State Senator Bill Monning, 17th District. Senator Monning introduced himself and stated that he represents the newly formed 17th District. The 17th District includes a wide area including areas of San Luis Obispo, Monterey, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties. He will have an office in San Luis Obispo with a full time staff member.

Senator Monning reported that a balanced budget has been passed, due in large part to drastic cuts and the passage of Proposition 30 that resulted in increased tax revenue. Budget cuts totaled approximately \$30 billion and were made to all programs over the past few years. The restoration of funding made available through the passage of Proposition 30 will prevent further cuts to education. Proposition 30 also included a constitutional amendment that obligates the State to provide resources for the implementation of AB109 realignment.

Senator Monning stated he is working with groups to evaluate how funding and services to IHSS, CaWORKs, Medi-Cal and other human service programs might be restored. He noted that the groups are comparing the costs of long term institutionalization with the money "saved" by prior cuts to IHSS.

Senator Monning stated that it appears the budget is normalizing in part due to the influx of \$5 billion in unanticipated revenue coming. However he explained the unanticipated revenue was the result of wealthy individuals selling off assets at end of 2012 in order to avoid future capital gains tax. Senator Monning said the May state budget revise should bring a more realistic picture of the state's current financial situation.

While the focus over the past few years has been solely on balancing the budget, Senator Monning said he is working to have legislators and the governor shift their focus away from "the bottom line" and to the impact cuts have had on California residents.

In regards to a question about the Affordable Care Act, Senator Monning stated that if California agrees to Medicaid expansion, it will be eligible for 100% federal funding to cover the costs of enrolling and serving newly eligible community members. He also noted that certain agencies (but not insurance companies) may be eligible for funding to assist newly eligible people in enrolling. The increase in federal funding would provide a larger pay source for medical providers. He invites all to contact him, or District Director

Noelle White, with any questions or concerns. Ms. White is based out of Monterey, and will be Senator Monning's primary contact person for San Luis Obispo County until a field representative has been hired to work in the San Luis Obispo's office. Ms. White's contact information is: (831)657-6315 phone, (831)657-6320 fax or via e-mail Noelle.White@sen.ca.gov.

A question was raised regarding whether the Affordable Care Act would be implemented at the State or County level. Some people feel Counties already have infrastructure in place and could effectively implement the Act. However, given the concern about the State budget, funding to implement the program may be directed to the State. This topic is still being discussed.

It was pointed out that the lack of physicians will impact all counties in District 17. Senator Monning was aware of this issue. He noted that doctors in Monterey County are paid less than in Santa Cruz County, which creates a lack of providers in Monterey. Medicare reimbursements to providers are made at different levels based on rural/urban designation. Senator Monning is interested in promoting good health, disease prevention, and education.

A question was raised regarding bills on elder abuse and caregiver checks that were subsequently vetoed by governor. Senator Monning indicated that it was likely the governor's focus on budget was the reason. He reiterated his hope to shift the governor's focus from the budget to human needs.

Rick London, United Way. Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)

In 1969 VOAD was established by several faith-based and Red Cross in response to Hurricane Camille. California has a northern district and a southern district, which includes San Luis Obispo. The San Luis Obispo County chapter was formed in 2006. Under VOAD, agencies work together to prepare for emergency situations by following the incident control model.

American Red Cross is the overall lead agency for VOAD locally. Other agencies act as lead in specific areas such as sheltering, feeding, animal services, communications, emotional/spiritual care, and long term recovery. Other specialized areas are transportation, in-kind donations, food, information and planning, volunteer management, and finances.

Mr. London stressed that all agencies need to have a continuity plan; it's important to have plans in place to take care of the organization so that it will be able to help others during emergency. To do that, individuals working in the organization must also have their own personal situations prepared for emergency. The Red Cross has programs to assist individuals and organizations in disaster preparedness.

Mr. London provided brochures with additional information about SLO VOAD, as well as forms for agencies who want to become involved as a VOAD member. Agencies are meeting now and planning for a coordinated disaster preparedness response. Two areas that create complications are in-kind donations and untrained individuals aka Spontaneous Unaffiliated Volunteers (SUV) who show up to assist as volunteers during emergencies. PG&E has provided a grant that will support faith-based organizations to become centers for donations and SUVs. The volunteers will be registered and skill sets identified. Research is currently underway on using modern technology, e.g.,

Smartphones, during emergencies and disasters.

There has been some improvement in community disaster preparedness since San Simeon quake, but much more coordination is needed. Discussion was held regarding coordination of the different agencies that already have a preparedness plan. Overall, the responsibility for coordination in San Luis Obispo County lies with the County the Office of Emergency Services.

A question was raised regarding early warning for earthquakes. Mr. London advised the group that VOAD previously was involved in siren tests, but that the question posed would be better addressed to OES. Locally, in-kind donations should be made to Goodwill. Emergency volunteer centers are needed. Mr. London invited agencies to join SLO VOAD and advised that agencies can get more information and sign up at www.SLOVOAD.org.

Mark Shaffer, Ride-On Transportation, talked about disaster preparedness activities at Ride-On. He asks if SLO VOAD would have the ability to collect and review agencies preparedness plans. He noted that Ride-On would likely have more vehicles than drivers in the event of a disaster. Mr. London suggested that Ride-On would be a great lead agency for the transportation aspect of VOAD.

Grace McIntosh, CAPSLO, discussed the importance of developing personal relationships between people in the participating agencies. If an emergency happens at 3.00 a.m., the agency people involved need to be able to make contact and act quickly and effectively. Meeting on a regular basis promotes those relationships.

Discussion and questions were asked regarding the status of 211 in SLO County. Mr. London reported that 211 in SLO County is in improved status. Funding is secure through June 30, 2013. Progress has been made in technology and databases used by 211. 211 is in the process of completing grants to secure funding for next fiscal year. The national 211 database was crucial in weather emergencies in 2012. It's a challenge to keep the database current. He noted that 211 may also play a role in navigating Affordable Care Act enrollment and in connecting people to services. Call volume has gone up. Nearly all CA 211 systems are state of the art and "retrofitted for the future." The on-line 211 database gets a lot of "hits" and again, it's a challenge to keep it up to date. Due to budget problems, 211 in SB county is shutting down even though it gets 15,000 calls a year. Calls for San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara are handled by 211 Ventura County. 211 Ventura is likely to be a significant call-in center in the future.

Corrections/Additions to the Synopsis

Corrections in wording and spelling of name were identified. Mark Shaffer made a motion to approve the synopsis as corrected; Kathleen Bellefontaine seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Action Items:

None.

Committee Updates:

IHSS Update – No report.

Good Neighbors – Kimberly Hudson reported on behalf of Jessica Devereaux. Trainings are coming up in February. January training was not well attended. There's a strong need for more volunteers and especially drivers for people in rural areas. Public transportation availability is discussed with people requesting assistance.

General discussion held regarding senior and disabled housing needs and transportation needs in SLO County.

POLST Update – No report.

**The next meeting is March 1, 2013
9:00-11:00 a.m.
Department of Social Services
3563 Empleo Drive, San Luis Obispo**