



Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services

Advocating for local, state, and national programs that promote quality of life for older adults and people with disabilities in partnership with Seattle Human Services and King County.

To: ADS Advisory Council Members and interested others

From: Dick Woo, Chair, Aging and Disability Services Advisory Council

Subject: ADS Advisory Council February Meeting Agenda

Contact: Sariga Santhosh, (206) 379-3851

Agenda and Announcement for the
Aging and Disability Services Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, February 12, 2021 - VIRTUAL MEETING

Join us on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88009802415>

Aging and Disability Services is committed to ensuring the health and safety of community volunteers, guests, and staff and will continue to follow the state’s guidance on limiting large gatherings at this time. We anticipate hosting virtual meetings until it is fully safe for everyone to resume in-person meetings.

Schedule	
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.	Advocacy Committee
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	<p>Community Health: Reflections on Black History Month - John Vassall, MD (Physician Executive, Qualis Health)</p> <p><i>February is Black History month and this year’s theme is ‘The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity.’ One year into a global pandemic that continues to disproportionately impact Black communities, we invite Dr. Vassall to discuss the pandemic response, health literacy, and access issues for Black families.</i></p>
1:00 – 1:55 p.m.	<p>Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Approval of December Minutes II. Reports from Committees and Councils (25 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advocacy Committee - Larry Low

Office:
Seattle Municipal Tower
700 5th Avenue, 51st Floor
Seattle, WA 98124

Mailing:
Aging and Disability Services
PO Box 34125
Seattle, WA 98124

Telephone: (206) 684-0660
TTY: (206) 684-0274
FAX: (206) 684-0689
ADSAdvisoryCouncil.org

In partnership with:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ P&A Committee – Dick Woo/Lorna Stone ○ VSHSL Board Seniors Committee - Dick Woo/Cindy Snyder ○ State Council on Aging - Ava Frisinger ○ NW Universal Design Council - Tom Minty ○ Mayor’s Council on African American Elders - Karen Winston ○ Age-Friendly Seattle – Brent Butler <p>III. Reports / Action Items from AAA Partners (20 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Department of Community and Human Services - Traci Adair ○ Public Health - Mary Snodgrass ○ City of Seattle, Office of Councilmember Morales - Alexis Turla ○ Sound Cities Association - Alexis Rinck <p>IV. Director’s Report - Cathy Knight (10 min)</p> <p>V. Other announcements and meeting reminders (see schedule below).</p>
1:55 - 2:00 p.m.	Executive Committee

Upcoming Advisory Council Meetings and Events

March 12, ADS Advisory Council Meeting

Noon – 2:00 pm, virtual meeting (meeting invitation will be emailed prior to meeting)

April 9, ADS Advisory Council Meeting

Noon – 2:00 pm, virtual meeting (meeting invitation will be emailed prior to meeting)

May 14, ADS Advisory Council Meeting

Noon – 2:00 pm, virtual meeting (meeting invitation will be emailed prior to meeting)

Please contact Sariga Santhosh with questions or to request accommodations:
(206) 379-3851 or sariga.santhosh@seattle.gov

ADS Advisory Council Advocacy Committee Meeting

February 12, 2021, 10:00 to 11:30 AM

Join us on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81960135133>

AGENDA

Larry Low, Committee Chair

Item	Person	Time
1. Welcome!	Larry	
2. Advisory Council Check-in Share information on recent advocacy and partnership activities and emerging issues. As a result, members will have a better understanding of the committee's collective work and identify connections that support their advocacy priorities.	All	45 min
3. Approval of December Meeting Minutes	Larry	5 min
4. Advocacy Issues Federal <ul style="list-style-type: none">• COVID relief and advocacy for OAA• Improving Social Determinants of Health Act (S. 104/H.R. 379)• Comment on Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (deadline 2/16) State <ul style="list-style-type: none">• W4A Lobby Day recap• Bills<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Long Term Care Trust: SJR 8200, HB 1323○ Digital equity: HB 1460○ Revenue: HB 1465, HB 1494, HB 1496○ Housing Local <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vaccine access• Interlocal agreement update	Cathy Cathy/Sariga Maria	40 min
5. Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of Action Items	Sariga	1 min



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Advisory Council Meeting Minutes December 11, 2020

Advisory Council Members

<input type="checkbox"/> CM Sofia Aragon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Low	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input type="checkbox"/> Jenny Becker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June Michel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diana Thompson
<input type="checkbox"/> Ava Frisinger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Minty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Weston
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zelda Foxall	<input type="checkbox"/> CM Tammy Morales	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barb Williams
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Hailey	<input type="checkbox"/> Andrea Sawczuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dick Woo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CM Marli Larimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Cindy Snyder	

Friends of the Advisory Council

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Edna Daigre	<input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Lambing	<input type="checkbox"/> Cynthia Winters
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Others present:

Guests: Sabrina Jones, Robin Nelson, Min Chang, Cassie Giampetro, Liz Mills, Jon Rudicil, JJ Wong

AAA Staff: Cathy Knight, Maria Langlais, Irene Stewart, Andrea Yip, Karen Winston, Andrea LaFazia-Geraghty, Brent Butler, Allison Boll, Lorraine Sanford, Sariga Santhosh

Partners: Traci Adair, Mary Snodgrass

I. Geriatric Regional Assessment Team: Sabrina Jones, Robin Nelson (Sound Generations)

This presentation covered how GRAT's licensed clinicians use outreach, comprehensive assessment, and early intervention to reach aging adults who are escalating toward crisis. The GRAT program supports older adults in King County learn about their health, their strengths and difficulties, day to day functioning, and what they care about most.

II. Meeting Motions and Council Business

- Motion to approve November meeting minutes
 - Ava: move to modify or accept minutes
 - Moved by Larry
 - Seconded by Barb
 - Passed unanimously among council members

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- Motion to approve slate of candidates for 2021 officer roles – Dick Woo (Chair), Lorna Stone (Vice Chair), Cindy Snyder (Secretary), Diana Thompson (At-Large Member)
 - Ava: move to modify or accept minutes
 - Moved by June
 - Seconded by Barb
 - Passed unanimously among council members

III. Committee Updates

Executive

- Will meet briefly after the AC meeting.

Advocacy

- Zelda met with Sen. Murray to discuss SNAP, Social Security, and nursing homes issues.
- Members starting to meet with legislators ahead of 2021 session. Joe and Sue met with Rep. Cody on 12/10/20. Three more legislator meetings by end of year.
- COVID vaccines and priority for seniors is a hot topic. Cathy shared home health workers were eligible to receive vaccine as part of their work.
- Jon Morrison Winters gave an update on affordable housing for older adults in county.

Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) Board

- VSHSL serves three priority populations: veterans, older adults, and vulnerable populations. To reflect their ability to survive and thrive, vulnerable populations was recently renamed ‘resilient communities.’
- At last meeting, board approved funding reallocation ahead of county council vote for 2021-2022 budget cycle. There were leftover funds in 2020 from underspending of certain programs due to COVID-19. The board also discussed broad governance policies.
- ADS should invite Traci and other Levy administrators to provide Levy overview and how the county partners with ADS on funding and service area coverage.

State Council on Aging

- Next SCOA meeting is on 12/23/20 at 8:30 am.

Northwest Universal Design

- No updates

Mayor’s Council on African American Elders (MCAAE)

- Council did a focus group at October meeting with DOH on vaccine distribution. Anne Shields from Public Health was the November meeting speaker.
- The December meeting on 12/18/20 will be the annual holiday meet and greet to raise MCAAE’s profile and share 2020 accomplishments. Anyone interested can email Karen.

IV. Partners Report

Seattle King County Public Health Department (Mary Snodgrass)

- King County is averaging 750 - 850 new COVID-19 cases a day and continues to impact BIPOC communities and low-income people most.
- Public Health is reporting outbreaks in long term care facilities again and volume of cases is challenging the ability to respond with contact tracing and technical assistance. Public Health is prioritizing follow ups at locations with 5+ cases.
- We are approaching a 12/31/20 funding cliff date when federal funding for COVID-19 will lapse. Expecting Congress will pass another relief package, but state and county leadership and philanthropic partners are trying to identify short-term funding to continue Public Health's work till federal dollars come in.
- FDA is expected to approve the Pfizer vaccine soon, and WA is expecting a shipment of ~62,000 doses next week that will be prioritized for front line health care staff and long-term care facility residents. Much of our planning within the department has started to shift towards vaccine distribution in the coming months and working with our healthcare and community partners.

Department of Community and Human Services (Traci Adair)

- Older Adults team is still connecting with levy-funded senior centers every other week and in coordination with ADS to align program and funding needs.
- Priority for end of year is wrapping up 85+ contracts related to senior centers.
- Hired a new Senior Centers Program Manager dedicated to long-term hubs strategy.

V. Director's Report (Cathy Knight)

- Congress is considering an omnibus package that has Older Americans Act dollars attached that they are hoping to pass next week.
- We're hearing from legislators that they're not interested in making cuts to the LTSS budget. We've been effective in communicating the damage done during the last recession that social safety nets never recovered from.
- Legislators are interested in progressive revenue sources and social isolation this year.
- Jason Johnson will be leaving HSD next month. Helen Howell will be interim Director.
- Key ADS staff is busy with COVID coordination and planning with county partners. Our home care workers are on priority list for vaccines. We still need to address vaccine hesitancy and reach community leaders who can help spread the word.
- ADS staff continue working on emergency food and social isolation planning.
- Thank you, Ava, for chairing the Advisory Council for so many years! Your skills and expertise will be missed. And congrats to Dick Woo, our 2021 AC chair!



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Advocacy Committee Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT**

December 11, 2020

I. Attendance

- Advisory Council Members: Larry Low (Chair), June Michel, Diana Thompson, Barb Williams, Sue Weston, Joe Hailey, Zelda Foxall, Lorna Stone
- Guests: Kevin Lambing, J Wong
- ADS Staff: Cathy Knight, Maria Langlais, Jon Morrison Winters, Sariga Santhosh

II. Committee Votes

- Motion to accept minutes December minutes
 - Introduced by June
 - Passed unanimously among present members

III. Member/Guest Updates

- Larry:
 - Attended Revenue Committee meetings and W4A and Senior Lobby conferences.
 - Tracking and concerned about COVID infection in city, but reading a lot lately.
- June:
 - Attended a legal seminar for disability lawyers about COVID-impacts on the disabled community and how pandemic response has been ableist.
 - Attended Human Rights Day celebration, which featured great BLM speakers.
 - Wrote article on FACTS paper about ways to support the GA run-off elections.
 - Learned about a national study that found 10M people in the US are hesitant to take COVID-19 vaccine. There needs to be a concerted effort from leaders (like Presidents Bush, Clinton, and Obama) to show vaccines are safe and necessary.
- Lorna:
 - Volunteered to get GA out to vote, but hearing from residents that they are getting too many postcards and calls.
 - Receiving check-in calls from Kaiser, PSARA, SE Senior Center, and Gen Pride. Staying connected is important, so worried about isolated people who aren't getting that kind of support. Gen Pride is partnering with UW to support LGBTQ community members with memory loss: Aging with Pride: IDEA
 - Concerned about COVID-19 numbers in South King County. We have good health care in this state, so why are we experiencing high deaths in nursing homes?
 - Read an article in the paper this morning about overworked public health officials leaving the field. Can the AC write a letter to public health workers across the state to express our support for them?

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- Zelda:
 - Met with Senator Murray on 12/2 to discuss SNAP, nursing homes deaths (53%, higher than the national average), and the Social Security average wage index. The Senator responded to the issues, especially the ask to increase transparency at nursing homes so families can make informed decisions for their loved ones.
 - Learned Congress is negotiating details on next COVID relief packages. Dems want \$ for local and state governments, Republicans want \$ for businesses.
 - The drop in wages and job losses in 2020 will affect the way Social Security Administration calculates a person's initial benefit using the national average wage index. This will affect workers with disabilities and the 40 million Americans who will turn 60 this year and may translate up to a \$70,000 loss in social security and retirement benefits over a person's lifetime.
- Joe:
 - Met with Rep. Cody on 12/10/20 with ADS staff to advocate for no cuts to LTSS budget. Rep. Cody shared Legislature is considering progressive revenue sources.
 - Participating in HSD's Safe and Thriving Communities Division forum and shared feedback on what to look for in a good executive manager. Shared that finding a strong person of color to lead this effort is crucial.
 - Participated in LIHI's letter writing campaign for eviction moratorium extension to the governor and United Way's campaign for COVID relief to Senators Murray and Cantwell.
- Barb:
 - Learned from Keiser Family Foundation that 343,000 people in the state (frontline workers and nursing home residents) are eligible for vaccines, but we're only receiving 32,000 doses at the outset.
 - Read the Seattle Times article about public health professionals resigning or getting fired because of the politicization of the pandemic.
 - Governor is scheduled to release his budget proposal by 12/20/20
 - Evergreen Treatment Services is handing out cold weather sleep kits at Freeway Park between 11 am and 2 pm on the first and last Mondays of the month.
- Diana:
 - Wrote letter to Governor on BNOA and KSC legislative priorities.
 - Learned that law to allow over-the-counter hearing aids for people with mild to moderate hearing loss was signed. This bill would reduce the cost of hearing aids. FDA was required to create regulations by August, but that is still pending.
 - WA Legislature will now have captions during hearings and there is growing support to get captions on TVW using some CARES Act funding.
 - Wrote an article for City of Bellevue's monthly e-newsletter, Neighborhood News, about various hot spot locations. There are options for reduced-cost internet (\$9.95/month) for low-income folks who qualify for SNAP, Medicaid or other federal or state assistance programs. Comcast is offering is two months free and has computers they are donating. King County Library System is also offering 60 minute virtual or phone appointments to assist with software and technology, which will helpful to many isolated folks.

- Sue:
 - Met with Rep. Cody on 12/10/20 too and was glad she understood our issues.
 - Church providing rental and utilities assistance to 32 families on the island.
 - Island shelter is still closed due to COVID-19 and food bank usage is high.
 - COVID-19 cases are increasing like everywhere else.
- Kevin:
 - Learning from WA Homecare Association that home care workers will be eligible for vaccines, which is smart because of their work with older adults,
 - Work for Visiting Angels home care and moved here from Philadelphia
- J Wong:
 - Observing this meeting. Used to attend meetings in person before pandemic.

IV. **Federal, State, Local Issues**

- Federal:
 - Congress passed a continuing resolution to avoid a government shutdown and is continuing to negotiate details of the second COVID-19 relief bill.
- State:
 - Home care workers are eligible for vaccines under Phase 1 and working with SEIU on an education campaign. No mandates requiring vaccines yet.
 - Public Health is working hard on testing and vaccine distribution to long-term care facilities, where we're seeing higher than average death rates.
 - We're getting appointments with legislators to start advocating for our LTSS budget and the Long-Term Care Trust Act bills (SJR 8200, HB 1323)
 - Governor's budget will come out 12/20/20
- Local:
 - Jason Johnson, HSD Director, is moving on. Helen Howell is the interim Director.
 - Work to erect the new Safe and Thriving Communities Division is underway.
 - ADS planner, Jon Morrison Winters, returned with recommendations on how to advocate for low-income senior housing. Because of the incoming administration and their policy priorities, we'll likely see changes under HUD that ADS staff can track and bring to the Committee's attention. Staff can also talk with local advocacy groups like the Housing Development Consortium to continue learning about the issue and keep tabs on how VSHSL funding opportunities can be leveraged for senior housing.