

# Department of Disability and Aging Services (DAS) Advisory Council Minutes

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023

**TIME:** 10-11:30am

**PLACE:** 1650 Mission St. 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Golden Gate Room

*To protect the health of the Advisory Council members, DAS staff and members of the public during the COVID-19 health emergency, the DAS Advisory Council will continue to hold meetings remotely. Members of the public are encouraged to also participate in the meetings remotely.*

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**Members Present:** Allen Cooper, Margaret Graf, Chris Dillon, Juliet Rothman, Tia Small, Morningstar Vancil,

**Members Absent Excused:** Darlene Ramlose, Eva Aber, Kay Parekh, Anne Warren, Marcy Adelman, and President Diane Lawrence.

**WELCOME:** Call to order and welcome Council Members and guests

**Roll Call/Secretary**

**Motion to approve** February 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes, no quorum

**Vice President Graf's Report:** Community event health and wellness program in District 4- important for districts to invite to these events

**Executive Director Dearman's Report:** Asked if there were any fliers or emails for this event and Margaret said there will be. Director Dearman welcomed everyone in person and DAS released the service and allocation plan from the Dignity Fund and was a huge amount of work and thanked staff.

SF is sponsoring AB1387 for undocumented IHSS providers. We do have a crisis/ shortage of caregivers and this bill lets undocumented providers can work. Very beginning stages and assembly person Ting is leading this bill and legal hurdles must be cleared. CDSS does not want this, but conversations are happening.

I am the C4A Legislative chair and we have announced our budget priorities and caregiver support is one of the most important. Especially in rural areas. This year's budget is not quite dire but close. Not likely the requested money will be approved this

year, but we want to keep reminding legislators. HSA had a great Black History Month celebration and wished everyone a happy Women's month.

Allen Cooper asked about IHSS and how people can receive it, and how they are eligible to work without specific persons. Kelly explained the contract with the City SF and IHSS workers and how Homebridge can help on a non-one to one basis. This gets reimbursed by the state.

Margaret commented that there is hardly any space and rooms for adult care in San Francisco. Kelly noted she caregivers should be honored as a profession.

Allen asked about caregiver's numbers that are not attached to a specific person and Kelly was not sure. Adithi Vellore commented that SF is the only county in California with care for many people in SRO's. Allen also asked for peer support in the IHSS system and Kelly answered that will happen in CARE Court but not exactly sure in IHSS. Chris Dillon asked about a bill with certification as caregivers and Margaret said there was a bill. Morningstar asked about if undocumented workers can apply for US citizenship after working for a person and Kelly said hopefully in the future.

#### **AREA PLAN ON Aging Presentation by Adithi Vellore and Kelly Dearman**

- Providing overview of the plan and report
- Population estimates
- Older American Act requirement
- Purpose is to assess demographic trends and population needs
- Support coordinated services
- One aspect of strategic planning
- HSA strategic plan
- High level goals of community well being
- Most important in DAS is the Dignity Fund and Oversight and Advisory Committee
- Completed the 2022 community needs assessment plan and 2023 Services and Allocation plan
- Area Plan assesses community needs and outlines finding and for community-based services.
- Developed the Area plan before the HSA strategic plan
  - Allen asked where does the total budget come from and Adithi answered from city, state, and federal funds
- This is last area plan for this 4-year cycle
- The report details population estimates
- Increases in personal care, home delivered meals and decreased nutritional counseling, legal assistance, and health promotion.

Kelly spoke on:

#### **Goals:**

- Goal #1 – to maintain a robust network of community-based services for older people and adults w/ disabilities. Including technology classes and tutoring.
- Goal #2 – to protect older people and persons w/ disabilities from abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation.
  - Allen asked how they identify potential candidates in shelter and homelessness and Adithi responded that APS workers address those needs and there is a working group who help identify at shelters persons with needs with DPH and Allen asked how many of the 200 people have been housed and Adithi let him know that many of those people were not homeless and they have matched at least 7 and the rest are in the process of finding shelter.
- Goal #3 – Provide and support consumer centered programming to best address client needs. Equity considerations and programs for diverse and gender non-conforming clients.
- Goal #4 – to expand planning and evaluation efforts to ensure best use and resources and maximize client outcomes. Developed a service and allocation plan which outlines DAS' budget and priorities outlook.
- Goal #5 – to support and develop an engaged professional workforce that is prepared to work with older people and adults with disabilities. DAS Hub has developed more user-friendly resource presentations.

Morningstar asked about the non-binary situation and if anything has been done to serve transgender and non-binary clients. Kelly responded that while it's a slow process, the tide is changing in San Francisco to recognize all genders and serve them best. Margaret invited everyone to read the Area Plan and they will be voting on this next month. Allen commented that he would like to see more numbers on the report and Adithi replied that the Area Plan has a strict statewide template that's why the numbers are not on there. Morningstar thanked them for noting Native Americans are noted in the report.

Adithi lastly added and asked the Council members to fill out their questionnaires.

**Margaret Joint Legislative Report:** let the council know about the bill about slower ambulance times wanted the Council to follow this because it affects our elderly population.

SB 657 – homelessness staff training  
 SB 687/SB742 - Homelessness Programs Report  
 SB 17: Senior Housing Tax Credit  
 AB 1348 to allow hybrid meetings

**Anne Warren on CSL Updates: no CSL updates**

**LGBTQ Update:** Margaret read that Speaker Pelosi will be at the OpenHouse LGBTQ gathering. LBomb is honoring LGBTQ recipients on Sun March 26<sup>th</sup>. Allen let us know that the Dignity Fund report is still being finalized. Morningstar let us know that they are trying to have more than just white males at the May 15 celebration and inviting women and people of color.

**Site Visit:** Juliet Rothman visited the Downtown SF Senior Center. Contacted the director who said they were trying to update the website but then it was directed to go to Sequoia site. But now the SF Senior Center has been updated. And made an in person visit to the Tenderloin with the director Judith Dancer. Ran by Sequoia Living with participants there from 9am – 4pm. The center has a security guard who works very well with the clients. The population of the center is mostly in Chinese and the 3 of the service members there are fluent in Chinese and Tagalog. The center is on 2 floors with a computer room, gathering rooms, and the basement has a large dining room. The center is cleaned every night by an outside vendor, and it is very clean and OpenHand serves close to 70-80 meals per day 365 days a year. Many activity classes are available and seemed very open and inviting. Target donates food and drink.

**Old Business and Updates:** No new updates

### **Announcements**

Next meeting April 19th 2023

**Adjournment** at 11:30am