

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
Second Vice Chair: Vacant

AGENDA

10/03/2014

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:

- **Buff Lawson (HICAP) – Medicare Updates**

MEMBER COMMENT:

CORRECTIONS / ADDITIONS TO THE SYNOPSIS:

ACTION ITEMS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Nomination of 2nd Vice Chair**
- **ASPC Continuum of Care Updates**

COMMITTEE UPDATES AS NEEDED: (10 minutes or less)

- **IHSS**
- **POLST**
- **Transportation**

MEETING LOCATION:

CAPSLO

1030 Southwood Drive, San Luis Obispo

NEXT MEETING:

11/07/2014

Adult Services Policy Council 10/03/14

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

ATTENDEES:

Karen Jones, LTC Ombudsman Services of SLO
David Kilburn, AIDS Support Network/SLO Hep C Project
Sonya Laputz, Alzheimer's Association
joyce ellen lippman, Area Agency on Aging
Kathleen Bellefontaine, Commission on Aging
Mara Whitten, CAPSLO
Gail Tutino, CHC
Kat Lauterback, DSS
Margie Alita, DSS
Buff Lawson, HICAP
Owen Schwaegerle, Intern for Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian

Laura DeLoye, Mariposa Music Therapy/Arts for Living
Mark Shaffer, Ride-On/United Cerebral Palsy
Fred Munroe, Ridership Development
Marie Brinkmeyer, RSVP-Senior Volunteer Services
Barry Johnson, Transitions Mental Health Assoc.
Jessica Devereaux, Wilshire Community Services
Kevin Drabinski, Field Rep. for Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian
Liz Ruth, Aide to District 4 Supervisor Caren Ray
Monica Grant, YMCA
Joe Madsen, Transitions Mental Health Assoc.
Kris Kington-Barker, Hospice of SLO

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairwoman Laura DeLoye welcomed the group.

Jessica Devereaux announced a Caring Caller and Good Neighbor training scheduled for Oct. 4, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. She also stated Senior Peer Counseling Certification Training is scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays for a few weeks beginning Oct. 21, 2014. Finally National Good Neighbor Day was Sept. 28, 2014, and individuals are encouraged to post pictures of themselves, friends, family, etc. performing neighborly acts of kindness in the community. Go to #GOODNEIGHBORSLO to post and to enter a contest to win prizes.

Marie Brinkmeyer from RSVP acknowledged and thanked all who helped make the RSVP's raffle a great success.

Mara Whitten of CAPSLO announced that their agency has a contract with the Veterans Administration and eligible veterans are encouraged to take advantage of all available services. She also stated that mammogram screenings are scheduled for Oct. 18, 2014, at French Hospital. Individuals should call The Center at 544-2478 to schedule an appointment and 542-6268 for more information.

Kevin Drabinski commented that it is the end of the legislative year and that now is the time to entertain new legislative proposals. Assemblyman Achadjian is in the district through December.

Fred Munroe stated Sara Sanders sent an email reminder regarding the Mobility Workshop. The deadline to register is Oct. 10, 2014. New maps/schedules for SLO Transit are now available.

Sonya Laputz encouraged all to participate in the annual Walk to End Alzheimer's coming up on Oct. 18, 2014, at Laguna Lake Park in San Luis Obispo. Registration begins at 8 a.m.; there will also be a fun run for kids.

joyce ellen lippmann announced a special workshop entitled "Working Together to Prevent Elder Financial Abuse on the Central Coast of California" to be presented Monday, November 3, 2014, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the San Luis Obispo City/County Library Community Room, 995 Palm Street. It is free to the general public.

Mark Shaffer announced UCP's annual Walk and Roll on Oct. 18, 2014, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Meadow Park. It is a celebration of the mobility and access for individuals with developmental disabilities and helps promote the full inclusion of individuals with disabilities. Information is available at www.ucp-slo.org or by calling 543-2039.

David Kilburn announced the 23rd annual Walk for Life to be held on Nov. 1, 2014, at Santa Rosa Park in SLO.

Gail Tutino stated flu clinic schedules will be sent as soon as they become available to her. She also stated that a grant is being written for a new medical center in Los Alamos and encouraged all to write a letter in support of the center.

Kathleen Bellefontaine stated a volunteer is needed to help with microphones at meetings of the Commission on Aging. Help is needed the third Friday of every month, beginning at 10 a.m.

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Kat Lauterback stated a staff training was conducted Oct. 2, 2014, in Structured Decision Making (SDM) which will improve the department's ability to be consistent with referrals and the decision making process. She also mentioned that the IHSS program is facing federal overtime legislation effective Jan. 1, 2015. There is a possibility that President Obama will extend it to April; however, uncertainty about many issues remains high. Because there is a limit on the amount of overtime that can be worked each week, the process is very complicated and will be challenging to counties and clients alike.

Kris Kingston-Barker announced a free training on Oct. 24, 2014, on grief and adolescence at the Mason's Hall on March St. It will be a combination of a webinar and panel discussion. CEUs are available through the Hospice Foundation for \$25. Coming up in January there will be a workshop on grief counseling that will focus on different approaches for specific communities.

Barry Johnson of TMHA reminded the group that the Beautiful Minds fundraiser walk is scheduled for Oct. 4, 2014, at Laguna Lake from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the Out of Darkness Walk (A suicide survivor walk) will take place On Oct. 18, 2014. TMHA is also sponsoring a few suicide prevention forums beginning with an Oct. 7, 2014, forum from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the CalPoly campus. On Nov. 5, 2014, John Kevin Hinds will be speaking at the suicide prevention forum at the Radisson Hotel in Santa Maria. Mr. Johnson will email information regarding these items.

PUBLIC COMMENT:N/A

GUEST SPEAKER:

The group welcomed Buff Lawson, registered counselor for the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP). HICAP is part of the Central Coast Area Agency on Aging as well as a national network whose mission is to help people through the maze of Medicare. One-on-one individual counseling is available to help individuals navigate the Medicare system. HICAP is not affiliated with insurance agents or brokers and is made up almost entirely of volunteers serving Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties.

Medicare is made up of Original Medicare, Part A (hospital insurance) and Part B (medical insurance) and does not provide for a prescription plan. In 2003, Congress passed Part D which authorized a prescription drug plan. Part D is provided by private insurance companies, is monitored by Medicare, and has changes every calendar year. If an individual is using Original Medicare, Medicare Supplement Plans through private insurance companies can be purchased. If an individual has Part C, h/she is assigning their benefit delivery to a Medicare Advantage Plan (MAP). Many MAPs are HMOs that contract with Medicare and offer as good or better services as Parts A and B. Currently there are only three MAP HMOs available in this county.

In a report dated July 28, 2014, the Medicare trustee reported that Medicare is solvent and is not going out of business. The summary report stated Part A is solvent until at least 2030 and credits an increase in payroll taxes and Affordable Care Act cost saving measures. The Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund (funds Parts B and D) is solvent as well, receiving 75% of its funding from General Revenues and 25% from premiums to Part B and to payments for Part D.

Current law stipulates that in order to maintain solvency, Social Security and Medicare must meet the Sustainable Growth Rate Clause, which usually means cuts every year. This has been an ongoing issue since 2003 because Congress historically has provided an extension each year and hasn't enacted a permanent solution. The extension passed last March goes through March 2015, hopefully allowing time for a permanent fix. The March 2014 congressional action also provided for adjustment of the Medicare reimbursement system so that Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties will no longer be designated as rural counties for lower reimbursement rates. This "doc fix" will be phased in starting in 2017.

The implementation of the Affordable Care Act did not reduce medical care or services. Specific clauses in that legislation provide that nothing shall result in reduction of services and requires savings generated from Medicare under the ACA be used to extend the solvency and improve benefits to participants. The ACA through Covered California stops when an individual is eligible to Medicare, usually at 65 years of age and earlier if a person is disabled. The ACA added 100% coverage for many preventative services, closes the Part D "Doughnut Hole" in prescription coverage by 2020, and works to phase down the overpayments to MAPs. It requires that MAPs use 85% of the money received from Medicare and beneficiaries' premiums be used for medical services, with the remaining 15% for administrative fees and profits. Nothing in the law stipulated that MAPs were going to be done away with and while some insurance companies opted out of the basic requirements (temporarily resulting in fewer MAPs), MAPs are still available.

Part D and MAPs are based on the calendar year and change every year, which means policies, formularies, benefits, etc. change as well. Beneficiaries need to navigate and understand changes to the plans. Beneficiaries are encouraged to do a PDP (Part D Prescription Drug Plan) search of formularies to find out which plans cover their specific prescription needs. In 2015, there will be 32 plans in CA and will vary in formularies and networks and range in prices. Some may have income-based surcharges. It is best to compare plans to make sure needed prescriptions/services are covered. More information is

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available at www.medicare.gov.

Ms. Lawson encouraged all to inform participants and clients that Open Enrollment runs from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, 2014. Help is available through HICAP by calling 1-800-434-0222 or at www.centralcoastseniors.org (click on HICAP). HICAP can assist individuals understand low income subsidies, help with prescription drug coverage information, as well as help to apply online. Ms. Lawson will email Emma Caballero to provide details on open enrollment events to be held throughout the county in the upcoming weeks. Members thanked Ms. Lawson for her time and presentation.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Marie Brinkmeyer stated her organization is willing and happy to help promote events that need to reach as many as possible in the community, free of charge.

CORRECTIONS/ADDTIONS TO THE SYNOPSIS:

The following corrections were made: delete the sentence regarding the missing sweater one page one; change September to "Steptember" on page one; delete "commissioner" from Ann Wyatt's name on page one, and minor grammar changes to several other pages.

Ms. Brinkmeyer made a motion to approve the synopsis with above changes, Ms. Lauterback made the second motion, and motion was passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Nomination of 2nd Vice Chair** – A question was raised regarding whether or not it is necessary to have a 2nd Vice Chair. Ms. DeLoye will do research and check the history on official documents and get back to the group.
- Ms. DeLoye acknowledged and thanked Ms. Brinkmeyer for her work on the ASPC Annual Report that will be presented on Nov. 4, 2014, at the SLO County Board of Supervisors' meeting.
- **ASPC Continuum of Care Updates** – Ms. DeLoye asked if the document is still used and asked about its usefulness. Members commented that there are programs that don't exist anymore due to the many changes in programs and services, in addition to the many personnel changes that occur on a regular basis. The amount of time needed to keep the document up-to-date is also a consideration. Ms. Brinkmeyer will do some research and look into the history of the document before it is discontinued and will report on this at a future meeting.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

IHSS – Ms. Lauterback stated she would provide an update on the issue of federal overtime at a future meeting.

POLST – Ms. Kingston-Barker stated that the form was revised as of Oct. 1, 2014, and that prior versions are still valid. The form was changed based on: 1.) The manner in which the form is used/handed out without the individual first having an understanding/being educated on the matter and 2.) Healthcare providers understand the goals of care in that they're not always absolute. A POLST Committee will be reactivated and will meet on Oct. 16, 2014, at 3 p.m. at Sierra Vista Hospital. The new POLST form will be reviewed and a discussion will include how to train people to give those to patients so that healthcare providers can educate more fully. She also stated that healthcare providers will now be reimbursed for having end-of-life care conversations with patients. The POLST form must be signed and dated by a physician in order to be legally valid.

TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Shaffer gave a reminder about the upcoming Mobility Workshop and that one goal is to identify unmet transportation needs. Mr. Munroe stated RSVP to this workshop is due by Oct. 10, 2014. A question was raised regarding Uber, a service that connects local drivers and individuals looking for rides/transportation. There are many legal issues that need to be resolved, one being that Uber doesn't have a driver screening process. Issues regarding insurance, liability, and safety have also been raised. While Uber is operating in the City of San Luis Obispo, it is not doing so legally.

Ms. DeLoye gave a reminder that the next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 7, 2014.

Ms. Brinkmeyer proposed that prior to making a donation to a local charity; it might be a good idea to have a brief presentation on each charity so as to become familiar with the organization.

Meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.