

## \*The Unified Voice for Older Adults in Yolo County\*

# Collaboration, Coordination, Information & Assistance Committee

# **MINUTES**

# Monday, November 30, 2020, 9:00AM-11:00AM, via Zoom

#### PRESENT:

German Ayon (AAA4 Person Centered Counselor)	Pedro Maturana (Co-op Homecare)
Isaac Blackstock (Yolo County Housing)	Alysa Meyer (Legal Services of Northern CA)
Craig Blomberg (Sutter Davis Care Management)	Kenia Miller (Yolo Hospice)
Brandi Bluell (Resources for Independent Living)	Emily Miyaoka (Resources for Independent Living)
Christina Bolanos (Co-op Homecare)	Anna Morales (Yolo 211)
Dana Carey (Yolo Co. Office of Emergency Services)	Michelle Nevins (Del Oro Caregiver Resource Center)
Beth Conn-Ossenforth (Yolo Adult Day Health Center)	Ali Padua (YHAA Gerontology intern)
Lisa DeAmicis (Davis Senior Center)	Norriell Richards (Yolo Hospice-Sr. Peer Counselors)
Randy Dinning (AAA4 Ombudsman Program-Yolo)	Elida Serratos (Yolo Co. IHSS)
Jaanae Elina (AAA4 Person Centered Counselor)	Sandra Sigrist (Yolo County Housing)
Josephina Elliot (Yolo Co. Adult Protective Services)	Pamala Smith (Adult Insurance Solutions)
Nancy Gifford (M.McDowell Manor-Housing)	Salvador Torres (Yolo Co. Veterans Services)
Monique Gomez (YHAA Gerontology Intern)	Cindi Unger (Apex Care)
Julia Hagelberg (Co-op Homecare)	Casanya Ursery (Unite Us database)
Lindsey Hall (Yolo DA Elder Victim Services)	Loran Vetter (St. Luke's Comm. Resource Navigators)
Victoria Harling (CA Phone Access Program)	Rosanna Vigil (Yolo Co. IHSS Public Authority)
Rebecca Hensley (AAA4-Person Centered Counselor)	Kelli Villanueva (WeCare4Yolo)
Carolina Hernandez (Yolo Co. Public Guardian Office)	Lupita Vital (Yolo Co. Infectious Disease)
Janis Holt (Yolo County Housing)	Alexandra Weisgerber (Alzheimer's Assoc.)
Tracy Keenan (Yolo Hospice-Citizens who Care)	Kristin Weivoda (Yolo Co Emergency Medical Services)
Stephanie Koop (YHAA Transitions Nurse)	Elizabeth Yeh (retired nurse)
Edye Kuper (Communicare-Garden Program)	Sheila Allen, staff (Executive Director, YHAA)
Curleene Langman, YHAA Gerontology intern	(47 total people on call)

- 1). Introductions and announcements (Sheila Allen)
- **2). Approval of minutes 10/26/20 meeting MOTION:** Move approval as written. Moved by Craig Blomberg, Isaac Blackstock 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed unanimously.
- 3). Yolo County Housing update (Sandra Sigrist, Interim Director since July)

Yolo County Housing is responsible for Public and Migrant Housing and also includes managing some private housing projects and programs. They also implement housing voucher programs including Sec 8 (1328 vouchers) and project based (138 vouchers). Are expecting some new vouchers to come with "No Place Like Home" program. They also manage other infrastructure such as wells. Yolo Housing provides supports and

programs for residents (now virtual or socially distanced) learning centers (currently closed). New program "Getting to Zero" is supported by Sutter Health to address homelessness. New Hope is their ancillary non-profit. Yolo Housing has 45 staff.

#### Low income senior housing in Yolo County

- River Bend (West Sacramento) is the largest and has a long waitlist
- Cottonwood Meadows (Woodland)
- Eleanor Roosevelt Circle (Davis)-has openings (15 vouchers)
- Blue Mountain Terrace (Winters) opening this spring (22 vouchers will be available)
- Fair Plaza Apt (Woodland) 27 vouchers

To get on the waitlist- start here: <a href="https://cayoloco.tenmast.com/apply/">https://cayoloco.tenmast.com/apply/</a> When COVID improves will have assistance at libraries, can contact office for an appointment and working through online while on the phone. Do not accept paper apps. **FOLLOW UP:** distribute flier

#### Vouchers

- Project based vouchers stay with the project or location.
- Tenant based voucher go with tenant to where they would like to live.
- Preferences point to get the voucher
  - ✓ 1point live or work in Yolo Co.
  - ✓ 1point –working
  - ✓ 1point -62 years or older or disabled
  - ✓ 1 point -veteran
  - ✓ 2 points -displaced by government action

## Tell your clients/patients:

Keep your address up to date (when pulling from waitlist-everything is by mail)

Save your vital documents-picture ID, income verification, social security card, birth certificate (originals) keep these safe and handy. Have not received guidance from HUD regarding using new Real ID so not available at this time. Will check with HUD representative and get back to us.

CARES Act Funds-chose to utilize the funds for most vulnerable. Started by reaching out to their residents in public housing and then additional community outreach to vulnerable populations. Utilized CSUS interns for this outreach and assessment and connection to resources (Isaac and his team).

New Program: Resource Advocacy Voucher Engagement Network (RAVEN Program) is up now. Isaac Blackstock is lead.

Question: How will they sustain vital programs after pandemic, including Project Roomkey? This was set up as an emergency intervention. Now moving dollars to Project Homekey to apply dollars to purchase large properties (e.g.: hotels). City of West Sacramento has purchased a motel for 5 year program with Yolo Co. Housing managing. City of Woodland moving the shelter to new location and set up the new campus. City of Davis-renting rooms ongoing at hotels.

Still have sustained need for more low income housing. Advocacy follow up needed for housing through MediCal assisted waiver programs for RCFEs.

**4). Yolo COVID Update (Dana Carey, Yolo Co. Office of Emergency Services; Kristin Weivoda)** Positive Numbers are going up, current 27% positivity rate is a a peak. Hospital capacity flexes up and downthere are other patients requiring care in addition to COVID patients. For planning: 108 beds needed for COVID. 58 beds per hospital-they will be able to do this with plans already in place. Please continue to practice social distancing and wear a face cover/mask. Code enforcement teams going out in response to complaints.

Increase in our skilled and assisted living COVID cases. Since community rate increased it spread quickly into local long term care facilities. Now require testing once a week but increasing to 2 times per week. Staffing shortages related to those positive. 2 facilities are utilizing backup state staff. Providing COVID support treatments in skilled facility rather than transfer to hospital whenever possible. Weekly calls with hospitals and skilled facilities.

Vaccine planning-working with healthcare systems to assist with push out. Practicing procedures and protocols with the seasonal flu vaccine. e.g.: drive through clinics. Vaccine distribution current priorities: First to receive will be healthcare workers, 1<sup>st</sup> responders and older adults. Fizer vaccine is the one we have been prepping for. 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccine shortly to be released closely behind. Still developing COVID vaccine requirements for those in skilled nursing. The plan is to first vaccinate staff. Comment: Healthcare worker definition still being defined-does it include non-medical in home providers? All healthcare providers have to have the seasonal flu shot or wear a mask. UC system only system to required it of all staff.

Testing-"Healthy Davis" saliva based test is available to public at Davis Senior Center- M-F. County testing sites (nasal swabs) Mondays at Davis Senior Center and rotating rural areas. Also available: Elica in West Sacramento and state testing in Woodland.

Hospital Overflow into Sleep Train Arena (first time this was opened early in pandemic had very strict criteria that did not work. If open again should loosen these criteria.) State is having hard time identifying surge staffing Currently also helping with SNFs. Only will likely open Sleep Train this if all hospitals with their expanded capacity are full. Will need federal support for staffing.

- **5). Provider spotlight: New Programs: Unite Us (Casanya Usery)** Website based referral system that is locally funded by Kaiser Permanante and a free service to providers. Training every Friday at 9am. Sutter uses "Epic EMR"; there is integration between UniteUs and Epic software. Software demonstration at future Collaboration Committee meeting. For more information or to join Unite Us contact Casanya at casanya.ursery@uniteus.com and visit <a href="https://uniteus.com/">https://uniteus.com/</a>
- **6). Round table discussion from participants**-updates on programs and services from members (all)

**Adult Protective Services (APS) (Josefina Elliott)** Doing home visits as needed but back to only emergency visits with rise in COVID cases.

- **IHSS Public Authority (Rossana Vigil)** serve IHSS consumers to make sure they get connected to proper caregiver. Home Care Now program provides emergency caregiver backup. Distributing PPE to providers (gloves and masks).
- In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) (Elida Serratos) no changes to report. Taking referrals from the community. Requirements for service: full scope MediCal; aged, disable or blind, illness lasting 12 months or longer or could lead to death. Keeping up with intakes.
- **Coop Homecare (Christina Bolanos/Julie Hagelberg/Pedro Maturana)** non-medical homecare in Davis. Getting ready for launch, will share caregiver recruitment fliers.
- **Davis Senior Center (Lisa DeAmicis)** Senior Center continues to be busy with testing (daily now), Meals on Wheels going out from center. Senior Center programming includes Zoom exercises, arts and crafts, December free-meditation, holiday ukulele. Staff continue to make calls to most isolated seniors. Lending closet open but not taking items back or donations.
- **Del Oro Caregiver Resource Center (Michelle Nevins)** clients are dealing with mental health issues-have had a huge outreach to them since many programs closed and they are trying to avoid placement of their loved ones. They are accessing respite services. Have online activities, e.g.: surviving the holidays. To see more visit: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuHtHfzlzGAlpmqeUM97IUA

### **Yolo Hospice Programs**

Citizens who Care (Tracy Keenan) still open for business, volunteer match for groceries (but on hold now with surge in COVID). Starting an equipment closet.

**Yolo Hospice** (**Kenia Miller**) staff are going into facilities with PPE to provide care, including patients with COVID.

Galileo Place (adult day program) garden area is under construction – opening in 2021 Senior Peer Counseling-(Norriel Richards) taking active referrals by phone.

- AAA4 Person Centered Counselors (Rebecca Hensley/Jaanae Elina/German Ayon) "Let us Help" program-emergency support with Walmart gift cards for food, paper products, meds focused on isolated older adults age 55 or older and low income. Providing 75-80 meals per day for Project Room Key residents. Partnering with Yolo County to start Dine at Home Yolo to address the Meals on Wheels waitlist. Referral go through MOW and then they refer to AAA4.
- **Yolo 211 (Anna Morales)** Community resource specialist, 211 is a resource hub. Mostly Health and Human Resources information and assistance. This YHAA meeting informs the database and keeps it current-thank you.
- **Sutter Davis** (**Craig**) Hospital is full most days, with an uptick in COVID cases, getting better at treatments. Continue to do ambulatory surgery.
- Margaret McDowell Manor (Nancy Gifford) 97 residents currently, seeing issues with persons with mental health issues not getting the care they need. Food issue is going well and under control. Having problems with masks and social distancing when she is not present. 50% of residents speak non-English FOLLOW UP: connect to Yolo County mental health.

- **Yolo Ombudsman (Randy Dinning)** still able to go into facilities. Biggest problem in long term care and community living is lack of digital connectivity. Tele-psych is available now.
- **Yolo Adult Day Health (Beth Conn-Ossenfort)** Started drive throughs social events for Halloween and Thanksgiving that included activities, gifts and snacks.
- WeCareforYolo (Kelli Villanueva) no COVID problems thus far. This meeting information is very helpful.
- **Resources for Independent Living (Brandi Bluell)** Today delivered 75 emergency resource kits to RISE,Inc. in Esparto.
- **Apex Care (Cindi Unger)** Trying to make sure that their staff is COVID testing. Currently doing every 2 weeks. Cindi supports taking advantage of Unite Us database. She recently had a training on it.
- **Elder Abuse Prevention Program DA** (**Lindsey Hall**) advocacy and support for DA clients related to elder issues and working with APS. No paralegal support at this time. Should by January.
- Yolo Aging and Disability Resource Connection (YADRC) (Stephanie Koop, YHAA Care Transition Nurse) Staff from 3 ADRC organizations: YHAA, RIL and AAA4, recently completed Community Transition Initiative (formerly The Coleman Model) training. Person centered transition support from hospital or SNF to home to prevent re-hospitalization. Stephanie will serve as nurse consultant for the team through YHAA.
- **Public Guardian (Carolina Hernandez)** A recent Yolo Grand Jury report found PG is understaffed and cases are too big. Funded by county general funds. Have an opening for a conservator. Program is running but working from home.
- Adult Insurance Solutions (Pamala Smith) this is last week of Medicare open enrollment. Telemarketers and insurance companies are going crazy reaching out to seniors. How to report these:

  <a href="https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/115002234203-Unwanted-Calls-Phone-">https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/115002234203-Unwanted-Calls-Phone-</a> Make sure that people are not making a Medicare change that they did not mean to do over the phone. Cindi Unger did a Brain Booster session for her clients and did a great job. Looking for presenters for next year.

Members on the call but left before roundtable:

**Yolo Co. Veterans Services (Sal Torres)** The only things that changed with our office is that we are working from home on alternating shifts at office so there is always a Veteran Service Representative in the office to receive phone calls. They not seeing clients in office. The transportation van is not running.

**Alzheimer's Association (Alexadra Weisgerber)** Continuing with online education and caregiver support groups https://www.alz.org/norcal/events

UC Davis School of Public Health (Pauline Martinez) The Healthy Davis Together asymptomatic COVID saliva testing is now also available at the UC Davis Mondavi Center 7 days a week, 9 am -5:15 pm. You can make an appointment through the website here.

- 6). Update on Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance activities (Sheila Allen)
  - a. Friendly caller program- <a href="https://www.yolohealthyaging.org/phone-friend-forms">https://www.yolohealthyaging.org/phone-friend-forms</a>
  - **b. Healthy People-Healthy Park Project** in collaboration with Cache Creek Conservancy and Putah Creek Council <a href="https://parkrxamerica.org/about.php">https://parkrxamerica.org/about.php</a>
  - c. California Master Plan for Aging https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-aging/
  - **d. Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance Advocacy Committee** meets first Thurs. each month, 10am-noon via Zoom <a href="https://www.yolohealthyaging.org/advocacy">https://www.yolohealthyaging.org/advocacy</a>
  - **e. Availability of cloth masks and hand sanitizer** YHAA has received offers of many surgical masks and 1 qu. size hand sanitizer for distribution to seniors and providers of senior services. Collaboration Committee members were offered these for free. **FOLLOW UP:** Contact Sheila if you would like some.
- **7). Future agenda items** District Attorney Elder Abuse Prevention Program update (February 2021); marijuana and older adults; UNITE Us resource platform (January 2021); FEMA programs
- **8). Announcements** no additional
- 9). Next meeting, Monday, January 25, 2021, 9am-11am, via Zoom (note-no meeting in December)