



November 18, 2015
2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
City of Solvang Council Chambers
1644 Oak Street
Solvang, CA 93463

MINUTES

Attendance: Hillary Blackerby, Holly Carmody, Eloisa Chavez, Catherine Dalton, Arlene Diaz, Doreen Farr, Susan Klein-Rothschild, joyce ellen lippman, Daniel Nielson, Yolanda Perez, Kathleen Riel, Refujio Rodriguez, Arcelia Sencion, Jim Talbott, Erin Weber, Margaret Weiss, Jeanne West, Tina Wooton

Special Guests: Rona Barrett, Rona Barrett Foundation; Susan Lindman, Lompoc Valley Haven; Mary Lou Parks, Lompoc Valley Haven

Staff: Barbara Finch and Gloria Munoz

1. Welcome & Introductions

Supervisor Doreen Farr opened the meeting and introductions were made.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes, September 23, 2015

Hillary Blackerby motioned to approve the minutes from September 23, 2015; Yolanda Perez seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Approve new AAN logo

Jim Talbott motioned to approve the new AAN logo; Yolanda Perez seconded the motion and the new AAN logo was approved unanimously.

4. Recap of AAN Presentation to the Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Farr congratulated Barbara and Erin for doing a great job on the AAN presentation to the Board of Supervisors. She felt that the information provided was impactful. Barbara summarized the suggestions from Board Members:

- Look at the possibility of adding a Public Health Nurse to provide more support for homebound seniors and people with complex health care needs.
- Put together a comprehensive map of available meal services to support request for additional funding. Include site-based and home delivered meals; identify who receives services, where services are available and where there are gaps, what the costs are, etc.
- Offer this presentation to city governments to engage other partners in finding ways to address top concerns, including how to fund needed services. AAN to take the lead in initiating a collective impact approach.
- Communicate support for senior issues to the Governor's office in order to increase support from the State level.
- Expressed the desire to see DASH in North County

Recap of AAN Presentation to the Board of Supervisors (continued)

The group appreciated that transportation is starting out as a focal point and they would like to focus on the sidelined areas like Buellton and Solvang.

Daniel added that the County Welfare Directors have been focusing on trying to get more resources for staff members that serve the Adult Protective Services and In-Home Support Services population. One of the current focuses is on trying to have similar college opportunities for people interested in serving the adult population that are available for the child welfare population.

5. Discussion about Public Health Nurse and Community Needs

Daniel Nielson, Director of the Department Social Services, initiated the follow-up discussion about the addition of a Public Health Nurse (PHN). In developing the Board presentation, it was envisioned that the position would be housed with the Department of Social Services and funded partially through federal dollars. Upon further consideration, it was realized that this plan would limit the accessibility of the PHN to the Adult Protective Services (APS) and In-Home Support Services (IHSS) clients. For this reason, it was decided to have further discussion with the AAN and elicit from them a clearer perception on where a PHN should be placed and what the need is. Daniel added that the Board will want to know an approximation of how many people they will be serving and in what parts of the County.

Discussion turned to the Geriatric Assessment Program (GAP), a discontinued program that was run through the Public Health Department (PHD). One of the reasons that the GAP was discontinued was because it was funded 100% from the County General Fund and these funds were very scarce at the time. One of the best things about the GAP was that the nurse could go out to the home any time that there was a referral. There was no cost to the person and they would do a complete assessment with short term case management. This program was a big help to people and they appreciated having someone who knew the community and could give valuable information about how to get services. It was also not limited to people on Medi-Cal. There were fewer restrictions about who could be helped and what services could be offered. One advantage of hiring a PHN is their unique qualifications - a PHN is someone who is an RN, has a BA, has knowledge of the community, and is not hospital or clinic-based. At one time the program included a nurse with mental health expertise. Medicare no longer funds geriatric psychiatry units and it can be difficult to find placements for people who need this type of care. Ideally, a PHN could help make connections to available psychiatric services.

The members felt that the PHN position does not need to be in the PHD but that it should be within the county because of the network. Daniel stated that the reality between either department is that it needs to be 100% funded through the County General Fund so that the position would not be tied to specific programs. Supervisor Farr mentioned that a pilot project might be useful in this case. It will give the opportunity to assess where the referrals come from and how many referrals qualify for APS or IHSS services. Knowing this will give them a better idea on where the future funding can be used.

Daniel added that he can see the logic of a position like this being housed within a County Department, available to anyone in the community, but there is an aspect to Social Services that is different from Public Health. People have an apprehension level when they see Social Services because of the connection to Adult Protective Services and Child Welfare Services. A

nurse housed in Public Health might be more successful in making connections with elders and their caregivers.

One of the steps in moving forward is to look for monies to support long term care case management. The members agree that a long-term care management program is needed. Supervisor Farr stated that the target area is the seniors who don't qualify for IHSS or APS and don't qualify for the programs that were mentioned: COACH or the MSSP Program. She added that Social Services and Public Health should get together. Dr. Wada and others will need to talk about the position that Public Health used to have. If the pilot program moves forward, it will be paid out of the General Fund and they will need to see where it will be housed and how it will be integrated into what other county departments are doing.

Daniel concluded by mentioning that regardless of whether the requested position is to be housed with Social Services or Public Health, the proposal will come forward as an issue identified by the AAN and will need support from Network members when it goes before the Board. It is likely that Public Health and Social Services will have additional asks of the Board, for other positions that have been identified by the departments as high priorities. Therefore, this will be coming forward as something that AAN is proposing to be placed in one of the departments as a response to the needs identified by the Network.

6. Next steps for Board Advocacy

Supervisor Farr stated that the group will need to make the public health nurse, food support, and transportation, a priority. She would like the group to be ready so that when the county's budget workshops come around they will have all of the information that is needed to present to the Board. A future topic that she would like for the group to discuss and research is affordable housing. She thinks that it will be interesting to the Board to look at how they map the affordable senior housing projects in the County - where they are, who they serve, and any restrictions they have. She added that there is a lot of senior housing in mobile home parks. These mobile home parks are age restricted and they are not planning more mobile homes.

Refujio feels that both positions that were discussed are critical but he sees it as short term. Part of the shift he would like to see is looking at this in a very innovative way in terms of a specialization and a continuum of care for older adults. Although they may have this in different areas, like Mental Health, Public Health, or DSS, given the shared size of the aging population, he would like to start long term care planning around the development of a system that addresses the aging population. He added that a flowchart might be useful in seeing the gaps. The members asked if this was something where there can be advocacy within foundations. Supervisor Farr concluded by mentioning that they might be something that a foundation might be interested in.

7. Other Opportunities for Education and Outreach

The Network would like to share the presentation with the Santa Barbara Foundation Roundtable. Barbara will speak to Phylene about presenting to them. Erin would like to challenge the group to reach out to counterparts in Santa Maria and Lompoc and get more organizations involved with the Network. Jim will start looking into transportation along with Supervisor Farr and Erin and they will be speaking to Matt Dobberteen and Scott.

8. Updates and Announcements

- joyce announced that the State Department of Aging has awarded the Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) Project for Santa Barbara County to the Partners in Care Foundation, which is based in Los Angeles. The transition will happen in January.
- Yolanda attended SCAN Foundation and California Congress of Seniors meetings in Sacramento that focused on advocacy and the state budget. The first day was about what the strengths are on budgeting for senior programs. As 10,000 people turn 65 years old every day and many leave the labor force, this will transition into less income and tax revenue for the State and the County. The California Congress of Seniors provided them with a list of all the proposed legislation for the past year, which bills were vetoed and passed, and how the elected officials voted. She encouraged the group to keep themselves educated on these topics. The SCAN Foundation provided participants with information about senior bills that have been introduced. Supervisor Farr asked Yolie if she can send any information she receives to Tony, who is Staff for the County's Legislation Committee.
- Barbara shared that Cheri is working with Senator Jackson's office on senior initiatives. Rona added that she is on the same work group and mentioned that Senator Jackson would like to propose legislation before she leaves office. She feels that the work group is looking at some of the same efforts as the AAN and hopes that they can come together. Susan suggested that there be an agenda item at a future AAN meeting to discuss recommendations for legislation.
- Hillary announced that it is the time of the year to submit recommendations for legislation. The templates remain the same and you can submit them directly to her.
- Susan shared that the Lompoc Valley Caregiver Needs Assessment was completed this June through the Lompoc Valley Community Healthcare Organization (LVCHO). One of the things that was found when they interviewed caregivers was that they don't self-identify. They have submitted a grant request and if this project is successful they are hoping that it can be a pilot project for the county.
- Refujio wanted to propose something to be taken into consideration in terms of the funding for the Public Health Nurse positions mentioned earlier. He stated that SB 75 is to be implemented in May of next year for full scope Medi-Cal for undocumented children that are 0-19 and given that the money allocated for children's health insurance may not be needed anymore, he was wondering if this can something that can be reallocated to this effort. Supervisor Farr mentioned that the Board has continued to fund the Healthy Kids program with \$1 million a year. Daniel mentioned that this money would be able to go back into the pot and that there will be a lot of requests from others when the Workshop Budgets come around.
- Mary Lou announced that they will be having one and a half staff in the future in regards to the caregiver support center. They will be doing information, referrals in the system, and some care management. If they are successful, she hopes to have one staff in North and South County to take over some of the care management load. joyce suggested inviting Phylene to the AAN meeting in March since the Santa Barbara Foundation has awarded Lompoc and Santa Maria awards in terms of their caregiver initiative.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Gloria Munoz