

AGENDA
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING
Friday, April 28, 2023
11:00 a.m. – 1:25 p.m.
Via Webinar

- 1 11:00 Call to Order and Introductions
- 2 11:05 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 Report of the Chair – Karie Erickson
- 4 11:20 Report of the AAA Director – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

CONSENT AGENDA

- 5 11:45 Move to Approve Consent Agenda
 - Minutes of March 24, 2023, meetings.
(Attachment A)

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFINGS

- 6 11:50 CAPABLE Presentation – Colleen Morton
(Attachment B)
- 7 12:10 Center for People With Disabilities Presentation – Heather Kamper
(Attachment C)
- 8 12:30 Collective Messaging Discussion – Jayla Sanchez-Warren
(Attachment D)
- 9 12:50 Update on ACA New Model Subcommittee – Kelly Roberts
(Attachment E)

- 10 12:55 DRCOG Board Report
- 11 1:05 County Reports

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- 12 **Next meeting May 26, 2023**
- 13 1:15 Other Matters by Members
- 14 1:25 Adjourn

Attendees can request additional aids or services, such as interpretation or assistive listening devices, by calling 303-480-6723 or emailing mpatton@drcog.org. Please notify DRCOG at least 48 hours in advance so we can coordinate your request.

AAA Acronym Quick List

ACL/AOA	Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging
ACO	Accountable Care Organization
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
ADRC	Aging and Disability Resource Center
AHC	Accountable Health Communities
CAC	Citizens Advisory Committee
CASOA	Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults
CCT	Colorado Choice Transitions
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
COA	Council on Aging
DCOA	Denver Commission on Aging
DORA	Department of Regulatory Agencies
DOLA	Department of Local Affairs
DRMAC	Denver Regional Mobility and Access Council
F&B	Finance and Budget Committee
GIS	Geographic Information System
HB	House Bill
HCPF	Health Care Policy and Financing
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HTP	Hospital Transformation Project
I&A	Information and Assistance
JBC	Joint Budget Committee
LTC	Long Term Care
MDS	Minimum Data Set
MIPPA	Medicare Improvement for Patient and Providers Act
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NASUAD	National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities
OAA	Older Americans Act
PACE	Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly
PHI	Personal Health Information
RFP	Request for Proposal
RFQ	Request for Qualifications
ROD	Record of Decision
RTC	Regional Transitions Committee (Aging)
RTC	Regional Transportation Committee*(Transportation)
SAPGA	Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging
SB	Senate Bill
SHIP	State Health Insurance Assistance Program
SMP	Senior Medicare Patrol
SRC	Seniors' Resource Center
SUA	State Unit on Aging
VDC	Veterans Directed Care
VOA	Volunteers of America

ATTACH A

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING
MEETING SUMMARY
Friday, March 24, 2023**

Members Present

Ada Anderson	Douglas County
Andrea Suhaka	Arapahoe County
Barbara Boyer	Arapahoe County
Bob Brocker	At Large – Denver
Cathy Noon	Arapahoe County
Chris Lynn	Jefferson County
Dawn Perez	Adams County
Donna Mullins	Jefferson County
Gretchen Lopez	Douglas County
Houston “Tex” Elam	At Large – Arapahoe County
Jim Dale	Jefferson County
Karie Erickson	Douglas County
Perla Gheiler	City and County of Denver
Phil Cernanec	At Large – Arapahoe County
Shari Haidvogl	Clear Creek
Steve Conklin	DRCOG Board – Edgewater
Wynne Shaw	DRCOG Board – Lone Tree

Guests Present

Allison Cutting, Douglas County, Debbi Haynie, Castle Rock Senior Center, Nikki Crouse, Broomfield

DRCOG Staff Present

AJ Diamontopoulos, Senior Management Analyst, Cindy Grainger, ADRC Admin Assistant, Desiree Boelte, SHIP Program Manager, Erika Dubray, Community Resource Manager, Eva Groom, Options Counselor, Fonda Buckles, ADRC Manager, Jayla Sanchez- Warren, AAA Division Director, Jennifer Reeves, Veterans & Community Options Manager, Julianna Malchman, Intern, Kelly Roberts, Community Resource Specialist, Kelsie Jurin, Comm Resource Spec In-Home Services, Liv Bergman, Sr. Community Resource Spec., Malorie Miller, Program Manager Transportation, Mindy Patton, Division Assistant, Norberto Corona, Mobility Coordinator, Rene Hickman, Ombudsman, Shannon Gimbel, Ombudsman Manager, Sharon Day, Manager AAA Business Operations, Taylor Honeysette, Comm Resource Spec Transportation, Travis Noon, Program Manager AAA Grant Compliance

Karie Erickson Committee Chair – Called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

Public Comment Period (Non-ACA Members)

There was no public comment.

Report of the Chair – Karie Erickson

No Report of the Chair.

Report of the AAA Director – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

- DRCOG is watching two bills at the federal level.
 - Jayla has been corresponding with those in Washington regarding fall prevention. There may be more funding allocated to the Older Americans Act funds for fall prevention.
 - The Chronic Care Act 2.0 regarding community-based services, may be adding nutrition and transportation into Medicare funding.
- Jayla asked Bob Brocker about SB23-031, there was discussion regarding the bill. An explanation of the bill is located here: <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb23-031>

Move to approve consent agenda

Items on the consent agenda included: February 24, 2023, meeting summary.

Bob Brocker motioned for approval. Wynne Shaw seconded the motion; the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

Agendas and summaries are posted on the DRCOG website located at <https://drcog.org/calendar> from there choose the month and date of the meeting, click on the event. Once clicked, you will find the link to the meeting for that month.

Action Items

Discussion and Approval of Project funding for AAA contracted services for July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 – Sharon Day

- DRCOG will be submitting an RFP every year for a set number of services.
- In the Fall of 2022 DRCOG received RFP requests from 24 organizations to provide services. They also opened the RFP to 21 current providers to submit requests for contract renewals.
- DRCOG received requests for over 22.6 million dollars with the availability of only approximately 16.5 million dollars for next year.
- The ACA Funding Subcommittee reviewed all the proposals and due to limited funding, the committee decided to approve level funding per their previous contract for most providers. The committee prioritized based on Older Americans Act required services. Jayla said that the decisions were difficult because contractors for the most part are doing an excellent job and are doing innovative programs. Cathy Noon, Funding Subcommittee member said that some current providers wanted to start new programs which DRCOG was unable to fund. She said the committee did not want to provide funding for a start-up program that may not be able to be funded next year.
- Phil Cernanec moved to recommend to the DRCOG Board Finance and Budget Committee approval of OAA/SFSS projects \$16.5 million for the period beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, as recommended by ACA Funding Subcommittee. Wynne Shaw seconded the motion. The committee unanimously approved with Karie Erickson, Bob Brocker, Barbara Boyer, Chris Lynn, and Perla Gheiler abstaining from the vote due to conflict of interest.

Discussion and Approval of Project funding for July 2023 - June 2024 Older Americans Act & State Funding for Senior Services (OAA/SFSS) transportation funding

- There are three funding sources for transportation; Older Americans Act, The Human Services Transportation (HST) and Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 funding.
- Proposals from 16 organizations were received. Out of the \$10.8 million, three million is Older Americans Act funding. The committee was asked to approve recommendations for these Older Americans Act funds.
- Phil Cernanec moved to recommend to the Board of Directors approval of OAA/SFSS transportation projects for the period beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, as recommended by Peer Review Panel. Jim Dale seconded the motion. The committee unanimously approved with Karie Erickson, Andrea Suhaka, Bob Brocker and Tex Elam abstaining from the vote due to conflict of interest.
- There was additional discussion regarding spending of the funds. DRCOG Board Vice Chair Wynne Shaw recommended the use of RTD Eco Passes as a savings measure that should be considered for the DRCOG transportation voucher program.

Informational Briefings

Four Year Plan Overview – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

- The four-year Area Plan on Aging identifies AAA priorities and objectives for the state fiscal year 2024-2027. The plan is combined with the other AAA's in the state to create the Colorado State Plan on Aging.
- At the federal level, the Administration for Community Living uses the state plans to identify trends and needs, develop service priorities, spending allocations and demonstration projects.
- The plan includes public input, demographics, Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA) results, information on volunteers and the response and impact from COVID-19. The CASOA survey is completed every four years.
- There were questions regarding core services, social isolation, the Ombudsman program, legal assistance, diversity, equity and inclusion, outreach, and innovation/expansion of services.
- Questions on the CASOA addressed 17 aspects of livability in consumer communities related to community design, employment and finances, equity and inclusivity, health and wellness, information and assistance and productive activities.
- The AAA had 250 participants in community conversations that were given in the region including the eastern plains and mountain areas, as well as people in low-income areas, the homeless, refugees, veterans, and Spanish speaking consumers. The AAA also had key informant sessions with 61 community service providers.
- Jayla showed demographic maps of where the older populations are located, where the poverty levels are highest, location of minority populations and how fast the populations are growing. She stated that the older population will nearly double by the year 2050 and that more people will want to live independently which means the need for community-based services will increase more than ever.
- Jayla reviewed the CASOA results and suggested that members review their county, city and DRCOG region reports. The CASOA report helps make informed decisions, allows

creation of programs to meet community needs, provide better quality programs and more effective policies. Long-term efforts will support a community of older adults that are healthier, more engaged, empowered, independent and productive. The link to those reports is located here: https://drcog.org/search?search_api_views_fulltext=CASOA

- Region results:
 - From the region results 87 percent of adults felt their quality of life was good, 70 percent said, ease of travel by car and ease of getting to the places they needed to go was good. These were the highest scores in the 16 years that DRCOG has done the CASOA survey.
 - The lowest scores showed 75 percent felt accessible and available housing, the cost of living to be a problem. More than 50 percent reported having problems with not knowing what services are available, doing heavy or intense housework and maintaining their home. Also having adequate information or dealing with public programs like Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid were a problem.
- COVID results:
 - Results on how COVID affected the AAA showed that they had to scale back services, adapt and change services to meet evolving need. Many AAA's and providers had to lay-off staff or had staff quit. They lost volunteers, clients died, and staff got sick. They had to significantly reduce contact with clients and there were added costs to accommodate salary increases and to provide personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies.
 - Some positives of COVID: AAAs received significantly more funding and were allowed flexibility in spending due to the relaxation of federal and state regulations. They were encouraged to create innovative ways to deliver service, developed new services and partnerships. And they were able to strengthen relationships with county health and human services departments.
 - Social isolation greatly affected older adults. For many months they were told not to venture out, to shop at designated times, and avoid visiting family and friends to avoid exposure to COVID. Many were traumatized and still fear going out. Older adults in community conversations said they were angry and frustrated because they lost two years of their lives.
 - COVID also affected socialization in nursing homes and assisted living residences. Due to infection control policies in facilities residents were banned all visitors, cut off from all social contact, confined to their rooms, and some were moved out of their room to create COVID units. Many lost friends and loved ones to COVID.
 - Ongoing effects to older adults are an increase in anxiety, depression, diagnosed cases of agoraphobia, decreased physical abilities, and increased levels of confusion.
- Addressing social isolation:
 - As resources allow, the AAA would like to provide funding for voice assistant technology, medical alerts, and other assistive technology.
 - Develop more virtual education, counseling, and engagement activities.
 - Start a nutrition voucher program to provide nutritious meals and increase social activity.

- Encourage people to return to meal sites by providing transportation to the site, offering entertainment during meals, providing services like education, health clinics, blood pressure checks, and foot clinics.
- Addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion:
 - As resources allow the AAA plans to tailor outreach and messaging to targeted populations and underserved areas by translating materials and providing translation services to increase access and engagement.
 - Increase virtual services to access care, mental health support, education, and engagement.
 - Train contracted service providers on cultural competency, supporting LGBTQ individuals and implicit bias training to improve their knowledge, understanding and skills as required in the OAA.
 - Increase transportation services and remove barriers to transportation so consumers can get to where they need and want to go.
 - Continue to provide medical diets and offer meals that consider cultural preferences.
 - Translate two more languages in the Aging Mastery Program curriculum and provide annual training.
 - Continue to support participant-directed and person-centered planning for older adults and their caregivers in case management, options counseling, and in-home assistance programs. Work to make the Area Agency on Aging regional advisory committee more diverse.
- Ombudsman program priorities:
 - Address facility staffing issues by increasing systemic advocacy surrounding the staffing crisis, reestablish basic rights for residents.
 - Advocate at the state and federal levels for thoughtful growth and explore how growth will be managed to ensure participants receive quality services.
 - Increase funding to develop more local programs.
 - Establish funding for existing local Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly programs (PACE).
 - Increase partnerships with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment related to the home health portion of the PACE to better leverage the department's oversight.
 - Continue to increase outreach to targeted audiences.
 - Advocate for formalized oversight of guardians, increase consumer education by raising awareness of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program and the types of abuse and neglect in long-term care facilities that the Ombudsman help identify and resolve.
- Innovation and improve service:
 - Develop a caregiver evidence-based program over the next four years including Spanish speaking programs after the first two years.

- Work with contracted partners, community service providers, older adults, the ACA, and national groups to begin a collaborative advocacy in an effort that would ask for more funding at the state and federal level.
- Use the new data systems, survey information and in-house gap analysis to analyze service needs, monitor service performance and delivery. And if resources allow development of new services.
- Improve access to services by providing and funding more virtual services, participating in conversations about broadband installation for accessibility and training participants in how to use systems.
- Work with the state to streamline assessments and reduce administrative burdens on contracted service providers so they can spend more time providing service and not administrative work.
- Increase coordination, data collection and outcomes of referrals made between the AAA and contracted service providers to influence, provide understanding, and show better outcomes to clients.
- Participate in the Administration for Community Living’s Community Care Hub and other national and state initiatives related to social determinants of health for payment of community-based services.
- Work with health providers and payers to demonstrate that investments in the overall well-being of older adults will reduce health care costs and improve health outcomes.

Board Report – Wynne Shaw and Steve Conklin

Steve Conklin, DRCOG Board Chair

- Chair Conklin thought Jayla’s presentation of the four-year plan to the board was good information. He liked hearing the information but commented there was not time for the Board to provide feedback.
- Chair Conklin said the board had a 100 page bill on housing to review that did not address older communities and seniors.

Wynne Shaw, DRCOG Board Vice Chair

- Vice Chair Shaw appreciated Jayla’s presentation to the board, she said it does take a number of times to hear the information and have it sink in.

County Reports

Karie Erickson – Douglas County

Douglas County will be holding their first Town Hall event that will be focused on aging. The Douglas County Commissioners are taking the initiative of putting a focus on aging. It will be an opportunity for the community and older adults to voice their feelings, concerns, questions, and the challenges they are having as they age in the county.

Other Matters by Members

Tex Elam told the group that RTD is proposing canceling Via’s contract for all Access-a-Ride services and transferring the contract to two national companies. Via has contracted with RTD for 27 years to provide these services and will be greatly impacted. Via has sent a letter to RTD and there will be further discussions within DRCOG.

Next meeting – **April 28, 2023**

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

ATTACH B

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Mindy Patton, Division Assistant, Area Agency on Aging, (303) 480-6723
ormpatton@drcog.org.

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
April 28, 2023	Informational Briefing	6

SUBJECT

Presentation by the Community Aging in Place – Advancing Better Living for Elders (CAPABLE) program. Colleen Morton, RN, is Program Manager of CAPABLE and Clinical Wellness Manager, she will be presenting.

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

N/A

ACTION BY OTHERS

N/A

SUMMARY

In March, ACA Vice Chair, Bob Brocker asked if ACA could have a presentation from the CAPABLE program. CAPABLE is an innovative aging in place program developed and researched by Johns Hopkins University. This client centered program supports function, independence, and safety in the home. The program provides ten in home visits over a four-month period by a tri-disciplinary team.

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION

N/A

ATTACHMENT

N/A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information please contact Mindy Patton 303-480-6723 or mpatton@drcog.org.

ATTACH C

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Mindy Patton, Division Assistant, Area Agency on Aging, (303) 480-6723 or mpatton@drcog.org.

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
April 28, 2023	Informational Briefing	7

SUBJECT

Presentation by The Center for People With Disabilities program. Heather Kamper is the Director of Core Services and will be presenting

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

N/A

ACTION BY OTHERS

N/A

SUMMARY

During the February 24th Funding Subcommittee meeting, the committee requested a presentation from the Center for People with Disabilities (CPWD) be made to the ACA.

CPWD was founded in 1977. Their mission is to provide resources, information, and advocacy to assist people with disabilities in overcoming barriers to independent living. People with disabilities are a powerful and significant part of our community, yet, overall, our social roles have been marginalized by discrimination, poverty, isolation, dependency, and pity. Their long-term vision is one of integration and equality.

CPWD is one of nine Centers for Independent Living in Colorado serving the greater Boulder-Denver area. Core services include systems and individual advocacy, information and referral, independent living skills training, peer counseling, nursing home and youth transitions. CPWD also has an employment and veteran directed care program. They work with people of all ages and disabilities, at no cost to consumers.

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION

N/A

ATTACHMENT

N/A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information please contact Mindy Patton 303-480-6723 or mpatton@drcog.org.

ATTACH D

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Director Area Agency on Aging, (303) 480-6735 or jswarren@drcog.org

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
April 28, 2023	Information Briefing	8

SUBJECT

The AAA will develop a collective messaging and advocacy strategy around three key areas including the aging of the population, service, and funding needs.

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

The AAA and the ACA will meet with contractors, community groups, individuals, and professionals to help the AAA plan and develop different low-cost ways to communicate and advocate. Topics will include the impact of an aging population, the current service needs of older adults and the need for more funding. This will create an understanding of the issues, influence change and impact funding decisions.

ACTION BY OTHERS

N/A

SUMMARY

As the ACA knows, the population of older adults is growing fast, and the AAA is facing significant funding reductions. Our goal is to find low-cost ways to communicate what the AAA has learned through the latest regional assessment of older adults and ways to advocate. The AAA/ACA will enlist the help of contractors, councils, commissions on aging and other individuals to help with collective messaging and advocacy.

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION

N/A

ATTACHMENT

N/A

If you need additional information please contact Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Director Area Agency on Aging, (303) 480-6735 jswarren@drcog.org

ATTACHE

To: Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee on Aging

From: Kelly Roberts, Community Resource Specialist, kroberts@drcog.org

Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
April 28, 2023	Informational Briefing	9

SUBJECT

Update on the New ACA Model Subcommittee.

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

N/A

ACTION BY OTHERS

N/A

SUMMARY

Kelly Roberts will provide a brief overview of the New Model workgroup's efforts to review, revise and make recommendations to the ACA by-laws and will explain the survey that will be distributed in May for members to complete.

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

The ACA reviewed the Older Americans Act revisions at the January 27th, 2023, meeting. A subcommittee was developed to review the current makeup of the committee and new requirements. The New Model workgroup has met several times and is currently reviewing, revising, and making recommendations to the ACA by-laws to accommodate the new regulations and generate discussion of their findings.

PROPOSED MOTION

N/A

ATTACHMENT

N/A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need additional information please contact Kelly Blair Roberts, Community Resource Specialist, 303-480-6787, kroberts@drcog.org.