



Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission Regular Meeting

Agenda

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

In-Person: Carnelian Conference Room, 3725 Westwind Blvd. Santa Rosa 95403

Zoom Option for Public Attendees: [Zoom Link](#)

- 1:00 **1. Welcome, Introductions** (Helman)
- 1:00 **2. Approval of 04.17.24 Advisory Council Meeting Minutes** (Helman)
- 1:05 **3. Marge Linge Award Presentation** (Helman/Chamberlain)
- 1:15 **4. C4A Conference Report/TACC** (Helman/Kelley)
- 1:20 **5. Aging & Disability Resource Hub (ADRH)**
Presenters: Betsey Harper – Human Services Adult & Aging
Jordan Rico – Disability Services & Legal Center (DSLCL)
- 1:55 **6. No Wrong Door Standing Committee – Action** (Helman)
- 2:00 **7. Director/Staff Report** (Dunaway/Avery)
- Master Plan for Aging Update
 - Local Aging & Disability Action Plan Update
 - Older Americans Month Gold Resolution Update
 - AB1249
- 2:05 **8. Public Comment and Council Member Open Forum**
- BREAK**
- 2:25 **9. June Officer Elections Process – Action** (Helman/Beards)
- Establish Nominating Committee
 - Membership
- 2:40 **10. Membership Update** (Helman)
- Brown Bag Lunch
 - Buddy Sign Up
- 2:45 **11. Ad Hoc Committee Discussion** (Helman/Beards)
- Current Committee Report-Outs

- Dissolving AP Goals & Objectives Committee – **Action**
- Senior Expo Planning – **Action**
- Planning Day – **Action**

3:00 **12. Adjourn** (Helman)

Attachments: Advisory Council Meeting Minutes (04.17.24), Pager

Supplemental materials related to an agenda item are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Adult & Aging Office, 3725 Westwind Blvd., Suite 101, Santa Rosa. All listed times are approximate and subject to change. Agenda items are scheduled for consideration by the Advisory Council, which may or may not choose to act. Breaks may be called at the discretion of the Chair. If you need any accommodations to effectively participate, please contact aaa@schsd.org or (707) 565-5238 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. To submit items for the AAA Newsletter, or to receive the AAA Newsletter: AAA@schsd.org.

Advisory Council Executive Committee Members: **Chair:** Diane Spain **Vice Chair:** Jenny Helman
Secretary: Deanna Shaat **Former Chair:** Terry Kelley **Parliamentarian:** Trayce Beards **Advisory Council Members:** Rick Baum, Kerrily Beaton, Suzanne Edwards, Sandra Hoeverstz, Erick Larson, Larry McCabe, Jaime Peñaherrera, Alain Serkissian, Don Streeper, Robin Thompson, Priyanka Varma
AAA Director: Paul Dunaway **Community Services Program Manager:** Sara Avery

Upcoming Events:

- Upcoming ADC meetings:
 - ADC: June 19, 2024, 1-3pm, No ADC meeting in July
 - ADC Executive Committee: June 11, 11am-12:30pm
- ADC Planning Day: August 21
- DSLC Tech Expo: May 17, 11am-3pm
- SCTA Transit Paratransit Coordinating Committee: May 21 1:30-3:00pm
- Senior Expo: July 13, 9am-12pm. [Senior Expo | Santa Rosa, CA \(srcity.org\)](http://srcity.org)



Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Carnelian Conference Room, 3725 Westwind Blvd. Santa Rosa 95403

In-person Attendance: Deanna Shaat, Jenny Helman, Trayce Beards, Robin Thompson, Priyanka Varma, Kerrily Beaton, Freddy Piedrahita, Rick Baum, Larry McCabe, Terry Kelley (left at 1:20pm)

Zoom Attendance: Diane Spain, Alain Serkissian, Don Streeper, Jaime Peñaherrera

Staff Attendance: Katie Parrish, Sara Avery, Paul Dunaway, Cassandra Denson (Zoom Admin)

Absent: Sandra Hoevertsz, Suzanne Edwards, Phillis Sutter, Erick Larson

1. Welcome, Introductions (Helman) 1:15pm

Council members need to notify both the AAA Staff and the Council Chair if they are not going to attend a meeting.

2. Approval of 03.20.24 Advisory Council Meeting Minutes (Helman)

Approved as written.

3. New Board Appointed Member: Varma (Shaat)

District 2 Appointment.

4. New Member Applicant: Peñaherrera – Action (Helman)

Motion to elect Jaime Peñaherrera to the AAA Advisory Council.

1st Rick Baum 2nd: Deanna Shaat Vote: Passed

5. Staff Update (Dunaway/Parrish/Avery)

Katie Parrish's last day is April 19th, 2024. Sara Avery will take over her position and work with the Advisory Council. Sara has worked with Adult & Aging and Behavior Health with the County for many years.

6. In Home Supportive Services – Public Authority (IHSS-PA)

Presenter: Eric Glentzer – Overview of IHSS-PA and Introduction of IHSS-PA Advisory Committee Members

- Introduced participating members (Carol Taylor and Lorna Schrader)
- Provided a high-level overview of the IHSS Program.
- 283 hours per month is the care limit. The average is 116 hours per month.
- Reviewed Sonoma County's demographics of consumers receiving services.
- Provided an overview of the Public Authority within IHSS.
- Provider (Caregiver) pay in Sonoma County is \$17.35/hour.
- Offers Provider orientations in Santa Rosa, South County, West County (new location), and Sonoma Valley (Starting in April).
- Offers Career Pathways training for Providers.
- Reviewed the demographics of Providers (Caregivers)

- IHSS Public Authority Advisory Committee is made up of 10 members. Work as advocates for Policy and Legislation.
- Request for partnering with the AAA Advisory Committee.

7. Legislative Offices: Representative Reports (Helman)

Congressman Mike Thompson – Brendan Sweeney

- Grant and tax credit program for homeowners that will provide disaster resilience programs and attract Insurance companies back to Sonoma County.
- Fire Survivors tax relief legislation. (HR7204)
- Closing Firearms Sales Loopholes for universal background checks. (Bipartisan Save the Communities Act)
- VA healthcare eligibility expansion.

Congressman Jared Huffman – Riley Ahern -Not in attendance.

Senator Bill Dodd – Steve Panages- Not in attendance.

Senate Majority Leader Mike McGuire – Hannah Appel

- Discussed State budget shortfall (Estimated \$38B to \$53B shortfall. Budget cuts are expected.)
- Working on fentanyl legislation. SB1319- expedites development of treatment centers.
- Working on insurance crisis legislation.

Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry – Laura Beltran- Not in attendance.

Assemblymember Jim Wood – Outgoing, No Report

Assemblymember Damon Connolly – AnnaMaria Tamayo

- AB817- Teleconference Bill.
- AB1157- Durable Medical Equipment Bill.
- SB37- On the Assembly desk.
- Discussed IHSS Budget.
- Upcoming Priorities: Clean Energy Incentives, ATT Landlines Opposition.

8. Public Comment and Council Member Open Forum

9. Break

10. Director/Staff Report (Dunaway/Parrish/Avery)

Master Plan for Aging Update

- Putting together Talking points for members to bring to their district Board members.
- Kickoff Event will be scheduled soon (expected in September or October).

Local Aging & Disability Action Plan Update

- Focus Groups will be set up next.

Council Member Recruitment Language One-Pager

- “Priority of the Sonoma County Aging & Disability Commission’s Executive Committee is to have a diverse Commission representative of the priority populations we serve.”

Accessible Transportation Policy Blueprint

Accessible Transportation Reform Webinar 03.25.2024- Link in Agenda Packet

Fair Event & Little People of America

- The event will no longer be happening at Sonoma County Fair.

2:45 **11. Ad Hoc Committee Discussion**

Ad Hoc: Communication Advisory Role – Action (Beards)

Motion: Dissolve the Communication Advisory Role Ad Hoc Committee and start the Mission Statement Ad Hoc Committee to recommend wording for a mission statement for the Aging & Disability Commission.

1st: Trayce Beards 2nd: Rick Baum Vote: Passed

- Jenny Helman, Robin Thompson, Diane Spain, Trayce Beards, and Freddy Piedrahita, would be interested in participating.
- Time frame: Apr-Jul 2024
- Mission recommendation is given on planning day.

Ad Hoc: Volunteer Log Value & Purpose – Action (Beards)

Motion: Adopt the use of the Volunteer Log created by the Volunteer Log Ad Hoc Committee.

1st: Trayce Beards 2nd: Rick Baum. Vote: Passed, (One member voted No)

Motion: Dissolve the Volunteer Log Ad Hoc Committee.

1st: Trayce Beards 2nd: Rick Baum. Vote: Passed

Ad Hoc: Recruitment Strategy: Materials & Process- Action (Beards)

Motion: Dissolve the existing Diversity & Outreach Ad Hoc Committee and start the Community Engagement Ad Hoc Committee to make recommendations for engaging with community partners who represent underrepresented communities.

1st: Jenny Helman 2nd: Kerrily Beaton Vote: Passed

- Freddy Piedrahita, Kerrily Beaton, Diane Spain, Trayce Beards, Erick Larson, and Jenny Helman showed interest in working on a committee for diverse recruitment and building community partnerships.
- Time frame: Apr-Jul 2024
- Recommendations would be presented on Planning Day.

12. Adjourn (Helman) 3:02PM

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Aging & Disability Commission (ADC) Officer Nominations ad hoc committee May 2024

At the May ADC meeting, commission members form a three-person Officer Nominations ad hoc committee to prepare a slate of nominees for the three officer positions.

Commission officers are the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary. Terms of office are two years, beginning July 1 and ending June 30. Current officers are Chairperson Diane Spain, Vice Chairperson Jenny Helman, and Secretary Deanna Shaat. Their terms end June 30, 2024. All are eligible to be nominated for re-election; Diane is not interested in being nominated. Officer elections will be held at the June ADC meeting.

Are you interested in serving on this three-person ad hoc committee? Eligible committee members must:

1. Be available for one or two Zoom meetings between May 15 and June 4.
2. NOT be interested in running for office. Members of the of the committee cannot be nominated for election.
3. NOT have served on the 2022 Nominating Committee. (Don, Trayce)

Are you interested in being nominated for an officer position? A nominee must be both qualified and willing. Officer duties include:

1. Duties of the Commission Chairperson
 - a. Preside at meetings of the Commission and its Executive Committee. Presiding officer duties include:
 - i. Guiding members through the meeting agenda according to parliamentary procedure and designating who may speak at any given time.
 - ii. Facilitating the meeting in a manner that allows for the presentation of diverse points of view.
 - iii. Ensuring that Commission members and other meeting attendees stay on topic and that issues on the agenda are addressed in a timely fashion.
 - b. Serve as an ex officio member of other standing committees.
 - c. In consultation with AAA staff, call special meetings when necessary.
 - d. Appoint a Parliamentarian to advise the presiding officer on parliamentary procedure.
 - e. Sign letters, Area Plan submissions, and other documents on behalf of the Commission.
 - f. Represent the Commission on the Triple A Council of California (TACC), including:
 - i. Submitting a Commission report to TACC prior to the meeting,
 - ii. Attending TACC meetings, and
 - iii. Reporting TACC activities to the Commission.
 - g. Ensure that an annual workplan and biannual progress reports are submitted to the BOS.
2. Duties of the Commission Vice Chairperson
 - a. Serve as a member of the Executive Committee.
 - b. Serve as Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.
3. Duties of the Commission Secretary
 - a. Serve as a member of the Executive Committee.
 - b. Read and report on correspondence addressed to the Commission.
 - c. Serve as Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

The Commission may establish an ad hoc committee to **complete a specific task within a limited time frame**. The number of members must be less than a quorum of the Commission. Meetings are exempt from Brown Act requirements, so can be on Zoom. Meetings do not require staff support, but staff may be asked for help if needed.

The ADC Executive Committee has proposed establishment of two new ad hoc committees:

1. **Preparing for Senior Expo**

Specific Task: Prepare for ADC table at July 13th Senior Expo

May include:

- Planning table decorations and display
- Coming up with interactive activities to engage visitors
- Planning for tabletop handouts and giveaways
- Scheduling ADC members to staff the table
- Providing a progress report at June 19th ADC meeting

Time Frame: To be completed by July 13, 2024

2. **Agenda for Planning Day**

Specific Task: Recommend agenda items for August 21st Planning Day

May include:

- Drafting agenda topics and desired outcomes
- Planning social activities, opportunities to interact
- Considering whether any agenda items may require outside facilitation
- Consulting with staff about lunch plans
- Scheduling start and end times

Time Frame: Recommendations submitted to Chair and Sara by August 5, 2024

Commission tasks for today:

1. Take a vote on establishing committees.
2. Ask who is interested on serving on new committees.
3. Designate a committee member to coordinate the first meeting of new committees.

Final Rule: 2024 Update to ACL's Older Americans Act Regulations

On February 6, 2024, ACL released a final rule to update the regulations implementing its Older Americans Act (OAA) programs. The new regulations will take effect on March 15, 2024, but regulated entities have until October 1, 2025 to comply. ACL looks forward to working with partners in the aging network to implement the final rule and will provide robust technical assistance and other resources to support states, tribes and tribal organizations, area agencies on aging, and others in the aging network in meeting its requirements.

Additional information can be found on [ACL.gov/OAArule](https://acl.gov/OAArule).

Summary

With the release of the OAA final rule, ACL has achieved a significant milestone, one that will ensure the nation's growing population of older adults can continue to receive the services and supports they need to maintain their independence and quality of life. The last substantial update to most OAA program regulations was in 1988, and our world has changed dramatically in the 35 years since. The population of older adults has nearly doubled, and older adults are living longer than ever before. Their expectations for aging are different from those of earlier generations. Increased understanding of the impact of the social determinants of health is reshaping health care, as non- medical services that help people avoid hospitalization and institutional care – like those provided through OAA programs – are increasingly being incorporated into health care service delivery models. In addition, the OAA has been amended by Congress seven times since 1988.

One important aspect has not changed: older adults overwhelmingly want to continue to live independently, in the community – and nearly 95 percent of them do.

The final rule contains updates that reflect the needs of today's older adults, align the regulations to the current statute, address issues that have emerged since the last update, and clarify a number of requirements. The final rule aims to better support the national aging network that delivers OAA services and improve program

implementation, with the ultimate goal of better serving older adults.

The final rule is the culmination of many years of engagement with the national aging network. It also reflects input received through a request for information (RFI) and a series of listening sessions, including consultations with tribes and other engagement with Native American grantees, as well as more than 780 comments received in response to the June 2023 Notice of Proposed Rule Making.

Key Provisions of the Final Rule

The final rule:

- Clarifies requirements for state and area plans on aging and details requirements for coordination among tribal, state and local programs.
- Improves consistency of definitions and operations between state and tribal OAA programs.
- Clarifies and strengthens provisions for meeting OAA requirements for prioritizing people with the greatest social and economic needs.
- Specifies the broad range of people who can receive services, how funds can be used, fiscal requirements, and other requirements that apply across programs.
- Clarifies required state and local agency policies and procedures. For example, the final rule establishes expectations regarding conflicts of interest.

- Requires state agencies to establish flexible and streamlined processes for area agencies to receive approval for contracts and commercial relationships.
- Incorporates guidance for the National Family Caregiver Support Program and the Native American Caregiver Support Program, which were authorized since the last update to the OAA regulations.
- Addresses emergency preparedness and response, incorporating lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Establishes expectations for legal assistance and activities to prevent elder abuse.
- Clarifies the role of the aging network in defending against the imposition of guardianship and in promoting alternatives.
- Updates definitions, modernizes requirements, and clarifies flexibilities within the senior nutrition programs. For example, the final rule allows for continuation of innovations utilized during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as carry-out meals provided under the congregate meals program, in certain circumstances.

About the Older Americans Act

First passed in 1965 and last reauthorized on March 25, 2020, the OAA authorizes a wide range of programs and services that help older adults age in place. These include home-delivered and congregate meals, support for family caregivers, preventive health services, personal and home care services, transportation, legal assistance, elder abuse prevention, and much more. In addition, the OAA provides ombudsman services for people who live in long-term care facilities.

Through the aging services network, the OAA has helped older adults remain active and engaged in their communities, to the great benefit of all. Because of the OAA, neighborhoods and organizations across the country are able to continue to draw upon the wealth of knowledge that comes only with life experience.

ACL administers most provisions of the OAA through its Administration on Aging. (The OAA Senior Community Services Employment Program is administered by the U.S. Department of Labor and is not covered by ACL's final rule.)

Effective Date and Compliance Information

The final rule will take effect on March 15, 2024 (30 days after it is officially published), and regulated entities have until October 1, 2025 to comply. In the coming months, ACL will share resources and provide robust technical assistance to support states, tribes and tribal organizations, area agencies on aging, and others in the aging network in meeting the requirements of the new regulations. ACL also will work with regulated entities in a supportive corrective action process if more time is needed to fully comply with specific provisions.

Learn More

Save the dates for these upcoming webinars:

- **Informational Webinar:** Join ACL for an overview of the updated regulations on Thursday, Feb. 8 from 2-3 p.m. (Eastern).
- **“Back to Basics” technical assistance webinar:** On Thursday, Feb. 15 from 2-3:30 p.m. (Eastern), ACL will host the first in a series of webinars to support the network in implementing the updated regulations.

More information, including registration information for these webinars, a link to the final rule, and links to resources and technical assistance can be found at [ACL.gov/OAArule](https://acl.gov/OAArule).

The [final rule](#) was posted “on display” in the Federal Register on Feb. 6, 2024 and will be published officially on Feb. 14, 2024.

For more than 50 years, the Older Americans Act (OAA) has connected older adults and their caregivers to services that help older adults age with health, dignity and independence in their homes and communities—where they want to be! In 2024, Congress must again reauthorize this vital federal program that serves every community in the country. With the rapid growth of America’s aging population, one in five Americans are projected to be 65 or older by 2030. It is essential that Congress make wise investments in critical OAA programs and services.

Why is the OAA Important? The OAA...

Enables aging well at home and in the community—where people want to be.

The OAA enables the local delivery of services and supports that can help older adults be better able to age where they want—in their homes and communities. Examples include in-home help, meals, transportation, home modification, legal services and many other supportive services that keep older adults healthy and independent.

Prevents the need for more expensive long-term care or avoidable health care costs.

Services provided at home and in the community are almost always less expensive than institutional care provided in nursing homes or assisted living. The longer older adults can successfully age at home, the better it is financially for families and the federal government. OAA programs and services also support healthy aging and address the social determinants of health, further saving Medicare and Medicaid dollars.

Supports family caregivers.

Family caregivers are the backbone of the nation’s long-term services and supports system. The OAA provides vital supports to caregivers to bolster their ability to continue caring for their loved ones.

Reflects community needs.

OAA services are delivered through a nationwide network of community-based agencies and service providers that know and can best meet the needs of older adults and caregivers in their communities through a range of programs and services. While the services are generally available to everyone age 60 and older, they are targeted to those most in need of support to age well at home.

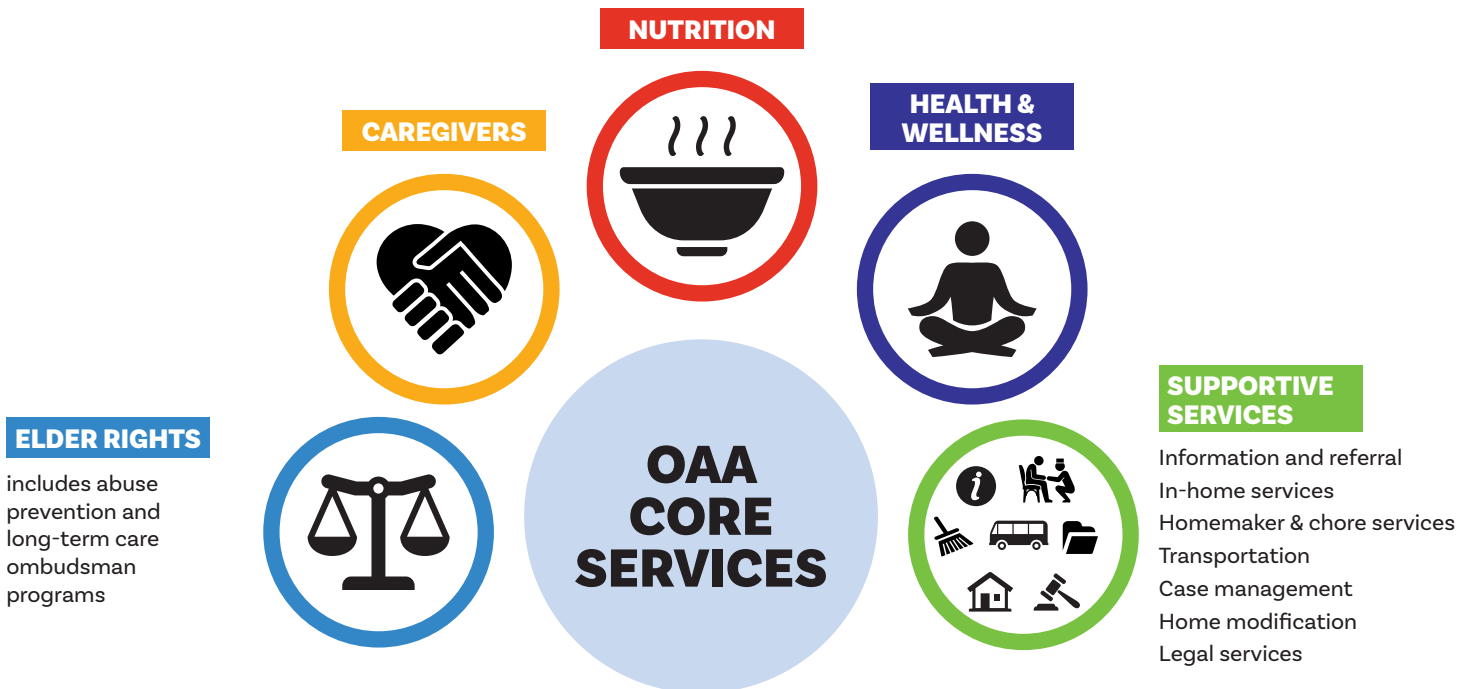
Protects vulnerable older adults.

The Act’s services also help to identify and prevent the abuse and neglect of older Americans, as well as protect the rights of nursing home residents through an ombudsman program.

Visit www.usaging.org/OAA to learn more about the Older Americans Act reauthorization.



What is Available Through the OAA?



The OAA funds a wide range of aging services across five core areas, with local flexibility built into the Act to reflect the needs of that area's older adults and caregivers.

What Can Congress Do? Reauthorize the OAA to...

Serve More Older Adults Who Need Help to Age Well at Home

- Significantly increase authorized funding levels to meet the real and urgent needs of a rapidly growing older population and the rising costs of service delivery.
- Ensure that Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and other Aging Network community-based organizations are able to further meet their missions by securing health care or other private funding to serve more older adults.
- Allow more older adults to access OAA health and wellness programs, especially in rural areas.
- Support expanded service options for older American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians.

Meet the Needs of Today's and Tomorrow's Older Adults

- Unify and modernize nutrition programs to reflect recent innovations and the changing needs of consumers.
- Reduce social isolation and loneliness among older adults by authorizing a national resource center dedicated to training and technical assistance for Aging Network professionals based on building social engagement programs and activities.

Maintain Efficient Oversight and Management of Local Service Delivery to Ensure Quality

- Increase the administrative ability of AAAs to ensure appropriate program development, oversight and network management amid rising costs and eroding federal OAA funding.

Visit www.usaging.org/OAA to learn more!