

MINUTES: ADVISORY BOARD ON AGING – Wednesday, April 20, 2022 – 9:00a.m.

Office on Aging, Zoom Platform

Members Present: H Murphy (rotating Chairperson); **Member:** A. Callender, K. Cooke, K. Clipp, P. Dresher, T. Fitzgerald, D. Hanley, J. Parker, C. Patton, T. Poffenberger, S. Rattman, C. Sconion **Staff:** K. Winkowski, A. DiGuardo, F. Schott **Absent:** K. Cooke, M. DiDomenico, S. Haviland, S. Kelly, J. Panowicz,

The meeting opened at 9:05 a.m. via Zoom. Minutes from the February 2022 meeting were approved; a quorum was met on the virtual call.

Introductions: Karen Winkowski and Heather Murphy facilitated the meeting. Karen introduced our guest speakers Yolanda Wright, Alzheimer’s Association Program Manager and Nicole Gorski, Constituent Events Manager, Alzheimer’s Association, Greater Maryland.

Presentation: Yolanda Wright presented a PowerPoint presentation with information on Alzheimer’s Association current research as well as the latest facts and figures. The Annual Facts and Figures report of 2021 emphasizes the need to increase public awareness of mild cognitive impairment (MCI) from Alzheimer’s while also increasing support for Primary Care Physicians to enhance diagnosis, management, and treatment for the diverse populations. The following items were discussed.

- ❖ Diversity and Inclusion and the importance of clinical trials.
- ❖ The New IDEAS Study seeks to ensure that the results represent all racial and ethnic groups. The research study examines brain amyloid positron emissions tomography (PET) scans in diverse populations with mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and dementia.
- ❖ Clinical treatment trials aim to reduce symptoms, slow, or halt the progression of the disease.

For anyone interested in keeping up to date on the latest science, you can download the Science Hub app, available on Google Play or Apple AppStore.

A PowerPoint presentation was provided and emailed to Advisory Board members for reference about the program. For more information, and related resources visit: alz.org/research, alz.org/Maryland or call 1-800-272-3900.

Updates:

Heather Murphy shared the following:

*G.A.I.N coffee chat is held monthly at Abingdon Panera. The next meeting is on May 24, 2022, at 8:30am. G.A.I.N fundraiser to be held at Ripken Stadium on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 7:05pm. For more information visit [Group Portal Discounts - Glitnir Ticketing](#). A fundraiser will also be held at Jarrettsville Creamery on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, from 5:00pm – 9:00pm.

*The Caregiver’s conference is postponed at this time. The goal is to recruit volunteers to plan a conference in fall. Karen proposed OOA fund the conference and utilize an OOA videographer to record the conference and post with Office on Aging educational recordings on the Harford County website.

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The Memory Café has returned to in-person. The Memory Café is beneficial for those living with dementia, it provides a space where caregivers and their loved ones can socialize and enjoy activities. For more information and opportunity to sponsor a cafe contact Paul Orlando at 443-371-7145.

Katherine Clipp provided an update on a lunch and learn events taking place at local senior housing establishments. OOA is partnering with Harford County Public Library/Silver Reader to provide seniors with a cuisine from a local restaurant, and a presentation by the library with the theme “The Old West”. Katherine announced her upcoming retirement in June 2022.

Christel Patton welcomes the new DSS Director, Cora Grishkot.

Tina Poffenberger announced her resignation from St. John’s Towers.

Arlene Callender shared that Legal Aid is advising or representing the Nursing Homes residents at mediations and hearings to prevent involuntary discharge. Therefore, if any resident gets a 30-day notice to leave the nursing home due to inability to pay cost of care; danger to themselves or the other residents; or because the facility cannot meet the resident’s needs, a referral can be made by calling 410-836-8202. Walk-ins are accepted at 103 S. Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, MD 21014.

A tenant Guide to Legal Self-Help in Rent Escrow Cases was distributed to members. This guide provides information for renters whose landlords are not making repairs to dangerous conditions such as leaks, mold, and pest infestation.

Karen Winkowski shared the following:

*The Office on Aging (OOA) has posted a vacancy for Community Resource Coordinator and Senior Center Coordinator with a closing date of April 27, 2022.

*Provided updates on Senate Bill 511. This bill included qualifications and requirements for an individual appointed as the Secretary of Aging to the Department of Aging. Although favorable by the committee report it was not adopted. Karen thanked the board members for their emails and letters of support.

*Provided an update on House Bill 0564, which is in legislation to increase the current payout of \$650 to \$1000 to offset the cost of the facility for the Senior Assisted Living Subsidy Program (SALS).

*Provided an update on utilizing the recovery funds through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The Office on Aging potential collaboration with the World Central Kitchen to develop a partnership with local restaurants to provide meals for seniors. A free text-to-order platform that provides prepared meals for families experiencing food and nutrition insecurity, available for pickup or delivery.

*Announced the Senior Centers celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Congregate Meal Program with special lunches and events at all centers.

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*Office on Aging is exploring software programs to move towards an electronic filing system.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 15, 2022

Respectfully, submitted,

Francine Schott, Harford Co. Office on Aging