

Aging & Adult Services 225 37th Avenue San Mateo, CA 94403 www.smchealth.org www.facebook.com/smchealth

## NOTES FROM MIDDLE INCOME SENIOR OPPORTUNITIES (MISO) COMMITTEE MEETING March 29, 2021

Commissioners Present: Dimas-Kahn (Chair), Barr, McMullin, Uhl,

Staff Present: Anna Sawamura Board of Supervisors Liaison: Ann O'Brien Keighran

**Public: Sandra Lang** 

1.		Chair Commissioner Dimas-Kahn called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2.	Public Comments	Ms. Lang spoke to the transportation and mobility issues among older adults, food insecurity and its continuing increase rise with seniors because of
		COVID-19 and the need for older adults to prepare for emergencies.
3.	Notes Taker	Chair volunteered to take notes.
4.	Approve Agenda	Moved by Commissioner Barr; Commissioner Uhl seconded. Approved as corrected.
5.	Approve January Minutes	Moved by Commissioner Barr; Commissioner McMullin seconded.
6.	Discussion about the work plan action items due	Chair Dimas-Kahn reviewed the items due on the MISO work plan and opened the discussion to review those items.
		Before reviewing the topics on the work plan, Commissioner Barr suggested the committee members to read AARP Bulletin (March 2021) 15 Lessons the Coronavirus Pandemic Has Taught Us, AARP Bulletin 62 (1)
		https://www.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2021/lessons-from-covid.html because it details the opportunities from working from home, the importance of financial literacy and supporting older adults in the work force.
		Chair Dimas-Kahn highlighted some of the CA statistics in Mr. Keighran's notes:
		<ul> <li>In 2030, nine million of Californians will be over 65 years of age (1 in 4 people)</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Median household income for residents 65 years and over in CA is \$65, 516.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>The Federal Poverty Level (FPL) 2019 \$12,140 single/\$16,460 couple</li> <li>In 2011, 62% of seniors were considered the "hidden poor" in San Mateo County</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Residents over 50 years of age are the fastest growing population of homeless people in the state.</li> </ul>
		Chair Dimas-Kahn asked Ms. Sawamura to provide an update on the Great Plates Delivered (GPD) program:
		<ul> <li>This is the final week in our extension from FEMA and most likely SMC will get one more extension. However, we are unsure whether it will continue for the upcoming months.</li> <li>The GPD program well received by the recipients and restaurant</li> </ul>
		providers.



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- SMC is conducting prep work for post GPD by calling a "sample group" of GPD recipients to determine what type of food assistance they will need after the GPD ends. The goal is to gather more information to assist SMC with meeting their needs in the future. Aging and Adult Services started calling recipients in the "sample group" today. Questions geared towards dialogue.
- SMC contacted existing congregate providers to determine whether they can increase their capacity at this time to provide meals for the GPD recipients.
- SMC is developing GPD options that may include Second Harvest to provide "grocery delivery" post pandemic. Office of Sustainability is working with Second Harvest.
- C4A supports more funding for congregate and home delivered meals in the State of CA.

Ms. Sawamura will provide more information and data to the committee about the calls made to the "sample group" at the next meeting.

Commissioner McMullin suggested focusing on the clients with the greatest need instead of focusing the recipients with the least needs. 18% of the GPD stated they were okay without help when the Governor lifts the shelter-in-place mandate.

Ms. Keighran stated it would be good a good idea to determine in the "sample group" who were house bound before COVID-19 and who became house bound during COVID-19.

Commissioner Uhl reminded the committee members existing congregate and home delivered meals providers need more funding. Any additional funding should go to them instead of developing new programs.

Chair Dimas-Kahn stated the quality of meals seemed to be better with the GPD program compared to the congregate and home-delivered meals.

Mr. Sawamura said the GPD providers are getting a \$22 per meal and they are required to provide "nutritional balanced" meals compared to the GPD providers. The meals offered through the congregate and home-delivered meals programs are similar to hospital meals because they are healthier and prepared that way.

Chair Dimas-Kahn suggested surveying the GPD providers to determine how they felt about the program, lessons learned, do they have the capacity to continue the program for less funds, and other questions that may be helpful to figure out how the GPD program kept their restaurant solvent during COVID-19. Ms. Sawamura said they don't like how FEMA extends funding month by month.





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7. Add other agenda items to discuss	Chair Dimas-Kahn reminded the committee members of the actions due next month. Most of it pertains to Goal 2 – Educate and Prepare Older Adults for Disaster Preparedness.  Commissioner Uhl said she completed the Goal 2 action steps and compared
	the various emergency kits listed at each web site and created a "Emergency Prep Information for Seniors" to distribute to older adults.
	Chair Dimas-Kahn proposed for the MISO committee to review it, make revisions and then, ask the RAC committee to format it for dissemination. We need the final copy ready in the next 1-2 months to include in the GPD deliveries.
	Ms. Sawamura suggested asking the other committees whether they have materials they would like disseminated to the GPD recipients.
	Chair Dimas-Kahn suggested submitting the "Emergency Prep Information for Seniors" form to the CoA Executive Committee to decide whether it is ready to bring to the CoA General Commission. She asked whether committee members are available to attend the CoA Executive Committee to provide the background to the committee and answer their questions about the resource sheet.
	Commissioner McMullin volunteered to attend the Executive Committee on behalf of the MISO committee. Suggested having The Village Movement review document.
	Ms. Keighran offered to email it to Ed Norris to review and ask for feedback.
Action Items:	<ul> <li>Ms. Sawamura provide an update on the GPD telephone survey</li> <li>Chair Dimas-Kahn email document with the names of employment agencies prepared by volunteer, Kathleen Gamba, to review.</li> <li>Commissioner McMullin attend CoA Executive Committee meeting on TH, 4/1, to explain the "Emergency Prep Information for Seniors"</li> <li>Chair Dimas-Kahn will update the work plan with completed items. Add ER resource sheet to it.</li> </ul>
8. Adjournment	Commissioner Barr moved; Commissioner McMullin seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM.  Next meeting: April 26, 2021