



Aging & Disability Resource Center Advisory Committee  
Minutes of Meeting  
Tuesday, March 6, 2018

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Ronk at 1:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Present: Earlene Ronk, Chair; Connie Stengel, Russell Kutz, Marcia Bare, Ellen Sawyers, Carolyn Niebler, Jeanne Tyler and Mary Vohs

Also Present: Sharon Olson, Leigh Fritter and Dominic Wondolkowski, ADRC Staff.

**Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law**

It was determined that the committee was in compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

**Approval of Agenda**

Olson requested to defer item 10, Discussion and possible action on the 2017 Annual Financial Report as it is still in the fiscal department for completion. Marcia Bare made a motion to approve the March agenda with the change to defer item 10 to our next meeting. Second by Carolyn Niebler. Approved unanimously.

**Approval of 1/02/2018 Minutes**

Russ Kutz made a motion to approve the January 2, 2018 meeting minutes as written, Connie Stengel seconded. Motion carried.

**Communications**

Dominic shared a note from Dan Krause.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Advocacy Updates from GWAAR – Greater Wisconsin Agenda on Aging Resources and /or ORCD – Office of Resource Center Development:**

Senate leaders appear to have reached a two-year budget deal that would lift overall budget caps for discretionary programs and alleviate the threat of another round of sequestration cuts. Temporary funding through March 22 to allow lawmakers more time to work out a full-year FY 2018 appropriations proposal. This deal increases overall budget caps for non-defense discretionary (NDD) programs by \$63 billion in FY 2018 (roughly a 12 percent boost) and \$68 billion in FY 2019 by amending the Budget Control Act of 2011 (BCA). The bipartisan deal would be the latest in a series of two-year changes to the BCA and would lift the too-stringent caps on discretionary programs. The patchwork package would also include emergency supplemental funding to respond to recent natural disasters. Additionally, the measure would extend a number of health care programs, including a two-year extension of funding for AAAs, ADRCs and SHIPs to provide outreach and enrollment assistance to low-income Medicare beneficiaries (MIPPA). At this point, it doesn't appear likely that the Senate bill will address immigration policy, which could prove to be a sticking point for House Democrats.

**What Does a Deal Mean for Funding for Aging and Health Care Programs?**

Assuming this bipartisan deal passes both chambers and is signed into law—which is still an uncertain

outcome at this point—congressional appropriators would have six weeks to negotiate the details of a final FY 2018 federal funding omnibus bill. If this budget agreement passes, advocates should once again weigh in with their lawmakers about how to allocate additional funding for aging and other NDD non-defense discretionary programs in FY 2018. Preliminary details on the budget agreement indicate that roughly \$45 billion of the \$63 billion increase for NDD funding is already directed toward agreed-upon priorities. Aging advocates must continue the drumbeat to protect SHIP funding, which was slated for elimination in the House FY 2018 funding bill, as well as to increase funding for Older Americans Act programs and other essential aging and health care services.

#### **Discuss and possible action on Requests for Waiver of Transportation Co-payment:**

Olson reviewed the co-payment requirement for transportation services. For consumers there is \$1.50 co-pay per trip for intercounty transportation and \$7.50 per trip for out of county transport. Many consumers have one trip. Olson will work on a draft policy to review at our next committee meeting for reviewing waivers and reductions for co-payments. At this time there is one consumer who has not submitted their review paperwork.

#### **Discussion on ATCI – Accessible Transportation Community Initiative Grant with the City of Fort Atkinson**

The City of Fort Atkinson received a \$100,000 grant from the Easter Seals Society to improve transit options. As part of the Grant, we were required to find 30 stakeholders and invite them to a facilitated 2-day meeting to come up with a custom solution to transportation problems. It was an incredible experience working through this process and just when we thought we knew what the problem and solution would be, we identified four objective projects. So from there, we created committees to seek out viable solutions for finding was to get everyone around a little easier as this transportation concern is not just an aging problem or a poverty problem it is a transportation problem that affects many people. The plan is to work within these 4 committees over the next year or so, to find solutions to meet these objectives:

- a) run a 6 to 12 month pilot project in Fort Atkinson where we expand on the existing United Way voucher program (which underwrites low income people's Brown Cab rides to area Food Pantries.) Left to work out is to add destinations to this and see what kind of demand we see, and what kind of cost it is likely to have on-going. This is something of a needs assessment but an active one instead of a paper-interview one.
- b) implement a 12 month pilot project using one of the City's 7-seater vans with wheelchair lift at the Fort Senior Citizens Center. The City will handle registration and licensing expenses and subsidize gas purchases through the City garage. The Senior Center will be responsible for driving the van. In order to support this program long term, the Senior Center will create a fund raising plan, so as to purchase their own van, without the need for new City or grant funds. During the pilot the van will be dedicated to the Senior Center's use during their peak hours, and will be available to other groups when they are not in need of it.
- c) work with the Jefferson County Aging and Disability Resource Center to capture the federal funding available to offset 80% of the costs for Jefferson County hiring a Mobility Manager. Concurrently, we will be compiling and mapping the many different transit services throughout the county already in play. We will establish a website for dispatchers and the general public that allows them to clearly input their destinations, dates, and ability to pay in order to connect them with the service providers

that best can meet their needs. On-going maintenance of the website will be part of the Mobility Manager's job.

d) marketing of these programs will be marketed by the Coalition to raise awareness; reduce stigma associated with taking alternative transit; and to help the programs sustain themselves once the Easter Seals grant money is depleted.

A next meeting of the Coalition is scheduled for March 15, in the Rotary Room of the Fort Atkinson library, 2:30 - 4:00 pm. Everyone who would like to continue to see this project through to its next phase of actually designing and implementing these pilot projects, is encouraged to attend.

### **Discussion: ADRC Report, Wondolkowski**

**New 2018 KOI:** Increase the number of referrals for the Family Caregiver Program by 10% or 35 referrals. In 2017, staff made 25 referrals to these programs. Expectation-ADRC staff shall complete the Caregiver needs assessment and application as part of options counseling. In doing so, staff will help consumers explore their needs and perhaps facilitate other opportunities, such as advanced directives. Funding up to 112 hours/year/recipient is available. In January, staff had options and/or I & A conversations with 13 consumers resulting in five (5) referrals to the NFCSP program. In February, staff had conversations with 12 consumers resulting in one referral. The goal is three referrals per month. January-February totals =6 and therefore, KOI is met for reporting period.

**Wisconsin Association of Health Care Quality (WHCQ) Conference :** On March 2nd, Olson and Wondolkowski representing the Jefferson Co. Cares Transition Coalition were part of a panel presentation that included coalitions from Brown, Kenosha and Sheboygan Counties along with MetaStar. The Jefferson Co. Coalition is a multi-discipline team and exists to improve healthcare services for residents who transition from a hospital admission back to their “home” setting. MetaStar provides the Medicare recipient data used to identify a need and develop a project or intervention. Projects by the coalition include the Safe Swallowing training and education, now available on the ADRC website.

**Civil Rights Plan:** In March, the ADRC and Aging departments submitted its four year plan to DHS. The plan requires agencies to determine if you are serving a percentage of all populations and minorities and if not, have a plan of correction. SAMS-IR, the ADRC’s current data base, did not collect specific ethnic data until 04/2017 and therefore, only estimates of those served could be made based on data collection from outside sources, such as the US Census Bureau. “Business Objects”, a software available at DHS, but not ADRC’s provides more definitive data of who is served.

### **Moving Forward Event – March 16, 2018**

Youth Transition Coalition, facilitated by Wondolkowski is in their final preparation for the MF event that will be held at the MATC Watertown Campus and will include sessions on Cyber Bullying/Social Media, Financial Literacy, College Bound, Interview Do’s and Don’ts and Keeping a Job. The Coalition is anticipating 75 students from several school districts.

Staff Changes: Penny Klement is the new ADRC Paraprofessional Resource Receptionist. The ADRC is once again fully staffed.

### **Senior Dining Program Updates:**

Fritter shared that she would be attending the Wisconsin Association of Nutrition Directors Spring Conference in April, and that some of the topics that would be covered would be working in mindfulness, how to maintain wellbeing mentally, physically and emotionally. As well having speakers on grief and depression in seniors, and maintaining a volunteer driver base. She discussed that there is a continued need for volunteers at the Watertown meal site to package meals, and a driver is needed in the Rome/Sullivan area to deliver meals. She stated that the Watertown meal site is doing well with

the recently added home delivered meals. She shared that the amount of home delivered meals in December, the month that home delivered meals began, was 249. In January, the amount of home delivered meals increased to 414, and the program started with 14 meal participants and by the end of January had 29 participants. Fritter stated that she was working on the volunteer recognition banquet which will be held Wednesday, May 9th. She stated that she had already planned the entertainment of a Patsy Cline tribute artist, Karen Wickham.

#### **Discussion on the 2017 Self-Assessment for the Aging Plan Due 3/16/2018**

Olson distributed the 2017 Aging Unit Self-Assessment for 2017, updates are required to be made in orange font. Some of the highlights: 2 new ADRC committee members; we exceeded our goal of a 25% to increase the number of memory screens as there were 93 completed in 2017 through the ADRC Staff, Dementia Care Specialists who held 10 community events; advocacy through our Benefit Specialist program is exceptional in increasing public knowledge of Medicare through SHIP and Seniors Out Speaking as well as the ABC's of Medicare and setting up computer labs for Medicare Part D plan finders. Jeanne Tyler made a motion to approve the Aging Self-Assessment plan, second by Marcia Bare and approved unanimously.

#### **Discussion on Draft Community Needs Survey for Aging Plan and unmet needs of the ADRC**

Olson shared a few resources from the GWAAR website on question to gather ideas from the public. By the next meeting, Olson will have a survey to share with committee members to seek input. We will start moving forward to gather ideas for the Aging Plan.

#### **Discussion on the 2019 – 2023 Locally Developed Coordinated Public Transit – Human services Transportation Plan**

Olson shared that the planning stages have begun to work on the Human Services Transportation Plan. A few committee members would be very interested in working on the Coordinated Plan, so Olson will share more details at our April meeting. This plan will be due in October.

#### **Discuss Future Agenda Items**

Jeanne Tyler suggested committee involvement in advocacy. Olson shares that part of the Aging Plan goal for 2018 is to have Janet Zander from GWAAR present on Power UP strategies and education.

#### **Adjourn:**

Connie Stengel made a motion to adjourn at 2:59 pm, Russ Kutz seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Olson, Manager, Aging & Disability Resources Division