

Agenda
Advisory Committee on Aging
Friday, June 28, 2024
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
In person - Volunteers of America

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Times listed with each agenda item are approximate. It is requested that all cell phones be silenced during the Advisory Committee on Aging meeting. Persons in need of auxiliary aids or services, such as interpretation services or assisted listening devices, are asked to contact the Denver Regional Council of Governments at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. If you have difficulty using this document's content, please email access@drcog.org or call 303-455-1000.

- 1 11:00 a.m. Call to Order and Introductions
- 2 11:05 a.m. Public comment
Up to 45 minutes is allocated now for public comment and each speaker will be limited to 3 minutes. If there are additional requests from the public to address the Committee, time will be allocated at the end of the meeting to complete public comment.
- 3 11:10 a.m. Report of the Chair – Karie Erickson
- 4 11:15 a.m. Report of the AAA Director – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

Consent agenda

- 5 11:30 a.m. Move to Approve Consent Agenda
Minutes from May 24, 2024, meeting.
(Attachment A)

Action item

- 6 11:35 a.m. Election of ACA Chair and Vice Chair.
(Attachment B)
- 7 12: 05 p.m. Cancellation of the July 26, 2024, meeting.
(Attachment C)

Informational briefings

- 8 12:15 p.m. Volunteers of America presentation and Tour (Attachment D)
- 9 1:30 p.m. DRCOG Board Report
- 10 1:40 p.m. County Reports

Administrative items

- 11 **Next meeting to be determined.**
- 12 1:50 p.m. Other Matters by Members
- 13 2:00 p.m. Adjourn

Calander of future meetings

July 26, 2024 – Virtual
August 23, 2024 – In person
September 27, 2024 – Virtual
October 25, 2024 – In person
November 22, 2024 – Virtual
December 27, 2024 – Virtual
January 24, 2025 - Virtual
February 28, 2025 - Virtual
March 28, 2025 – Virtual
April 25, 2025 – In person
May 23, 2025 – Virtual
June 27, 2025 – In person

ATTACH A

Advisory Committee on Aging (ACA) Meeting Summary

Friday, May 24, 2024

If you have difficulty using this document's content, please email access@drcog.org or call 303-455-1000. Please expect a response within 72 hours (three business days).

Members Present

Ada Anderson	Douglas County
Andrea Suhaka	Arapahoe County
Barbara Boyer	Arapahoe County
Bob Brocker	City and County of Denver
Connie Ward	Jefferson County
David Appel	Jefferson County
Dawn Perez	Adams County
Donna Mullins	Jefferson County
Edward Moss	Broomfield County
George Teal	DRCOG Board Douglas County
Greg Kahler	Adams County
Gretchen Lopez	Douglas County
Judi Kern	DRCOG Board Louisville
Justin Martinez	DRCOG Board Thornton
Paul Haseman	DRCOG Board Golden
Phil Cernanec	Arapahoe County
Shari Haidvogel	Clear Creek County
Sharon Tessier	Broomfield County
Steve Conklin	DRCOG Board Edgewater
Val Robson	Jefferson County
Wynne Shaw	DRCOG Board-Lone Tree

Guests Present

Allison Cutting, Douglas County, Debbi Haynie, Castle Rock Senior Center, Jennifer Dambrosia, Douglas County, Torrie Fields, TFA Analytics, Myles Crane, Colorado Commission on Aging, Katie Steiber, c4a, Veronica Maez, c4a, Tom McConaghy, c4a, Heather Jones, c4a.

DRCOG Staff Present

AJ Diamontopoulos, Senior Management Analyst Desiree Boelte, SHIP Program Manager, Erika Dubray, Community Resource Manager, Erin O'Neill, Community Resource Specialist, Esra Sonmez, Community Resource Program Manager, Fonda Buckles, ADRC Manager, Jayla Sanchez- Warren, AAA Division Director, Jennifer Reeves, Veterans & Community Options Manager, Jenny Castle, Resource & QA Coordinator, Juliana Malchman, Integrated Health Navigator, Kelly Roberts, Community Resource Specialist, Mindy Patton, Division Assistant, Shannon Gimbel, Ombudsman Manager, Sharon Day, Manager AAA Business Operations.

Call to Order

Bob Brocker, Committee Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

Introductions of new DRCOG board members Justin Martinez, Judi Kern and our new Adams County representative Greg Kaler were done.

Public Comment Period (Non-ACA Members)

Allison Cutting from Douglas County announced as part of their older adult initiative in Douglas County will be conducting road shows this summer to talk to residents about what they need to live and age. They will be at 14 different locations throughout the county.

Report of the Chair – Karie Erickson

There was no report from the Chair.

Report of the AAA Director – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

The AAA had their State Unit on Aging audit. The auditor visited several contracted providers and reviewed program records. While the AAA is awaiting the results of the audit, Jayla said coordination with the contractors and SUA went well and thanked Sharon Day, Travis Noon, Erin Iserman and Mason Green for their work.

Jayla attended the Jefferson County Senior Heros awards. ACA member Donna Mullins received tribute as well as former ACA member Cary Johnson.

Jayla did a presentation in Clear Creek County. Jayla said ACA member Shari Haidvogel has developed leadership in the county and brought individuals and service providers together to talk about what the needs of Clear Creek and what is happening in the county. She talked about the Community Assessment Survey of Older Adults (CASOA) results in an effort to help them with future planning. Both Clear Creek and Gilpin counties have some of the oldest residents in the DRCOG region.

DRCOG is beginning to get materials together and talk about federal advocacy for the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act and the need increased for funding for the new regulations and requirements of the Act. There is strategy on the timing of the advocacy due to the presidential election and legislators inability to focus on the Act during this time. Jayla said there has been some talk about increased funding at the federal level.

Jayla participated on a call with the Denver City Council. Several Denver City Council members called a meeting to discuss older adults being evicted due to rent increases by \$200 or more a month. Many older adults that are in their late 70's and 80's can't sustain such a rent increase. Jayla said there were no real options at this time as Denver has no resources or emergency funding to devote to helping. They will continue to meet with Denver's Office on Aging to try and identify those folks that are being evicted, and make sure they don't fall through the cracks.

Move to approve consent agenda

Items on the consent agenda included: April 26, 2024, meeting summary.

Judi Kern motioned for approval. Paul Haseman seconded the motion; the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

Action Item

Recommendation to approve allocating federal and state funds to Fiscal Year 2025 DRCOG AAA Choice Services Program Contractors.

Sharon Day gave a brief background on the AAA voucher program which was established in 2019 for transportation and in 2020 for in-home care services. Under the program clients can contact DRCOG staff to register through an intake and assessment process. Once complete, a voucher is issued to the client for the service. Clients have the option to select service providers from a pre-approved list that DRCOG has established negotiated rates with. Providers are paid for services by submitting a monthly invoice to redeem the voucher. Providers are vetted for how long they have been providing the service, their service area, and contract management, they also must comply with all licensure needed and both DRCOG and State policies and procedures.

The transportation providers are ridesharing companies that are registered with the Public Utilities Commission. The On-the-Go provider is a new contracted call center that will help manage the vouchers for the transportation providers. The budget is slightly higher than the previous year as the transportation funding is supplemented with Federal Transit Administration 5310 funding.

The budget for the In-home voucher program has been reduced for fiscal year 24/25. DRCOG staff assessed all service recipients based on their prioritization scores and adjusted the frequency of visits for some clients with lower needs to every other week instead of weekly.

Phil Cernanec motioned to recommend that the Board Finance and Budget Committee approve issuing contracts with providers for the AAA Choice Services Programs of up to \$1,292,800 total for transportation services and up to \$570,000 total for in-home care services for the state fiscal year of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. Ed Moss seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Informational Briefings

Presentation on expanding funding – Torrie Fields

Jayla and Torrie initially crossed paths while collaborating on the national Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (CTAC) committee. CTAC focuses on assisting individuals with advanced illness by facilitating discussions about palliative care, hospice services, and in-home care.

Torrie, a former actuary with a master's degree in public health and a background in gerontology, is deeply committed to caring for individuals with complex health needs and addressing the challenges of longevity. Her career in healthcare began with a

focus on quality improvement within healthcare delivery systems. She has worked in state health departments providing support to vulnerable populations and older adults during crises and disaster response. After the Affordable Care Act was implemented, Torrie transitioned into health insurance, advocating for coverage inclusion for these vulnerable populations. She started as an actuary and later shifted her focus to value-based contracting and new payment initiatives for insurance companies.

Over the past five years, Torrie has been building her own company to develop payer models that benefit large populations and provider networks that enable providers to deliver better value and receive fair compensation from health insurance companies.

Torrie's company, TFA Analytics, is currently focusing on understanding DRCOG's offerings as an Area Agency on Aging and building a compelling business case to encourage payers to cover these services. Under the contract, Torrie's team is developing a sustainable pricing model for DRCOG services. Additionally, TFA Analytics is facilitating relationships and support contracting efforts with local payers, creating a continuum of care for the services provided by DRCOG. The plan is to begin with a private payor pilot to establish operational infrastructure and strengthen the relationship between DRCOG and insurance companies. Once established, additional services can be introduced. The ultimate goal is to demonstrate the value of this partnership along with the value of the services themselves. As part of this effort, Torrie will collaborate with DRCOG to create sales materials and collateral that support these contracting initiatives and enhance their presentation.

TFA Analytics is currently focusing on private payers such as insurance companies and affordable or accountable care organizations who pay for the cost of healthcare. They would like them to better understand the business case for working with DRCOG. TFA Analytics has been working to identify high yield partnerships that can be ongoing and a good partner through a pilot. The team has also been working on readiness, calculating the revenue opportunity, and prioritizing insurance company outreach to implement the pilot. They would like to get a pilot started this year to begin paying for DRCOG services that will generate revenue on current programs. There is no need for DRCOG to develop new programs only to find the right partnerships to pay for existing services.

TFA Analytics has evaluated DRCOG's workforce and service delivery capacity. They are currently developing the health equity model used by DRCOG, refining service-related language, determining service delivery costs, and assessing DRCOG's capacity to provide services. This will create a model that can be priced and contracted. DRCOG already possesses the necessary infrastructure, staff, and training to proceed.

Future of Aging Conference – Myles Crane, Colorado Commission on Aging

Myles informed the committee of the upcoming Colorado Future of Aging statewide conference being held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Loveland, Colorado. Admission, parking, breakfast and lunch are free. It will be an opportunity to network with people from all over the state. Speakers will be Elizabeth Garner, the state demographer, Jared Hughes, Deputy Director of Policy and Research from the Governor's office, Dr. Marissa Volpi, Associate State Director for Livable and Diverse Communities and AARP, speakers on Alzheimer's. The Alan Buckingham award will be presented by Erin

Fisher, chair of the c4a along with the volunteer of the year, and employee of the year awards. There will also be breakout sessions in the afternoon.

DRCOG Board Report – Wynne Shaw

The board approved the fiscal year 2024/2025 budget. Discussed the FTA section 5310 fiscal year 24 funding awards. And had informational briefings on the active transportation plan, the annual RTD FasTracks report and legislative updates.

County Reports

Adams County – Dawn Perez

Dawn reminded everyone about the Adams County Aging Network's resource fair on June 12th at the Thornton Connection Center

Arapahoe County – Andrea Suhaka

Andrea attended senior fairs at Malley Senior Center in Englewood, Buck Recreation Center in Littleton, Koebel Library in Centennial and an Autism fair.

Clear Creek County – Shari Haidvogel

Shari thanked Jayla for her involvement with their meeting that was held in Idaho Springs the previous week. Shari said the information that Jayla provided was crucial and will be most beneficial in their efforts going forward.

Douglas County – Commissioner George Teal

Commissioner Teal thanked Allison Cutting for providing the information earlier in the meeting on the road show Douglas County will be doing during the summer.

Jefferson County – Dave Appel and Donna Mullins

Lakewood had their annual wellness fair. There were 77 vendors with over 380 participants. They are working on their legislative event which will be held in October.

Other Matters by Members

AJ Diamontopoulos

During the meeting, AJ shared that the AAA received a grant from the US Aging Center of Excellence for the Community Care Hub that the ACA applied for in early April. This grant amounts to \$450,000 over 2 years, starting in June. It will support the development of infrastructure necessary for partnering with healthcare organizations, both within the AAA and among some of their contracted partners. Notably, they were one of 20 community-based organizations nationwide to receive this award, and AAA was the sole recipient in Colorado.

Kelly Roberts

Kelly announced that the AAA is organizing a virtual meeting on June 18th to conduct a legislative wrap-up of this year's General Assembly. During the meeting, they will discuss the remarkable advocacy efforts, express gratitude to all participants, and delve

into their experiences and lessons learned. Additionally, the webinar will focus on setting the stage for advocacy efforts related to the reauthorization and additional funding for the Older Americans Act.

Mindy Patton, Kelly Roberts and Jayla Sanchez-Warren

The revision of the ACA Guidelines is currently in progress by the revision team. Due to changes initiated by the Older Americans Act, the team is awaiting final regulations from both federal and state. Additionally, Executive Director Doug Rex and Jayla will provide guidance on membership and getting diverse populations represented as part of the revision process.

Phil Cernanec

Phil who is president of his local rotary club, suggested that service clubs such as his rotary club may be able to help out. His rotary serves Nourish clients and recently did yard cleanup for 20 customers. Phil's Cycling Without Age chapter for the greater Littleton area has now grown to have eight trishaws and is hoping to have 3,500 unique clients this year.

Next meeting – June 28, 2024.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

ATTACH B

Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting

Name of Committee: Advisory Committee on Aging

Meeting date: June 28, 2024

Agenda Item #: 6

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Election of ACA Chair and Vice Chair

Agenda item type: Action

Summary

Election of ACA Chair and Vice Chair

Background

According to ACA Committee Guidelines, the ACA should elect officers every two years. The term of the office for Chair and Vice Chair is from July 1 through June 30. An individual may serve a third year in the same office with an affirmative vote of the Committee. Our current Chair and Vice Chair have completed two terms.

Action by others

None

Previous discussions/actions

None

Recommendation

Staff recommends electing board officers in accordance with the ACA Committee Guidelines for term beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026

Attachment

None or a numbered list of attachments

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Mindy Patton, Division Assistant, (303) 480-6723 or mpatton@drcog.org.

ATTACH C

Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting

Name of Committee: Advisory Committee on Aging

Meeting date: June 28, 2024

Agenda Item #: 7

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Cancellation of the July ACA meeting

Agenda item type: Action

Summary

Vote to cancel July 26th meeting.

Background

Historically the ACA has voted to cancel this meeting due to many vacationing members. This agenda item will be seeking member approval to cancel the July 26th meeting.

Action by others

None

Previous discussions/actions

None

Recommendation

Staff recommends canceling the July 26th, 2024, meeting.

Attachment

None

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Mindy Patton, Division Assistant, (303) 480-6723 or mpatton@drcog.org.

ATTACH D

Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting

Name of Committee: Advisory Committee on Aging

Meeting date: June 28, 2024

Agenda Item #: 8

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Volunteers of America tour and presentation

Agenda item type: Informational briefing

Summary

The ACA will be having their second in person meeting at Volunteers of America's new facility on June 28th. They are very proud of their new building (opened in May 2023) and have offered to provide lunch, a tour and presentation to the committee.

Background

Volunteers of America was established in Colorado in 1896. They were one of the first service contractors of the AAA, starting the Meals on Wheels program in the 1970s. With AAA funding, Volunteers of America serves approximately 120,000 congregate meals and 500,000 home delivered meals to about 5,700 older adults in our region. In addition to congregate and home delivered meals, DRCOG funds Volunteers of America for chore service, the evidence-based Healthy Moves program, and assisted transportation for our mountain communities in Gilpin and Clear Creek counties. In total they serve 6,150 people from DRCOG funding. They currently have a large waitlist (~500 people) for home delivered meals and, to a less extent, chore service.

Volunteers of Americas new site accommodates congregate dining and with SB290 funds from DRCOG, they were able to purchase a food truck that has expanded meal service in our region. Earlier this year, Volunteers of America stepped up to help continue meal service for approximately 500 older adults in Adams county when Senior Hub unexpectedly closed. Some of those served included DRCOG clients in the eastern plains.

Action by others

None

Previous discussions/actions

None

Recommendation

None

Attachment

None

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Mindy Patton, Division Assistant, (303) 480-6723 or mpatton@drcog.org.