

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.

Boards, Commissions and Community Representatives/Volunteers

Adult Abuse Prevention Council
Behavioral Health Board
Commission on Aging
County Board of Supervisors
Health Commission
SLO Supportive Housing Consortium
Martin L. Meltz, PhD

Elected Officials

CA Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian, 35th District
CA Senator Bill Monning, 17th District

Non-Profit Agencies

211 Hotline
AIDS Support Network
Alzheimer's Association
Area Agency on Aging
CenCal Health
Central Coast Hospice
Community Action Partnership of SLO (CAPSLO)
Community Health Centers (CHC)
Dignity Health-French Hospital Medical Center
Hospice of SLO County
Independent Living Resource Center
Lifesteps Foundation
LTC Ombudsman Services of SLO County
North County Connection
Peoples' Self Help Housing
Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)
Ride-On Transportation
Senior Legal Services Project
Senior Nutrition Program
SLO Hep C Project
SLO Regional Rideshare
Transitions-Mental Health Association
Tri-Counties Regional Center
United Cerebral Palsy
United Way of SLO County
Wilshire Community Services

Private Organizations

Bates Care Management
Bella Vista Transitional Care
Home Instead Senior Care
Mariposa Music Therapy/Arts for Living
Maxim Healthcare Services
Ridership Development Consultants
Senior Living Consultants

Public Agencies

San Luis Costal Adult School

San Luis Obispo County Departments of:

Behavioral Health /Mental Health Services
District Attorney / Victim Witness Assistance
Public Health
Probation Department
Sheriff Department
Social Services/Adult Services

Chair: Laura DeLoye (805) 225-6101 mariposamusictherapy@gmail.com
Immediate Past Chair: Marie Brinkmeyer (805) 544-8740 rsvpslo@srvolunteer.org
First Vice Chair: Kathleen Bellefontaine (805) 235-5779 kbellefont@charter.net

AGENDA

02/06/2015

9:00 a.m. - 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)

GUEST SPEAKER:

- Jerry Rioux, SLO Housing Trust Fund

MEMBER COMMENT:

CORRECTIONS / ADDITIONS TO THE SYNOPSIS:

ACTION ITEMS:

COMMITTEE UPDATES AS NEEDED: (10 minutes or less)

- IHSS
- POLST
- Transportation

MEETING LOCATION:

CAPSLO

1030 Southwood Drive, San Luis Obispo

NEXT MEETING:

03/06/2015

Adult Services Policy Council

02/06/15

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

ATTENDEES:

Sonya Laputz, Alzheimer's Association
Karen Jones, LTC Ombudsman Services of SLO Co.
David Kilburn, AIDS Support Network & Hep C Project
Joyce Ellen lippman, Area Agency on Aging
Teresa Merkle-Scott, CenCal Health
Kathleen Bellefontaine, Commission on Aging
Mara Whitten, CAPSLO
Craig Wood, CHC
Kat Lauterback, DSS
Jean Raymond, French Hospital/Health Commission
Lisa Tapia, Lifesteps Foundation-CCAS
Mary Vandenberg, SLO Senior Center
Jason Portugal, UCP of SLO Co.

Cynthia Collins, Lifesteps Foundation-CCAS
Laura DeLoye, Mariposa Music Therapy/Arts for Living
Fred Munroe, Ridership Development
Marie Brinkmeyer, RSVP-Senior Volunteer Services
Sara Sanders, SLO Regional Rideshare
Stuart MacDonald, Sheriff's Dept.
Mike Bossenberry, TMHA
Jessica Devereaux, Wilshire Community Services
Rachel Cementina, United Way of SLO Co.
Brittany Carraway, People's Self-Help Housing
Margie Alita, DSS Synopsis
Morgan Johnson, DSS

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairwoman Laura DeLoye welcomed the group

Marie Brinkmeyer announced that RSVP is in the conceptual stages of creating a companion volunteer program, the Central Coast Community Volunteers Program. This new program will have an entrance age of at least 50, (the RSVP program currently has an entrance age of 55) and this will allow in recruiting some of the younger seniors who are able to volunteer. She also provided a flyer for the upcoming fundraiser, an Overnight Bus Trip to Santa Barbara. Dates are May 13 and 14, 2015. Please call 544-8740 to make reservations.

Jessica Devereaux announced Wilshire Community Services and the Cancer Support Community are partnering to bring new volunteer orientations to Northern SLO County on February 21, 2015, and March 25, 2015. For more information, please call 238-4411.

Jason Portugal from United Cerebral Palsy stated that Nights Without Limits is scheduled for March 28, 2015. More information is available at www.ucp-slo.org or by calling 543-2039.

Karen Jones announced the annual spring See's Candies fundraiser is coming up that sales from the fundraiser benefit their emergency fund. If anyone would like a flyer, please contact her and she will provide by email. She also stated the board is looking for new members for the Ombudsman program. They meet six times a year.

Sara Sanders stated May is Bike Month and that Bike Month mini grants are available. She encouraged all to participate.

Mike Bossenberry from Transitions Mental Health Association announced the annual Strike-Out Stigma Bowl-A-Thon scheduled throughout the county during the month of March. TMHA is losing some funding and staff positions due to a lack of Proposition 63 funds.

David Kilburn announced that the 25th annual AIDS Update Symposium will be held on March 19, 2015. Topics include new treatments in Hep C and HIV and prevention programs, among other topics. They received a grant from Dignity Health which allows them to partner with Planned Parenthood, The Noor Foundation, and CAPSLO to the center to provide free Hep C testing to the community.

Sonia Laputz provided newsletters and information for the 2015 Dementia Care California and stated the Resource Fair is scheduled for June 11, 2015 at the SLO Senior Center (1445 Santa Rosa Street) from 1 pm to 4 pm. The fair focuses on care giving for someone with dementia or Alzheimer's and admission is free. Please RSVP by calling 547-3830 or by email to slaputz@alz.org.

Fred Munroe stated the City of SLO has reworked their website and some may encounter problems navigating the new site. He can be contacted if help is needed with transit questions.

joyce ellen lippman stated the Area Agency on Aging will be holding their 40th Anniversary party on March 13, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Santa Maria Inn. She also stated a local public forum on aging is scheduled for February 18, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott in Buellton. Admission is free and topics presented will include: ensuring retirement security, promoting healthy aging, and providing long-term services and support. She encouraged all to share their input with Congresswoman Lois Capps.

Mara Whitten from the Paso Adult Day Center (CAPSLO) announced that the Fancy Hat Tea Party Fundraiser is scheduled for March 29, 2015, at Robert Hall Winery. Wine, food, appetizers, and a fashion show are included.

Mary Vanderberg from the SLO Senior Center provided her email, sloseniornews@charter.net and offered to post any flyers for upcoming events as well as general information, just email to her.

Rachel Cementina from United Way stated help is available with the preparation and filing of income taxes. This service is free and available to individuals and families with a combined gross income of \$60,000 or less in 2014. Individuals can call 922-0329 ext. 103 to set an appointment. An online resource is also available at www.myfreetaxes.org

GUEST SPEAKER:

Jerry Rioux from the SLO Housing Trust Fund began his presentation by stating that the last American Community Survey conducted by the Census Bureau found that there were fewer than 1,100 vacant rentals in the entire county. At the same time the homeless enumeration found that there were 2,200 individuals without a home on a given night. Ninety percent of those individuals were sleeping on the streets or in their cars. Housing availability is severely restricted, especially housing that is affordable and available to people living on minimum wage or Social Security. Among the many difficulties are the planning processes (particularly when producing multi-family housing and high density housing); financing is difficult to obtain, and the prevailing attitude is that communities do not want that type of housing built (a "not-in-my-backyard" attitude).

In the past new infrastructure costs were shared by a new development as well as existing developments, but due to Prop. 13 the new development must pay for all new costs. It is very difficult to allocate those costs fairly and so the costs are set, with no consideration given to whether the new dwelling is a tiny studio or a 4,000 square foot home. It may cost \$40-70K per unit just to pay for the fees for the proportionate share of the infrastructure to support the new housing. Fees are assessed by unit *not* by the number of people, square footage, etc. HSOC has recommended that when a new development is being considered, the costs be proportionate to the type of dwelling being proposed. Most communities have agreed to look at the issue but many cities won't due to lack of time or manpower and the problem persists. Mr. Rioux suggested that one thing that can be done is to encourage the county and cities to consider adjusting fees so that new smaller, denser units pay a more realistic and fair portion.

Mr. Rioux continued stating that the planning process may take three or four years for most projects to get final approval. There may be two or three reviews by an architectural committee, in addition to reviews by the cultural heritage committee, the planning commission, the city council, and finally review and approval by the Board of Supervisors. There are expensive costs and time delays associated with all those reviews and in short, the process needs to be accelerated. (Some communities fast track truly affordable projects, for example, HASLO is working on one on Humphrey St. and it went through the architectural review committee rather quickly.)

Housing in this county is also very expensive, whether for sale housing or rental housing that attempts to be affordable. Mr. Rioux stated that "affordable" can be defined as rents at the lower end beginning at \$250/month (without rental assistance) and at the higher end at \$1,600/month.] Recently new affordable rental projects were financed and work should begin: In Morro Bay, a 43-unit project; in SLO on South Street; and a 70-unit project in Paso Robles. All units will be affordable to people earning as little as \$15,000 a year and many of the units will have rental subsidies but the need remains for even more affordable housing. In Arroyo Grande HASLO has a project in the planning phase that will probably consist of small units, studios, and one-bedroom apartments for individuals with very, very low income. Templeton also has a 30-unit project in the works. A private developer is trying to build approximately 40 units on Broad Street near the Marigold Center. If all goes well it may be built in two or three years.

Financing and funding are crucial for building affordable housing. Mr. Rioux stated the county receives a fairly small allocation (\$750K) in federal funds that is used for multi-family housing, enough to help one project per year. He described the role of the SLO Housing Trust as that of a bank that provides financing for affordable housing projects. Their role is primarily a financial role and loans are typically made in the early stages of a project. Projects usually get funding from either banks or the government and the Housing Trust funds the difference. (The Trust fits a niche between government housing programs and banks.) In the last 10 years, \$16 million have been used to help build 600 affordable housing units in the county. To a lesser degree, they also provide technical assistance, work to help identify funding sources, and help make grant applications more competitive. They support efforts to procure local funding and work with housing sponsors and not individuals.

Two years ago ASPC endorsed some state legislation to fund affordable housing. As the year has just started, additional legislation for affordable housing may be introduced. (Last year's budget included some money for multi-family housing, but that funding is uncertain at this time.) The prevailing attitude is that cities should bring in revenue in the form of taxes and therefore prefer to support retail developments. Affordable housing is viewed by some as a money loser and too expensive to provide for that many more people.

In conclusion Mr. Rioux stated cities must support affordable housing to a higher degree. There are many things that can be done to help support affordable housing, but most efforts will be small and incremental. He encouraged all to support as many projects as possible to promote the affordable housing model. He stated he is available to speak with members and that his email address is listed on the mailing list. The group thanked him for his presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

MEMBER COMMENT:

Mara Whitten stated transportation to the Paso Adult Day Center is problematic for some clients at this time. After comments from members, Jason Portugal volunteered to speak with Mark Shafer and Ms. Whitten to try to find other transportation resources and grants that may be available.

CORRECTIONS/ADDTIONS TO THE SYNOPSIS:

The following corrections will be made to the January Feb 9, 2015 synopsis:

Correction to Mark Shaffer's LN (delete the "C") and add an "a" to "for purchase at a very reasonable price."
Guest Speakers - Kasey Watson, Garden House First paragraph: Replace Gary with "**Garri**," and Key with "**Keyes**." Second paragraph: Second sentence: Should read: "She **trained** with Art Without Boundaries, an art-based brain therapy developed by **Noell Hammer** who was the director of an Alzheimer's chapter in Ohio."Third sentence: **Ms. Hammer** developed and patented **Mneme Therapy**, a technique to help alleviate symptoms found in many dementia patients. Fifth sentence: Ms. Watson purchased Garden House in **Morro Bay** and employs another **Mneme** therapist. Ninth sentence: A documentary produced by Celia Zanta, a retired film producer, was offered to the group to help promote Garden House and **Mneme** Therapy. The synopsis was approved by all with corrections.

ACTION ITEMS:

Ms. DeLoye mentioned that she will be reviewing ASPC by-laws with Ms. Brinkmeyer and Ms. Bellefontaine, and that an update would be provided to the group in the coming weeks.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

IHSS – Kat Lauterback stated that new rules for IHSS providers were vacated over the holidays by a federal court judge. Issues regarding IHSS provider overtime pay, travel time pay, and work week limits are all on hold, pending the outcome at the federal level. The State has notified providers about the current situation and the program will continue to function as usual until a court decision is reached. Ms. Lauterback will provide updates as they are received.

SLO Coalition for Compassionate Care/POLST – Jean Raymond stated new forms are available. An educational session is scheduled for February 28, 2015, at SLO Hospice at 3 p.m. The State national meeting will be held in Sacramento in April, registration information is available online.

Transportation – Sara Sanders stated two consultants are bidding to begin work on the Coordinated Human Services Plan and she will notify the group once a consultant is chosen. She also provided a form detailing information on which transit providers provide what services with their contact information. She will email the electronic version of the form to Emma Caballero. Fred Munroe stated public transportation training is available for staff and clients. Training is provided on an as-needed basis and all training requests will be honored. The 511 line is also available as a resource for questions/help with trip planning. Lastly, Jason Portugal reminded the group that volunteer drivers are still needed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.