

Utah Commission on Aging

MEETING MINUTES

June 27, 2012

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Commission Members	Representing	Organization
Kent Alderman	Legal Profession	Parsons, Behle, & Latimer
Cherie Brunker	Health Care	Intermountain Healthcare
Kim Soper (for Diana Kirk)	Financial Institutions	Zion's Bank
Mark Supiano	Higher Education	University of Utah
Frances Wilby	Community Organizations	U of U College of Social Work
Nan Mendenhall		DHS
Kamron Dalton		Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
Norma Matheson	Community	

Staff:

Maureen Henry, Executive Director
Jennifer Morgan, ADRC Program Assistant
Angela Ang, Administrative Assistant

ADRC Funding Opportunity Announcement

Maureen described two currently-open ADRC funding opportunities. The first supports efforts to improve sustainability and will support the efforts of 40 states; the Commission is an eligible applicant and would receive approximately \$200,000, which is a 25% reduction over the 2011-2012 budget.

Maureen proposed that the Commission authorize the use of \$25,000 its state allocation for this year, which has the potential to support a drawdown of \$75,000 in federal Medicaid dollars, to conduct a pilot program to evaluate whether the use of Medicaid funding is effective in supporting Options Counseling for individuals who request assistance in transitioning from a nursing home to the community (MDS Section Q requests), and in supporting a dedicated financial eligibility caseworker for ADRCs. If supported by the Commission, this would be part of the ADRC proposal.

In addition to the Medicaid support, Utah ADRC sites will seek to become providers for the Veterans' Directed Home and Community Based Services program and the Medicare Community Care Transitions Program, which seeks to decrease unnecessary rehospitalization for Medicare Beneficiaries.

There is a second funding opportunity that would offer \$700,000 per year for 3 years, but Maureen and others think it is unlikely that Utah could submit a successful application. Requirements are drawn from the federal "Balancing Incentives Program" and Utah does not participate in that program. In addition, as one of the most recently created ADRCs, Utah's is not yet viewed as a "fully functioning" ADRC, which would adversely impact its ability to be competitive.

Assistance in meeting statutory objectives to further evaluate and make recommendations

Hiring of summer Graduate Assistant

Budget

Maureen presented a budget (attached).

Personnel: She noted that the proposed amount would fund the Director and AA at their current salaries.

Medicaid Matching Funds: Maureen explained that funding for the ADRC support would draw down 4 times the allocated amount in federal funds, and that the purpose is not to provide ongoing funding, but to conduct a pilot that can be used to evaluate the efficacy of the approach being tested.

She recommended that funds for a graduate assistant be approved to work on a variety of projects, including surveys that have been designed but not administered and to assist with the Borchard Foundation on Law and Aging grant.

There was discussion about the fact that there are substantial contributions to the Commission from the University in the form of space, administrative support, IT support, and other infrastructure.

Maureen is a finalist for a fellowship in Washington DC and may not be in Utah for the coming year. If that happens, we will need to re-evaluate the salary and consider transition planning.

Commission Member Terms and Transitions

Maureen is working with the Governor's Office to determine who can no longer serve and who may be nominated to replace outgoing members.

Resignation of Norma Matheson:

Gratitude for Norma's contributions was expressed because this was her last meeting after serving as Chair for seven years.

Action Items

1. Maureen will circulate the budget to the whole Commission for a vote on the budget.
2. At next meeting where there is a quorum present, the Commission will choose an acting Chair if a permanent Chair has not yet been named.