

LANCASTER COUNTY OFFICE OF AGING  
Advisory Council Minutes  
August 1, 2016

**Members Present:** Emily Booker, Joe Burchill, Carl Kanaskie, Bill Kelley, Tom Kloss\*, Glenn Knight, Vicki Muzyk, Bob Sauders, and Michele Sipel\*.

(\*Associate Member)

**Staff:** Jacqueline Burch, Erica Shimp and Lon Wible

**Excused:** Mary Keech, Jennifer Opinaldo, Gloria Schleicher and Jon Walker

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Chair Bob Sauders called the meeting to order at noon followed by the pledge to the flag. Minutes from the June meeting were approved.

### **Chair's Report**

- Following June's public hearing on the 2016-2020 Federal Fiscal Year Area Plan, a draft was submitted to the Department of Aging as required. Council members received a copy of the narrative of the plan and asked for their endorsement, which will be followed by the Board of County Commissioners' signature and final submission to the state this week. Ms. Burch highlighted portions of the plan's executive summary including goals & objectives, entertained questions about census / service demographics and the Ombudsman's PEER program. A motion to approve the plan as presented was made by Carl Kanaskie, seconded by Vicki Muzyk. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Executive Director's Report**

- The state FY 2016-2017 budget has passed and although final figures are pending, it appears funding will be similar to last year's allocation. This should enable us to maintain services to those previously removed from the waiting list.
- An update was provided regarding staff salaries and related vacancies in the Protective Services (PS) unit. In July the County Salary Board approved a request to increase new hire salaries by \$4000, making Lancaster more comparable to its surrounding counterparts. The request also included addressing the impact to salaries of existing PS supervisors, primary workers, and backup staff.
- Council members were urged to assist in advocating for continued federal funding for the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), locally known as APPRISE. A letter from the Secretary of Aging and link to reach members of Congress was shared for this purpose. Last year, 25 state-trained and certified volunteers assisted staff in making contact with over 2270 individuals to navigate the very complex Medicare system, file appeals, and reconcile related issues.

## **Regional Council**

- Updates were shared regarding an upcoming teleconference on Alzheimer's disease, continued work on the topic of Advance Care Directives, and a task force devoted to the implementation of managed care. The status of the state's RFP's for Community HealthChoices and contract for assessments via "Aging Well" was also discussed. The next regional council meeting is scheduled for October.

## **Old Business**

- Review of the 'Calendar of Upcoming Events' included the Prime Time Health summer aquatic class schedule through August, Senior Centers' Picnic at Long's Park (Sept 28), and 'Healthy Steps in Motion' weekly exercises schedule in centers beginning September 12<sup>th</sup>.
- During FY 2015-2016, the agency received 2,635 walk-ins, 23,313 website hits, 61,453 telephone calls, and conducted 25 community speaking engagements.

## **New Business**

- Introductory information was provided about the development of Comprehensive Care Connections ('C3') – a private non-profit entity designed to assist Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) in collaborating with Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) to deliver a full range of high-quality, person-centered care. At this time, many questions exist about the AAA's role in managed care, as well as the MCO's yet to be selected by the state.

With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Recorder

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Executive Director

For additional information contact Lancaster County Office of Aging at (717) 299-7979, e-mail: [aging@co.lancaster.pa.us](mailto:aging@co.lancaster.pa.us), or go to [www.lancoaging.org](http://www.lancoaging.org).