

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

Date: November 28, 2022

Commissioners Present: Christina Dimas-Kahn, Kathy Uhl, Irene Liana

**Excused: Maria Barr** 

Staff Present: Anna Sawamura Board of Supervisors Liaison: None

**Public: Sandra Lang** 

Public: Sandra Lang	
1. Call to Order	Chair Dimas-Kahn called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM
2. Public Comments	Public comment from Sandra Lang – This month, Sandra was deeply affected by the San Mateo County (SMC) Ombudsman presentation "Middle Income Seniors & Long Term Care" at the CoA General Meeting. The Ombudsman Director, Bernie Mellot gave an excellent presentation. Sandra went through her old CoA notes when she was a commissioner and realized the same conversation has gone on for years with no actions taken. She wanted to know what role the CoA will play as an advocate? Is the CoA willing to bring it to the public's attention? She believes it's a serious issue. How will the MISO committee collaborate around this issue?
3. Note Taker	Chair Dimas-Kahn
4. Approve Agenda	Kathy Uhl and Irene Liana
5. Approve Notes	Will need to approve the October notes in January
6. Work Plan Activities	Chair Dimas-Kahn asked the committee for more comments about the SMC Ombudsman presentation because the topic is on the committees work plan:
	The problem is apparent and what role is the MISO committee going to take about the issue? Economic perspective?
	Before older adults are put in a situation of needing custodial or skilled care, they need to plan for it. The Board of Supervisors are probably concerned about the displacement of residents who are getting "kicked out" of board and care homes and assisted living facilities because they cannot pay for care. There are not enough SNF's in SMC to meet the needs. Residents are transferred out of SMC for care and treatment.
	The MISO committee asked if we can review the SMC Ombudsman presentation. The Aging & Adult Manager, Anna Sawamura, agreed to share her screen so we can review the power point.
	The powerpoint listed Current Long-Term Trends - RCFE homes are closing.





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The committee reviewed the reasons given for RCFE homes closing:

- 1. Difficult to recruit and maintain a steady work force
- 2. Financial Cost of buying or renting property
- 3. Family run businesses are closing

The facility in Burlingame is for long-term care - Can the county do something about accepting older adults who need care?

This issue needs immediate action because older adults between the ages of 85 - 103 years old are getting evicted. Where will they go besides the streets?

What can we do as a committee to help older adults age in place at home? There needs to be some type of long-term care counseling to help older adults and their families understand options available.

## MISO Suggestion for SMC:

## <u>Ideas/Possible Solutions:</u>

• There needs to be some type of prevention. A step is needed before older adults or people with disabilities go into a SNF or any long-term care facility. Such as: Case Management Program that does an assessment, provides application assistance for programs and refers them to appropriate agencies. Currently, SMC Aging & Adult Services does not fund any case management services. They fund four agencies (Self-Help for the Elderly, Daly City Partnership, Senior Coastside and Family Service Agency) to provide Information & Assistance for older adults and/or representatives. Is it possible The Villages can help with this project by taking on the role of Case Managers? There is a fee to receive assistance from The Villages \$600/year. This solution could possibly work if they received county funding to waive the yearly fee for low-income individuals and provide case management assistance. Is there a Village movement in every city?

MISO Action Item:

- Basic Income to pay for Long-Term Care Services. When they apply for Basic Income, applicants are required to apply for other social services programs that will provide assistance in their homes. Such as: Rebuilding Together for home modifications
- County wide incentive for family owned businesses or companies to open facilities in the county because there is a shortage of SNF's
- Increase the number of caregivers in SMC. This goal aligns with the Master Plan on Aging
- Use federal and state funding to reduce the cost of buying or renting properties for family businesses or companies interested in opening SNF's in SMC. This will increase the number of SNF's in SMC to meet the needs of older adults by 2030





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	Advocacy needed and funding possibilities to make change happen:
	MISO committee - In October, the committee decided to wait until after the elections before reaching out to local elected officials or statewide officials about sponsoring a bill for Basic Income for older adults. We can move forward with action items next year. Advocate for the State of CA to increase the Medi-Cal reimbursement rate for SNF's & Board and Care Waiver.
	Aging & Adult Services - Is it possible to submit a Request for Proposal (RFP) for case management long-term care services? The next funding cycle is 2026 because they just signed new RFP agreements this year per Anna.
	Board of Supervisor are given discretionary funds for their districts.
7. Reviewed work plan to determine the next steps	Starting in January 2023. Commissioner Uhl agreed to update the CoA Emergency Preparedness List to disseminate in January. Commissioner Liana mentioned San Mateo Villages has an Emergency Preparedness Manual that MISO can review.
	Commissioner Uhl suggested looking into investigating Veterans Affairs for long term support services.
8. Report from Aging and Adult Services	Anna reminded the committee there are no meetings in December. The next MISO meeting is on Jan. 30 @ 8:30 AM via Zoom.
9. Action Items for January Meeting	<ol> <li>Continue completing work plan objectives</li> <li>Update CoA ER Preparedness List for dissemination in Jan. 2023</li> <li>Start researching Long-Term Care issues in SMC</li> <li>Brainstorm recommendations for the Executive Committee on how SMC can improve communications with the general public about older adult services and issues.</li> </ol>
10. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 10:01AM.